



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

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Allooloo, Mr. Arnagna'naaq, Mr. 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. Ng, Mr. Ningark, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Pudlat, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Whitford

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

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

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Orders of the day. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Madam Premier.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement 39-12(4): World AIDs Day

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, December 1, 1993, is World AIDS Day. World AIDS Day is a day set aside to reflect on the global challenge of AIDS. In the Northwest Territories, 25 persons are known to have been infected with the HIV virus since 1987.

The Department of Health is pursuing a comprehensive HIV/AIDS strategy for the Northwest Territories. This strategy will continue to require collaboration and consultation with other government departments, the regional health and hospital boards, the various non-government and professional organizations and community groups and members of the public.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier, there is some problem with our system. Are you getting anything Mr. Arvaluk? Can you hear me? Is that okay, Mr. Arvaluk? Okay. I'm sorry, Madam Premier. If you would like to continue.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, projects are under way to promote public awareness on HIV/AIDS. Consultation with the regions and target groups has been used to facilitate the development of various initiatives.

A poster targeting youth and adults across the Northwest Territories has been printed in English, French, and Baffin and Keewatin dialects of Inuktitut and distributed across the Northwest Territories for World AIDS Day promotion activities.

The Department of Health is also targeting young women through the development of a "Safer Sex and Me" pamphlet, which will be available in English, Inuktitut and French.

Mr. Speaker, it's very important to get the message out to the youth of the Northwest Territories regarding the serious issue of HIV/AIDS. For the past four months, the Department of Health has been working in collaboration with the Department of Education, Culture and Employment on the development of a World AIDS Day television special on "The Tube" a television program broadcast on Television Northern Canada. The program will consist of a half-hour of information on HIV/AIDS followed by a live phone-in where callers from across the Northwest Territories will have the opportunity to phone in their questions to the panel of resource people. "The Tube" special on HIV/AIDS airs tonight on TVNC at 7:30 pm. Mr. Speaker, stopping AIDS is up to all of us. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Madam Premier. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Morin.

Minister's Statement 40-12(4): Negotiated Contracts

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members may recall that many times in this House, I have said that we must increase the number of community workers involved in construction jobs funded by the government, by implementing training programs and by negotiating contracts with local corporations.

Members are aware that this government has supported this direction. As a result, the Cabinet has agreed to many of the Members' requests for negotiated contracts. To date this fiscal year, six capital projects managed by Public Works & Services, that are worth \$5 million and five lease contracts with the department, that are worth \$1.3 million each year, have been approved by Cabinet.

For the NWT Housing Corporation, to date this fiscal year, eight capital projects worth \$3.5 million, and two

20 year lease contracts worth \$257,000 per year, have been approved by Cabinet for negotiated contracts. Cabinet has also approved the negotiation of a lease contract in Fort McPherson. The terms and conditions of these lease contracts are still being negotiated. So far this fiscal year, 11 contracts have been negotiated and that represents 2.8 per cent of the total capital and lease contracts awarded by the NWT Housing Corporation.

Many of our smaller communities and aboriginal organizations have established development corporations which need the support of negotiated contracts to get their businesses started. With these contracts they can develop their business skills and increase local control over the implementation of government contracts. This, in turn, increases the community's commitment to construction projects.

I am aware that there has been some concern about this initiative. It should be understood that these contracts are normally negotiated with community and aboriginal development corporations, which are not always contractors themselves. Many of the actual material and trade contracts still go to the established northern suppliers and contractors. It is a Cabinet condition of every negotiated contract that only northern resources be used.

It is also worth noting that these negotiated contracts represent only a very small percentage of the total dollar value of contracts awarded. There are still many contracts being publicly tendered.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Morin. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Kakfwi.

Minister's Statement 41-12(4): Progress With The Community Transfer Initiative

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to report today that 43 communities have expressed an interest in the community transfer initiative. General workshops on the subject have been conducted in 24 communities. Almost \$430,000 has been contributed to help communities become involved in the initiative since last fiscal year.

Transfers of varying levels of authority have been completed in seven communities: Coppermine, Gjoa

Haven, Fort Providence, Fort Norman, Aklavik, Fort McPherson and Fort Good Hope. Eight others are in the planning stages: Cape Dorset, Fort Liard, Inuvik, Whale Cove, Gwich'in Tribal Council, Tuktoyaktuk, Holman and Arctic Red River, and I anticipate that transfer agreements will be in place in these communities in the near future. In general, communities are choosing to proceed very prudently. For this reason, the numbers of completed transfers may not seem very high, but I hasten to say that the transfer initiative is also a bold and new step for both this government and communities, so working out the details is taking time.

Within government, the community transfer working group is continuing to work with departmental, regional and community staff at every opportunity. Departments and regional offices have appointed lead contacts and organized themselves to participate in the initiative with the coordination of the community transfer working group.

Headquarters and regional offices continue to compile information regarding GNWT program and service delivery for each community. This information is used by communities in deciding whether or not they wish to take on the responsibility for design and delivery of specific program areas.

As more communities proceed toward transfer agreements, utilizing their own approaches, the parameters of the initiative and the manner in which it will address the many issues involved is becoming more clear. Because the community transfer initiative is community-driven, each transfer is somewhat unique and raises different issues which must be resolved. We have begun discussions with the Union of Northern Workers in order to ensure that labour matters are dealt with as smoothly and cooperatively as possible. We have also begun research into options for the provision of employee benefits such as pension plans so that employees have positive options to consider.

Two communities, Cape Dorset and Inuvik, are considering major transfers of responsibility. Cape Dorset is requesting the transfer of Social Services, Economic Development and Tourism, Housing and Public Works and Services. Inuvik is requesting aspects of Social Services, Economic Development and Tourism, Public Works and Services and lottery licensing. Both of these transfers, when complete, will have major impacts on the way these communities do business locally and with the Government of the Northwest Territories.

I'm also pleased to report, as I said last Friday in question period, that in Inuvik the transfers are being coordinated by a working group which represents the town, the Dene Band, the Gwich'in Band, and the Inuvialuit Community Corporation. Arrangements such as this in Inuvik, and similar ones in other communities, indicate another of the positive benefits of the community transfer initiative.

It is safe to say that the community transfer initiative has captured the interest of communities and more exciting times lie ahead for the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Kakfwi. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Whitford.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On World AIDs Day

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Members of the House. Today we recognize World AIDS Day. Mr. Speaker, we in the north are not immune to the scourges of AIDS. For a long time, we seemed to have enjoyed relative isolation from some of the social impacts that southerners face. The facts of this issue are frightening. In Canada, there are approximately 8,500 diagnosed cases of AIDS or HIV. In the Northwest Territories, officially, there are 25 reported cases.

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Sadly, Mr. Speaker, for every case diagnosed, there are nine others that are not. If this figure were correct, there are approximately 250 people in the Northwest Territories with AIDS or HIV. Some researchers into AIDS believe that this figure could be as high as 30 unknown infected people will, in turn have family and friends who are directly touched by this disease.

Mr. Speaker, this disease affects all of us. AIDS is no longer a disease that affects only gays and IV drug users. The greatest growth area for victims in the past few years of the AIDS epidemic has been in the heterosexual community. No one is immune from AIDS. We must stop believing that it is somebody else's problem, a southern disease, a white disease or a gay disease. This disease is everyone's problem, not in the distant future, but right now, here at home.

AIDS is a completely preventable disease, however we know how it is spread. We know how it is not spread. AIDS is only preventable when we can accept our part of the responsibility for prevention.

Today, December 1, across the country, people with AIDS or HIV mark World AIDS Day, a day of hope that a cure may be soon be found. This morning red ribbons were given to all the members. I would like to ask the members of this House to wear these ribbons in support of the fight against AIDS.

Mr. Speaker, the theme of this year's World AIDS Day is "a moment in time." With the concurrence of the House, I would invite the Members to join me in a moment of silence for all the people in the Northwest Territories who are fighting or who have lost the fight against this twentieth-century plague.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Please rise.

---Minute of Silence

Thank you, Mr. Whitford. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Koe.

Member's Statement On First Annual Report Of Languages Commissioner

**MR. KOE:**

Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yesterday you tabled a report, the first annual report of the Languages Commissioner of the Northwest Territories. I'd like to express my appreciation to the Languages Commissioner for the work she has put into this document.

I read portions of the report with great interest. I know the section in which the Languages Commissioner did special studies. One of these special studies was a review of a Canada/Northwest Territories cooperation agreement on aboriginal languages and French.

Mr. Speaker, I'll be focusing on the Canada/Northwest Territories cooperation agreement on aboriginal languages and French. There were two agreements, one from 1984 to 1989, of which \$16 million was allocated for aboriginal languages. I don't know how much was for French. The second agreement was from March, 1991 to 1994, where \$18 million was allocated for aboriginal languages and \$12.8 million for French.

Mr. Speaker, I'm very disappointed in the results the Languages Commissioner found. Each year this government assembles a list of specific projects that have been requested, puts them together and submits them to the federal Secretary of State for approval. It seems that this is always done after April 1, so the projects people who have applied for funding, have to wait until the Secretary of State approves the application and the money is then allocated. I know some start-up money and some advances are provided by this government, but the result is that the projects are always behind the eight ball and always waiting for formal approval of their projects which they are trying to get going.

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

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

**MR. KOE:**

Thank you, honourable Members. In March of 1993, the federal government announced a ten per cent cut to the languages programs. I introduced a motion in this Assembly severely criticizing the federal government for this action, and strongly supporting the use and enhancement of aboriginal languages in the Northwest Territories and in doing government business.

The point of my statement, Mr. Speaker, is that this government has not been upholding its end of the bargain. This government has not been spending the funds which have been allocated for aboriginal languages and French. I find this very unacceptable. For example, the report indicates that in the 1991-92 fiscal year, the eighth year of this agreement, this government lapsed \$777,795 for aboriginal languages, and \$1,159,641 for French. The estimated lapses for 1992-93 are approximately \$400,000 for aboriginal languages, and \$1 million for French. This is absurd, Mr. Speaker, given that there are many groups in the Northwest Territories that are looking for funds to enhance or carry out their programs, and were probably told there is no more money available. It's not only one department, it seems like all departments are at fault.

Mr. Speaker, I'm not very pleased in finding out information and statistics like this so far after the fact,

especially since most Members, including the Premier and the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment, made strong statements of support on these programs and of the actions and cuts proposed by the federal government when the motion I made was passed unanimously on March 4, 1993.

Mr. Speaker, I would expect some immediate measures be taken by this government to rectify the situation and ensure that funds which are available for language projects in the north are utilized properly. Mahsi.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

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Member's Statement On Development Of Healing Program By Dene Cultural Institute

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Dene Cultural Institute is in the process of developing a healing program. Mr. Speaker, this program is being developed because the institute sees a need for training for communities to help recovering alcoholics deal with the other issues that have arisen from their addiction. Issues such as child sexual assault, spousal assault, grief, anger and cultural oppression need to be addressed in order for the recovering alcoholic to lead a full and productive life, without slipping back into their previous lifestyle.

Mr. Speaker, this program will enable all the Dene communities to meet their own social and cultural healing needs. Four individuals will be trained to become the institute's mobile healing team. They will help the people in the communities become self-sufficient in dealing with the issues that they themselves identify as needing to be addressed.

Mr. Speaker, the Dene Cultural Institute has conducted a review of their progress and role in facilitating cultural development. The institute feels they will have limited success in strengthening culture until we, as Dene, have addressed the issues that cause us not to practice our own culture on a personal basis. The institute would like to start this healing program in April, 1994, and is looking to run a

five year program and then have a comprehensive review on the progress made.

Mr. Speaker, I know that two days ago I promised that I would not say anything else about the final report of the Standing Committee on Health and Social Services. However, one of the recommendations that was made, that I wholeheartedly agree with, is that we do not provide enough support to the front line workers and communities.

I strongly urge this government to support the Dene Cultural Institute in the development and implementation of this worthwhile healing program. Mahsi cho.

---Applause.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Member's Statement On Discovery Of Debris In Arctic Ocean

**MR. NG:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This past May, a private scientific team, lead by Dr. Joe MacInnis discovered and videotaped at least two dozen unknown rectangular objects in the waters off the shores of Cambridge Bay while they were on an expedition looking for Sir John Franklin's ship. Their underwater exploration also confirmed the existence of two large cargo aircraft, numerous vehicles and assorted building materials which are believed to have been left or dumped into the ocean by operators of the Distant Early Warning sites in the late 1950s and early 1960s. I, personally, as a recreational diver, have viewed one of the planes, parts of vehicles, empty oil drums and other debris in the waters around Cambridge Bay.

Mr. Speaker, the discovery of these boxes lead to an intensive exploration and recovery program undertaken by the Canadian military this past August and September. The military operation involved six military divers and at least one herc load of equipment. These divers, over the course of approximately five weeks, recovered a majority of the rectangular boxes. However, the military team did not attempt to recover any of the other debris. There was national coverage of the issue as there was a concern that these boxes may have been parts of electrical equipment containing possible PCBs. There was no

immediate concern of potential toxic chemical leakage, as sediment samples taken from the area of the boxes, after their initial discovery, found no sign of PCB contamination. It was later confirmed that there were minimal traces of PCBs in the recovered boxes.

I have raised this issue, as we can all recognize the tons of equipment and debris littering our land around our communities, particularly where there have been a lot of resource or military related activity.

Mr. Speaker, what we don't recognize, and what we have not even begun to address, is the amount and type of contaminants in our waters. Thank you.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Member's Statement On Inadequate Salaries Of Alcohol And Drug Workers

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the situation of alcohol and drug workers in our community alcohol and drug centres is simply intolerable. Wage scales set by the Department of Social Services -- which are not even close to reflecting the real costs of living in our communities, or the wage marketplace -- suggest that the Government of the Northwest Territories is making mere token efforts to offer community alcohol and drug services. In my constituency of Iqaluit, where we know that revenue flowing to the GNWT from alcohol sales, in licensed premises alone, is just under \$1 million a year, and where it is estimated by the RCMP, the drug industry amounts to \$1 million a month.

An entry level alcohol and drug worker makes a base salary of \$23,313, plus a housing allowance. There are no benefits, no VTA, no medical or dental benefits beyond Medicare. An entry level custodial worker at any one of our schools in Iqaluit makes \$34,000 plus a whole range of government benefits.

I know of an experienced and dedicated counsellor who came from southern Canada to offer his services at Upassuraakut. He had a wife to support. He didn't drink or smoke. He had no vehicle, no skidoo. Even with the top scale of level three, at \$27,388 plus housing allowance, the high cost of living and housing in Iqaluit resulted in a net income, after tax shortfall, of

\$300 per month for he and his family. Money was certainly not his prime motivation, but does our government expect even dedicated alcohol and drug workers to lose money each month?

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At this time, a very dedicated and capable Inuk from a Baffin community, with a large family, is completing the alcohol and drug component of the social worker program at Arctic College. He is working at Upassuraakut while completing his studies. He has recently spent a period of internship at Bellwood, a nationally-known alcohol and drug treatment centre in Toronto. As long as he is housed in Arctic College student housing, he can just get by on his income but as soon as he has to find his own housing for he and his family, after he finishes his course, he simply will not be able to afford to continue working at Upassuraakut. I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, I will have to ask for consent to continue.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

We'll take a short recess.

---SHORT RECESS

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Could I call the Assembly back to order, please. I think that false alarm shows the need, in the next while, to have a proper fire drill. We'll work that into the schedule at some point.

When we left off, Mr. Patterson had asked for unanimous consent to continue his Member's statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I was talking about the Inuk employee who is hoping to work for Upassuraakut but won't be able to afford to do so when he's required to find housing for himself and his family in Iqaluit.

Student counsellors at Arctic College make more money than alcohol and drug workers. Mental health workers make more money. Custodial workers and water truck helpers make more. But, the community alcohol and drug workers, who are often exposed to the problems of their peers after hours, who are often on call all hours of the day -- whether they like it or not

-- who must, at times, endure excruciating stress, are paid at wage levels which I consider almost insulting.

Mr. Speaker, the Special Committee on Health and Social Services pointed out this serious problem in an early interim report to this House. Alcohol and drug problems, as we all know, are crippling our communities. Ironically, even though we are in times of financial restraint, our government has found \$900,000 to send a Yellowknife bureaucrat around the territories to do a study on -- get this -- fairness and justice in the northern workplace, including wage parity, of all things. A study that, to my knowledge, no one in this House has ever asked for.

I say, Mr. Speaker, let's get our priorities right. Let's can the Northern Workplace Commission and put those funds toward finally dealing with alcohol and drug workers' low wages. Thank you.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Item 3, Members' statements. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Member's Statement On Privatization Of NWT Power Corporation

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Ordinary Members' Caucus I would like to express our concern with regard to the issue of privatization of the NWT Power Corporation.

In March, Mr. Speaker, the Government Leader tabled a document entitled, A Proposal to Privatize the NWT Power Corporation. At that time, the Government Leader indicated she would bring a more detailed proposal to the House in a future session. Since that time, this issue has been raised in the Standing Committee on Finance, the Standing Committee on Agencies, Boards and Commissions and the Ordinary Members' Caucus.

Mr. Speaker, the decision to privatize the Power Corporation is an issue of which Members are very concerned. They don't want to see it addressed in a hasty manner. A great deal of consultation and discussion will be required.

Concern about this proposal is strong, particularly in smaller communities across the north. Even though the government has yet to present its formal proposal,

we've seen in this House a petition from citizens who are concerned about the impact of this change on the level of service that they would receive. Members are appreciative of the offer of the Government Leader to provide Members of the caucus with a full briefing on this issue on December 7.

Mr. Speaker, Members will attend this meeting and gain a better understanding of this complex issue. However, Mr. Speaker, there is always a great deal of business before Members of this House prior to the end of December. The Ordinary Members' Caucus wish to advise the government that it will not be willing to consider any proposal regarding the privatization of the NWT Power Corporation in this House prior to February, 1994. In February, we will examine the government's proposal. At that time we will be prepared to devote an appropriate amount of time and energy to consider this proposal and its long-term impact on the communities and the people of the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Item 3, Members' statements. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Mr. Kakfwi.

**ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS**

Return To Oral Question 84-12(4): Solvent Abuse Policy

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, this is in response to a question asked by Mr. Kenoayoak Pudlat on November 24, 1993, in regard to solvent abuse.

Solvent abuse is not an offence under the criminal code, or any other federal or territorial statute, but it sometimes comes up in court when the solvent has been stolen, or a building has been broken into in order to steal or use solvents. Judges or Justices of the Peace often try to impose probation orders for treatment or counselling, if programs exist under the mandates

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of Health, Social Services or non-governmental organizations in that community.

Some thought was given a few years ago, by an interdepartmental group comprised of the RCMP and the Departments of Justice, Social Services and Health, to develop legislation for solvent abuse. The thrust of it was to make it an offence to ingest or distribute solvents for the purpose of inducing euphoria, hallucination or intoxication. Penalties included a fine, imprisonment or an interdiction-type order, like the one available under the Liquor Act, but is now rarely used.

A number of objections were raised, one of them being that the legislation criminalized a social problem. That objection could have been met, in part, by not providing for a conviction or record, but an order for treatment and a prohibition against stores selling that person solvents. However, there still remained a serious problem: the legislation was hollow without programs providing for counselling and treatment resources.

Mr. Pudlat's notion of a policy is a good idea, but it would not be effective for any department to have one, unless there are programs available to help. Much time and effort has been spent already by the RCMP, Health, Education and Social Services, in the schools trying to make children aware of the dangers.

Some progress has recently been made in the development of programs. The Minister of Social Services announced on November 26, 1993, that northern addiction services in Dettah will now, for the first time in the history of the north, take a few young persons for substance -- solvent and inhalant -- treatment, something which has been requested for many, many years. This is an important pilot project which will indicate future directions for the government.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Hear, hear.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Last week, November 22 to November 26, Yellowknife hosted an international conference on the question of solvent abuse. This is an encouraging development.

The Department of Justice will continue to work with the Departments of Health and Social Services in their efforts to address this serious social problem. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**



Item 4, returns to oral questions. Madam Premier

Further Return To Oral Question 154-12(4): Status Of Arviat Search And Rescue

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. James Arvaluk on November 30, 1993. It is regarding the status of the Arviat search and rescue. The RCMP detachment commander has advised that the official search for Mr. Napayok ended yesterday afternoon, after he discussed the situation with family members, the hamlet council, Arviat's search and rescue committee and the Canadian Forces' rescue coordination centre in Edmonton.

Although the RCMP public search is now over, family members and friends decided to continue a private search for Mr. Napayok, without RCMP or military resources. Apparently, 25 to 30 community residents are continuing this private search today. A meeting will be held in Arviat this afternoon to determine the hamlet's continued involvement in the private search. Consideration will also be given on whether to extend or conclude the private search during this afternoon's meeting.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

**ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS**

Question 155-12(4): Lapsed Funds From Federal/NWT Languages Agreement

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment Programs. Mr. Speaker, last March a motion was introduced in this House, regarding the Assembly's concern with the federal government's cuts to the Canada/NWT cooperation agreement for French and aboriginal languages in the NWT. This motion addressed the ten per cent reduction in this contribution program, which meant a reduction of about \$1 million.

Many Members of this House, both Cabinet Ministers and ordinary Members spoke in support of the motion. In fact, the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment Programs spoke very passionately in support of the motion, calling the federal cuts, an

insult and totally irresponsible. Mr. Speaker, in light of the information provided in the report of the Languages Commissioner tabled yesterday, the federal government must have wondered why we were making such an issue over the cuts when we were lapsing more than the proposed cuts from the funding that we already had. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister, when this discussion took place in March, was he aware of the large amount of funding which was being lapsed in this program?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 155-12(4): Lapsed Funds From Federal/NWT Languages Agreement

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Mr. Speaker, I would like to indicate, before the honourable Members get carried away in this Assembly about this issue, the reduction that was agreed to by the Secretary of State and this government, was four per cent. As the Minister responsible for a great deal of the implementation, I am not actually involved in the negotiations of the agreement itself. I don't take the responsibility which is presently in the hands of the Government Leader.

On the more specific question, no, I was not completely aware of the total amount of the under-expenditure of money. I was informed that there would be some under-expenditure, but I was not aware of the total amount until the end of the year.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Koe.

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Question 156-12(4): Reason For Lapsing Federal Funds For Languages

**MR. KOE:**

I don't think we are getting carried away on this side of the House, Mr. Speaker. It is an issue of concern arising from an investigation by the Languages Commissioner. All we are doing is indicating the facts of the investigation the Languages Commissioner put in her report which was tabled in this Assembly. According to the report of the Languages Commissioner, this government lapsed money in

1991-92. I mentioned in my statement there was \$777,000 for aboriginal languages and another \$1.1 million for French. In 1992-93, it was another \$400,000 for aboriginal languages and \$1 million for French. So the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment is responsible, I assume, for the ongoing monitoring of this languages agreement. How has it happened that all this money has been lapsed over the years? I know you just responded to my colleague that you weren't aware until the end of this year, but money was lapsed in 1991-92. How and why was this allowed?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The Minister clarified who was responsible for this particular area. Minister Nerysoo.

Return To Question 156-12(4): Reason For Lapsing Federal Funds For Languages

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Mr. Speaker, I was going to raise a point of order, however, I will clarify the issue. First of all, I was appointed the Minister in 1992. I cannot be held responsible for the decisions or responsibilities of the Minister who was formally in my capacity. However, I want to indicate that I have raised the matter with my colleagues and my colleagues have raised the issue with me. They are concerned about the under-expenditure of these financial resources. We have already, during a discussion in Cabinet, said we were not happy. In fact, most of the Members have indicated to me they were not happy with the way in which this took place. I have raised the matter with my department in those areas for which we are responsible for delivering programs on behalf of this Assembly and this government.

I just want to indicate as well, Mr. Speaker, there are a number of factors. People should recognize that we spent 86 per cent of those dollars that were allocated to us. What we are talking about here is approximately 14 per cent of the dollars. There are many factors. The unfortunate situation, Mr. Speaker, is that the information that is provided here may not be accurate. The problem is we are dealing with a report that was tabled and the department has not had an opportunity to review the facts in this report. There is refutable information in this report. I would like to ask the consideration of the Members, we need the time to review this report and to properly answer the questions, issues and concerns of Members of this House. It is very difficult for me to review the

report. I have read the summary and, in my view, it is not completely accurate.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Gargan.

Question 157-12(4): Equitable Allocation Of Languages Agreement Funds

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister of Education about the systems used for allocating funding to specific projects within the department. The lapsed funds are apparently blamed, in part, on departments not reporting surplus funds in time for them to be placed elsewhere. This system is obviously not working. In light of the problems with this system of the distribution of funds, what has the government done to change the system for allocating funds to projects?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 157-12(4): Equitable Allocation Of Languages Agreement Funds

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the question that has been asked by my honourable colleague. I believe he probably recognizes the importance of us having to change the way in which we reassess our financial resources. The problem with the way in which the agreement is...And again, I am not responsible for the agreement itself so I must indicate that the Government Leader is the person who is responsible for the overall agreement. What happens in the way we are allocating money with the agreements that are reached, sometimes we are not certain that a particular project will come in on time because the report, and the work that is being done, requires an extension or we are not forwarding the dollars as early as we should. There are other factors that I don't have general control over.

What is now occurring is, I have asked my department to review the way we are providing financial resources, under the agreement, to ensure that those projects that have been agreed on receive their financial resources early enough so they may complete their projects, or we identify that we are

going to have a surplus and, therefore, reassign those dollars to other projects that have been requested.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

If I could just clarify something the Minister said. The prime responsibility for the implementation of the agreement rests with the Premier's office. Each Minister would be responsible for that component which is directly associated with their office. But the prime responsibility of this rests with the Premier's office. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the Minister for his response. My question is to the Premier with regard to the...

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Gargan, it should be two questions because it is with a different Minister. But because of the confusion as to responsibility, I will allow you, at this point, to pose a new question.

Question 158-12(4): Funds For Communities Under Languages Agreement

**MR. GARGAN:**

Mr. Speaker, my question to the Premier is with regard to the expenditure of money under the agreement being spent within the departments. I would like to ask the Premier how much of that money actually goes to the communities or aboriginal organizations?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

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Return To Question 158-12(4): Funds For Communities Under Languages Agreement

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as the Minister of Education indicated, at the beginning of the program each department is asked to put in an allocation on what their program needs for French and the aboriginal languages would be. Once that's completed, it's established in the guidelines that the various departments would allocate those funds.

Although I can tell you some of the departments allocations, they would have to conclude whether they were spent in headquarters or whether they were spent at the community level. It would depend entirely on the decision of the department where the funds could be appropriated within the guidelines that were originally set. I don't have the particular breakdown and I'll provide that to you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Supplementary To Question 158-12(4): Funds For Communities Under Languages Agreement

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you. I'd like to thank the Premier for that response but with regard to money being allocated at the community level, is she still referring to decentralization to the communities, as opposed to individual organizations outside of government receiving the money?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

Further Return To Question 158-12(4): Funds For Communities Under Languages Agreement

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, it would be both. A Minister responsible for a certain department would try to project what would be requested and required for the year and then would make a decision based on what people are asking for and on the merits of the proposal that came in. It would be both, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Question 159-12(4): Reason For Turning Down Various Proposals For Funding Under Languages Agreement

**MR. ARVALUK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Premier. During the past year, communities have made requests for funding to assist with aboriginal languages projects to various departments. In most cases, they have been told there is no funding

available. For example, I could use the Elvis Raddi workshop in Coral Harbour and the Baffin Regional board shortfall. After the quarterly allotment was changed to a monthly grant, they were looking for money to develop the Inuktitut curriculum for their schools. Can the Minister responsible for this funding explain how the government can tell communities that no funding is available, yet lapse more than \$1 million?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

Return To Question 159-12(4): Reason For Turning Down Various Proposals For Funding Under Languages Agreement

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, those are specific proposals that the honourable Member is talking about. It's very difficult for me to express an opinion on a proposal that I haven't seen. I may not be fully aware of why it was turned down. It could be for any reason. I beg forgiveness because I'm not aware of those specific proposals. If we could be a little more specific, I can get the answers. I haven't got it readily available. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Arvaluk.

Supplementary To Question 159-12(4): Reason For Turning Down Various Proposals For Funding Under Languages Agreement

**MR. ARVALUK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My specific question is, some of these proposals from different communities have been considered to be good, but the simple answer usually is, we would like to help you, you have a good proposal, but there is no money available within the government. I'm trying to be specific, Mr. Speaker, by asking why there was more than \$1 million lapsed, yet we told them the proposals were good but the funding was not available. I'm trying to understand how you explain that to the communities?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

Further Return To Question 159-12(4): Reason For Turning Down Various Proposals For Funding Under Languages Agreement

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I don't mean to be disrespectful to the honourable Member, but it's very difficult to answer unless we know the specific proposal and why it was turned down. I can better respond if he could be more specific to a specific project. At this point it's difficult to respond to a broad question on some programs, some projects, because I wouldn't know that answer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

One more question, Mr. Arvaluk.

Supplementary To Question 159-12(4): Reason For Turning Down Various Proposals For Funding Under Languages Agreement

**MR. ARVALUK:**

Mr. Speaker, then perhaps I could ask the Premier if she would review some of these proposals that were rejected previously and determine whether they would have been able to qualify under these lapsed funds which were returned to the Secretary of State. Would the Premier tell the House if these can be reviewed, see if they could be fitted into this funding that is already available?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

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Further Return To Question 159-12(4): Reason For Turning Down Various Proposals For Funding Under Languages Agreement

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I would be happy to review any project again, if the Member can indicate exactly what that project is and the information required to seek out that specific area of concern which has been expressed here. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Lewis.

Question 160-12(4): Reason For Lapsed Funds Under Official Languages Agreement

**MR. LEWIS:**

(Translation) Thank you, I would like to speak in French. My question is to the Minister of Education and it concerns the funds for the official languages. With the federal funds there are limitations and very strict conditions. Is it possible that the money for the official languages was not used because the federal government imposed strict laws for utilizing these funds?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 160-12(4): Reason For Lapsed Funds Under Official Languages Agreement

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish I had the ability to articulate issues in other languages like my honourable colleague. There are a number of factors in the way in which the financial resources are allocated. Among those factors the only way we could get an opportunity to manoeuvre funds around in the agreement -- and the Premier could clarify this even further -- is that there is a ten per cent allowance for us to move money from one project to another.

If we are to get that approval, we need the federal government's agreement. If they disagree we are unable to move that money. So, it makes it very difficult. Once we set an agreement at the beginning of the year, we have to get agreement from the federal government to manoeuvre the money around. They may not agree. They may agree on some projects, but not others. That's the way the agreement works and it makes it very difficult for us.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Lewis.

Supplementary To Question 160-12(4): Reason For Lapsed Funds Under Official Languages Agreement

**MR. LEWIS:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the problem is with the Government of the Northwest Territories. Has the government discussed changing

the rules so we could use the money for the official languages?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 160-12(4): Reason For Lapsed Funds Under Official Languages Agreement

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Those are some of the issues we are going to be raising as part of the strategy and the direction that we want to take in the negotiations for a new agreement. Any advice that we can receive from Members as to how and what we can do in terms of allowing us to manoeuvre the dollars in future, will only be helping us in signing a new agreement. I want to say though, that the 1984 agreement -- which I was a party to and, in fact, was involved in negotiating -- allowed us a broader ability to move funds around rather than the one we have at this particular moment. They've narrowed down our ability to move money as we were previously allowed to do, without, necessarily, the consent of the federal government. The present agreement restricts our ability to manoeuvre the money and I appreciate the concern that the honourable Member has raised.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Lewis.

Supplementary To Question 160-12(4): Reason For Lapsed Funds Under Official Languages Agreement

**MR. LEWIS:**

My final question to the Minister of Education is can the government table a copy of the conditions for the use of the Canada/Northwest Territories language agreement fund?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 160-12(4): Reason For Lapsed Funds Under Official Languages Agreement

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not responsible for that particular agreement. However, I will ask the Premier if I may have permission to table that agreement in

the House so that Members of the Assembly will have access to it.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Ng.

Question 161-12(4): Finance Officer Responsible For Official Languages

**MR. NG:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to Madam Premier. The government has an office in the Executive with seven staff, including a financial coordinator who is responsible for official languages. The report from the Languages Commissioner suggests that another financial advisor is, or has been, hired to deal with the Secretary of State agreements to make sure there aren't any funding lapses. My question is, has that individual been hired? And, if he or she has, will that individual be located in the Executive official languages group or in a different department?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Ng, that was two questions. Would you like to decide which one you would like to ask? Mr. Ng.

**MR. NG:**

The first one.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

Return To Question 161-12(4): Finance Officer Responsible For Official Languages

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, when I first became Premier, I was very concerned about the lapses that were taking place and why they were taking place. Given the importance of languages -- to the aboriginal people particularly -- and we have expressed in discussions in this Legislative

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Assembly, there was a need to address how we are going to operate efficiently and ensure that the expenditures, and the planning for these expenditures, take place in an organized fashion so we would not have lapses.

Because the general organization really didn't focus on who was responsible to make sure these expenditures and planning took place adequately, the official languages unit was set up with the seven people you indicated. It was set up, specifically, to monitor the agreement, to make sure we lived up to the commitment and that departments had as much support as possible so that the funds, and the way to spend funds, were monitored and followed through.

I can't tell you whether the individual has been hired. But, from the reporting we have put in place, it appears that this year we will not be lapsing dollars. I feel it was a great concern that we had money and we were not spending it. We took the action to establish the official languages unit, to make sure that we planned with respect to what the agreement says and to make sure that we didn't have to wait until close to the end of the year to find out whether the dollars were spent or not.

It appears to be working. The system seems to be bringing in results and monitoring so that if there are lapses in a certain area we can notify other areas so that funding can perhaps be moved around, rather than waiting until the last minute. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Supplementary To Question 161-12(4): Finance Officer Responsible For Official Languages

**MR. NG:**

I just wanted to clarify this, there are two financial people in the languages group? Is that correct?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I don't specifically know whether there is one or two. I will take that question as notice and provide that information.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The question has been taken as notice. Item 5, oral questions. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Question 162-12(4): Date Premier Became Aware Of Lapsed Funds Under Languages Agreement

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The official languages responsibility has come under the Department of the Executive, -- according to our books -- for some time now. Funds have been allocated in our O and M budget for an official languages agreement. Taking into account there has been a significant amount of funds lapsed for official languages under the Canada/NWT agreement -- particularly with this task - - I would like to ask the Government Leader, when did she and her office become aware of such a surplus of funding?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, could the honourable Member clarify which years she would like me to address?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Speaker, according to the financial statements on 1992-93 expenditures in this report, they flexed the 1992-93 funds for the official languages. The report of the Languages Commissioner is for the year 1992-93. So, it would be for the end of the 1993 fiscal year. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I would have to get the exact date on that, but I know it was very late when we were trying to put the information together. I would have to take the question as notice to give the exact date of when we became aware of that specific problem.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Question 163-12(4): Lapsed Funds Under Languages Agreement

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I recognize that the Premier took the previous question as notice, but I have another question. Last March, the Premier also spoke passionately, in favour of the motion that was presented in this House. In fact she said the government was, "shocked that a grant of this type would have been cut." I was wondering if she could advise the House if she was aware in that fiscal year, or had been aware in previous fiscal years, of the magnitude of the lapsed funds?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Dent, in fairness to the Premier, she did take the question as notice as far as that year. It is fair to ask about the previous year. Madam Premier.

Return To Question 163-12(4): Lapsed Funds Under Languages Agreement

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I took the question as notice because I believe Mrs. Marie-Jewell is asking when we actually knew. I don't have that exact date here and I propose to bring it in. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Question 164-12(4): Lapsed Funds Under Languages Agreement

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have with me an update on the 1992-93 expenditures on the financial statements, with regard to the Canada/NWT agreement on contributions for French services. Mr. Speaker, when I look over this amount, it indicates that there are \$980,000 of funds that weren't used. In fact, these funds appear to have been lapsed. I would like to pose a question to the Minister of Government Services and Public Works. Was he aware that his department had lapsed \$221,000 under this particular agreement? Thank you.

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**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Morin.

Return To Question 164-12(4): Lapsed Funds Under Languages Agreement

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Supplementary To Question 164-12(4): Lapsed Funds Under Languages Agreement

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Speaker, since the Minister was not aware these funds were lapsed, would he make a commitment to ensure that his department attempts to utilize the dollars that are allocated for 1993-94, to ensure that this amount of funding is not lapsed in the future. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question 164-12(4): Lapsed Funds Under Languages Agreement

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I agree.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Pudlat.

Question 165-12(4): Emergency Back-up For Cape Dorset Power Plant

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Mr. Speaker, I will be directing my question to the Minister Responsible for the NWT Power Corporation. Last spring, the Minister and some staff were going into the communities. Cape Dorset has a problem with regard to their power plant. They have been getting some funding assistance for the operation of the power plant. At the moment, the power plant has no emergency back-up. The community of Cape Dorset has problems with regard to this. Has the Minister done anything with regard to the request of the Cape Dorset power plant operation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

Return To Question 165-12(4): Emergency Back-up For Cape Dorset Power Plant

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The present plant in Cape Dorset is centrally located. To deal with the shortfall, the corporation has delivered a generating module to the community. The module is presently stored at the Northwest Territories Power Corporation site, but hamlet permission to connect the unit has been withheld, pending resolution on the community's request to have the power plant relocated to a remote site, likely near the petroleum products tanks. The cited reasons for the relocation from the community are non-conforming land use, safety and noise. Mr. Speaker, it is the opinion of the power corporation that the current site is an acceptable location and that a plant upgrade can result in adequate generating capacity at least cost-wise while dealing with the issue of land use safety and noise. The plant relocation would result in a significant price increase over that of a plant upgrade. The corporation has participated in a series of meetings with the council. The ability for backup is presently on site, and it can be hooked up in a few minutes, if the hamlet will agree and give us the necessary permission to do so. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Arngna'naaq.

Question 166-12(4): Financial Assistance To Family Of Missing Hunter From Arviat

**MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Premier. With the search that has been going on in Arviat, the family has incurred a substantial debt. This is a partial responsibility of either the Government of the Northwest Territories or the federal government. I would like to find out if this government would either reimburse parts of costs incurred, or make a request to the federal government on behalf of the family.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

Return To Question 166-12(4): Financial Assistance To Family Of Missing Hunter From Arviat

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**



Mr. Speaker, there is a meeting that is going on presently in the community. I believe that is one of the areas that they are going to talk about. I don't have any idea about what the dollar figure is. I believe I can present that to the House as soon as the report comes back in, to see what the outcome of those discussions were. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Arngna'naaq.

Supplementary To Question 166-12(4): Financial Assistance To Family Of Missing Hunter From Arviat

**MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I realize that the meeting is being held in Arviat at the present time. However, I would like to know if there is a request from the family or the community of Arviat, and whether the government would be willing to commit to assisting in the search. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

Further Return To Question 166-12(4): Financial Assistance To Family Of Missing Hunter From Arviat

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would like to see the outcome of the meeting to see what has been decided at the community level. I know our people are in the meeting. I would prefer to wait for the outcome of that meeting. Perhaps, because we delegate certain emergency responsibility to the region, it may very well be taken care of. I would like to see what decisions have been made at the meeting and move from there. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Arngna'naaq.

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Supplementary To Question 166-12(4): Financial Assistance To Family Of Missing Hunter From Arviat

**MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Would the Premier be able to give a response from the government, to this House, when the community meeting is complete?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

Further Return To Question 166-12(4): Financial Assistance To Family Of Missing Hunter From Arviat

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I will make a commitment to have a response on that matter by tomorrow. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Whitford.

Question 167-12(4): Departmental Review Of Language Proposals

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question I would like to direct to the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment. It relates to the lapse of money for French language programs and other matters. It has been my understanding that any proposals that were put forward by L'Association des Parents Franco de Yellowknife and the Federation Franco-Tenoise deal with education and language matters. They are scrutinized by the Department of Education, Culture and Employment prior to forwarding them on to Heritage Canada for funding. Often, it is felt that they are pared down. By the time they reach Heritage Canada, who also takes a cut at them, there is not much left. This may have contributed to some of the lapse in funding in the past. Can the Minister assure the people responsible, that this procedure will be reviewed in order that the proposals are as close as possible to their original state when they reach Heritage Canada, and avoid any kind of lapse in the future.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 167-12(4): Departmental Review Of Language Proposals

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to assure the honourable Member that we will do everything possible to ensure that the financial resources requested by the Yellowknife French Parents' Association or the Association Franco-Tenoise receive the kind of support necessary from my department. Just to suggest, though, that it's my belief that a closer working relationship with both organizations will only improve the presentations that we make cooperatively to the Government of Canada. Also, we will support those presentations.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Question 168-12(4): Statements In River Ridge Young Offender Facility Report

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Justice. Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Justice tabled a report on Monday. However, in reviewing the report at great length, there was a statement that has concerned me and it states, and I'd like to quote, "most recently in fact, some youths completing open custody dispositions, proved to be more dangerous to others, in and outside of the facility, than those youth serving secure dispositions." I found this to be quite a startling statement and I'd like to ask the Minister, how have these youths proved to be more dangerous? Is the Minister indicating that there is a flaw in the sentencing of these individuals? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question 168-12(4): Statements In River Ridge Young Offender Facility Report

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, arising out of the question asked by the Member for Thebacha, there is going to be a report made available to Members of this House regarding the incidents involving young offenders, both in secure custody and open custody. There have been a number of incidents in the last few months that were caused by young offenders in the custody of corrections. It's our view that in many cases, incidents involving violence, escapes or unlawful custody, arise out of acts by these young offenders, with no indication whatsoever from their previous

behaviour or actions that would have anybody believe that they would act in such a way. There is no blame pointed at the courts for sentencing the way they do. It's simply a statement recognizing -- and I think the courts recognize themselves -- that many young offenders who are sentenced to open custody give no one an indication that they would be planning to run away, to break out of these facilities at a later date or to commit acts of violence. It's simply an observation that we all make. The specifics of the incidents that the Member raised the other day, rising out of incidents at the Hay River facility and the River Ridge facility, will be made available in the next few days for Members to review and, if they wish, to continue raising concerns in this House. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Supplementary To Question 168-12(4): Statements In River Ridge Young Offender Facility Report

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Speaker, I'm not talking about the incident that happened at River Ridge. It's obvious the Minister failed to listen to my question. Mr. Speaker, I questioned the Minister on the report that he tabled in this House on Monday. Mr. Speaker, on page two of the report -- and I'll quote again my initial question since it didn't get an answer -- one of the statements is, "most recently in fact, some youths completing open custody dispositions proved to be more dangerous to others in and outside the facility than those youths serving secure dispositions." As I stated, I find this to be quite a startling statement to make of young offenders. I'd like to ask the Minister whether by making a statement like this that he's tabling in this House, reporting to the public, is there a flaw in the sentencing of these types of individuals? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Kakfwi.

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Further Return To Question 168-12(4): Statements In River Ridge Young Offender Facility Report

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Yes. Mr. Speaker, that was a very long winded preamble, with a short question at the end. I tried to

pay attention, diligently, through the whole thing. Now let me see if I have it clear. The Member is asking me if I find fault with the court sentencing of young offenders in the way in which they pass sentence. Mr. Speaker, just for the record, I find no fault with the way the courts have been passing down sentence.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Supplementary To Question 168-12(4): Statements In River Ridge Young Offender Facility Report

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you. I'd like to ask the Minister then, why in his report did he state that some youths completing open custody dispositions proved to be more dangerous to others in and outside the facility than the youths who are serving secure disposition? Why did he make such a statement?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return To Question 168-12(4): Statements In River Ridge Young Offender Facility Report

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, I've indicated there is going to be a report that will, more succinctly than I ever could, more clearly than I could, at least for the Members here, indicate how we view the recent incidents which the Member has raised concern with, and show as an observation that some of the more serious incidents arising out of actions by young offenders came from those sentenced to open custody and not secure custody. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Supplementary To Question 168-12(4): Statements In River Ridge Young Offender Facility Report

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Speaker, it's obvious to me that the Minister probably didn't even read his report before he tabled it

in the House. I find, Mr. Speaker, this report quite unacceptable. It certainly raises many questions if Members ever take the time to read the report. It's no doubt that the report was written to support the decision made by the Minister, he states that this decision is working. I would like to ask the Minister whether he would commit to an independent review of the success of the triple designation of these facilities, to be able to develop a report for this House. Not a biased report by his department, but an independent review. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return To Question 168-12(4): Statements In River Ridge Young Offender Facility Report

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, the report was what the Member asked for. It lays out that it does not conflict with any legislation or recent court rulings to triple designate facilities for the care of young offenders. As far as the staff of those facilities are concerned, the managers and the staff, the senior people within corrections, the Department of Justice and other jurisdictions in Canada who have operated these types of facilities for a longer period of time, it is fully in line with the public interest and the way that governments are compelled to take care of young offenders. It is fully in line with what managers and staff of these facilities feel they are able and capable of delivering for those they are held responsible for.

We feel it fully meets the needs of the young offenders in the way that present legislation directs us to care and give guidance to those young offenders in our care. I believe it isn't necessary to continue reviewing. There is a great job that needs to be done. I believe the Member wants to spend public money trying to find some minute fault in the system that we are trying very hard to improve. I find it difficult in finding a way to support that. I say that, by all indications, it is a good system. The staff have adapted well to it and they feel challenged by it. At this time, the reviews do not give any indication that there are any weaknesses or deficiencies in the way we decided to move. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

I would like to bring to the attention of Members that I've allowed a certain amount of flexibility in both the

preambles to questions Members have asked and the length of time that Ministers have responded in. I don't think the rules should provide a barrier to debate. Much like a hockey referee, the less you see of the referee, the better the game. But I would ask Members to respect the rules, to keep the length of their preambles down, and I'll ask Ministers to also respect the rules and keep their responses short and factual. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Patterson.

Question 169-12(4): Actions To Address Low Wages Of Alcohol And Drug Workers

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you. I have a short, precise question to the Minister of Social Services. In light of this Assembly's strong concern about the low wages of alcohol and drug workers, what concrete action has the Minister of Social Services taken to address this issue since her appointment approximately a year ago? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Minister Mike.

Return To Question 169-12(4): Actions To Address Low Wages Of Alcohol And Drug Workers

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Alcohol and drug workers did receive a 17.01 per cent increase in salaries a year ago that was retroactive to April 1, 1992. During committee of the whole, I informed the Member that the department is doing everything it can to identify the required amount of dollars to increase their wages. I told him with no new revenues coming in, and with the restraint we're under, it has been very difficult. Thank you.

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**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 169-12(4): Actions To Address Low Wages Of Alcohol And Drug Workers

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Mr. Speaker, the Minister says that the department is doing everything they can. I asked about concrete action. I would like to ask the Minister, has she instructed her department to prepare a submission to

improve the wage scales of alcohol and drug workers? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Minister Mike.

Further Return To Question 169-12(4): Actions To Address Low Wages Of Alcohol And Drug Workers

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is not only the alcohol and drug workers who have wage parity problems. In fact, the other departments have been asked by our Premier to identify employees who do have wage parity inequities. The government is doing something about it. Up until the work is done and dealt with at the Cabinet level or FMB, I really cannot make any commitments at this time. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Social Services -- whose answer is that the matter is still being studied -- would the Minister agree that further study on the wage parity issue on alcohol and drug workers and other workers -- such as the proposed Northern Workplace Commission -- is not needed, but what is actually needed now is money? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Patterson, you are really asking an opinion of the Minister. I would ask you if you would look at rephrasing your question to deal with government policy, rather than the opinion of the Minister. Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 169-12(4): Actions To Address Low Wages Of Alcohol And Drug Workers

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Mr. Speaker, in light of the strong concerns of Members, the recommendations of the Special Committee on Health and Social Services and the problems that the Minister is undoubtedly well aware of with community alcohol and drug centres hiring and retaining alcohol and drug workers, would the Minister accept that money is wasted if it is going to be spent on further study and that the priority of her department

should be to identify extra financial resources now to deal with this urgent problem? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Minister Mike.

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Mr. Speaker, I think the Member is asking for my personal opinion. He is not asking whether that is the position of Social Services or not. I would ask the Member to rephrase his question so that he is not asking for my personal opinion.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

If I could give my opinion on this, Ms. Mike, it is really my job, not yours.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Hear, hear.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

I allowed the second question, as posed to you as the Minister of Social Services. The question stands. How you answer it is within your own purview. Continue, Ms. Mike.

Further Return To Question 169-12(4): Actions To Address Low Wages Of Alcohol And Drug Workers

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Mr. Speaker, I cannot say, at this time, whether I agree or don't agree with the question that Mr. Patterson is asking. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Final supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Mr. Speaker, I understand that the Minister presented a submission to Cabinet for improving the wages of alcohol and drug workers, but was not successful in getting that submission approved. Is that true, Mr. Speaker? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Again, I would caution Members. I, as Speaker, am not aware of that. Unless the Minister has made that statement, then we're in the area of Cabinet secrecy.

If the Member has knowledge that is the knowledge of this House about this particular event, then Mr. Patterson can pose his question.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Mr. Speaker, we often hear Ministers saying, "I'll make a submission, I will consult with my Cabinet colleagues or I'll put it to Cabinet." My question to the Minister is, has she put this urgent problem to her Cabinet colleagues?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Point of order, Ms. Mike.

Point Of Order

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Mr. Speaker, the Member for Iqaluit is making allegations that I often talk about or say that I will make submissions. I would like to ask the Member if, since the last sitting, I made commitments that I would make a submission? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

I'm sorry, I really don't see a point of order, Ms. Mike. Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 169-12(4): Actions To Address Low Wages Of Alcohol And Drug Workers

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Mr. Speaker, my question from the beginning has been to try to understand what efforts, if any, the Minister of Social Services has taken to deal with this urgent problem. All she has said so far is she's done everything she could. I would just like to know what she has done to try to deal with this urgent issue, Mr. Speaker?

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Good question.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Minister Mike.

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Further Return To Question 169-12(4): Actions To Address Low Wages Of Alcohol And Drug Workers

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said earlier on, when I took the portfolio back in December 1992, there were increases made. Mr. Speaker, the Member had that portfolio and he had the opportunity to make the increases himself, if he was so concerned about it.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

I would like to remind Members that the Member is no longer the Minister of Social Services. The Member is not responsible any longer for any actions of the Department of Social Services. The time allotted for question period is over. We will go on to item 6, written questions. Mr. Dent.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Point of order has been called by Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Point Of Order

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

I would like to get clarification and I would like to ask you for a ruling on this. The Members have some concern with regard to posing a question to a Minister with regard to Cabinet secrecy. I do not believe that Beauchesne's Rules & Forms disallows any Member to pose a question to a Minister about what happens in a Cabinet discussion. I believe it is up to the Minister to let the Members know whether it is secret or not. That is the Minister's responsibility, but there appears to be some misunderstanding by Members whether we can ask Ministers questions that have been discussed in Cabinet. I would like to ask you, Mr. Speaker, if you can make a ruling on that particular point. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Certainly. I'll get back to the House for that ruling as soon as possible. Thank you very much. Item 6, written questions. Mr. Dent.

**ITEM 6: WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

Written Question 22-12(4): Public Works Contracts

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a series of five questions for the Minister of Public Works and the exact same question for the Minister Responsible for the NWT Housing Corporation, which I would like to ask. Mr. Speaker, I recognize that Mr. Lewis asked a question yesterday which relates to this. The Minister today provided the House with a statement which relates somewhat to this. My questions are asking for much more detail than what we could expect from Mr. Lewis' question or from the Minister's statement today. Will the Minister of Public Works provide the following:

1. A listing of all contracts negotiated by the department for the year ended March 31, 1993, and for the year to date, including the contract price, and estimated premium over open tender, if any.
2. A listing of all sole-source contracts awarded for the year ended March 31, 1993, and for the current year to date, including the contract price, and estimated premium over open tender, if any.
3. Details for all projects in the past year and a half where there have been problems with negotiated or sole-source contracts, requiring that they be renegotiated or awarded to another company for a completion.
4. The guidelines for determining whether a contract should be awarded through open tender, be negotiated or awarded through sole-source arrangements.
5. A list of projects being considered for award through negotiated contract or sole-source award for the balance of this year, and in the capital budget for next year.

Written Question 23-12(4): Housing Contracts

Will the Minister of Housing provide the following:

1. A listing of all contracts negotiated by the department for the year ended March 31, 1993, and for the year to date, including the contract price, and estimated premium over open tender, if any.
2. A listing of all sole-source contracts awarded for the year ended March 31, 1993, and for the current year to date, including the contract price, and estimated premium over open tender, if any.
3. Details for all projects in the past year and a half where there have been problems with negotiated or sole-source contracts, requiring that they be

renegotiated or awarded to another company for a completion.

4. The guidelines for determining whether a contract should be awarded through open tender, be negotiated or awarded through sole-source arrangements.

5. A list of projects being considered for award through negotiated contract or sole-source award for the balance of this year, and in the capital budget for next year.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

To clarify, Mr. Dent, as I understand it, you have asked two questions to the same Minister? Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In fact, it is the same person to whom I am asking the questions, but that Minister has responsibility for two different portfolios. I would like the responses from each of those two departments.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

We will consider each of the questions to the Minister, with his different responsibilities, as a separate written question, for the record. Item 6, written questions. Item 7, returns to written questions. Mr. Clerk.

**ITEM 7: RETURNS TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

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

Mr. Speaker, return to written question 21-12(4), asked by Mrs. Marie-Jewell to the Minister of Justice concerning young offenders' facility incident reporting.

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Return To Written Question 21-12(4): Young Offenders' Facility Incident Reporting

The paper on triple designation of young offender facilities was in response to the Member's question specific to that topic.

The other topic, relating to incidents which have occurred in young offenders' centres over the past few months, is also very important. I consider this separate topic to be so significant that I asked for a separate report to be prepared to inform Members

about the various incidents which have occurred, and the response of the Department of Justice to them. Revisions to that paper are currently being done, including the addition of information regarding the most recent incident at the River Ridge. I will make it available to Members once the revisions have been completed and translated.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 8, replies to opening address. Item 9, petitions. Item 10, reports of standing and special committees. We will take a short break before we go into that report. Mr. Koe.

**---SHORT RECESS**

**MR. SPEAKER:**

I'll call the Assembly back to order. Item 10, reports of standing and special committees. Mr. Koe.

**ITEM 10: REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

Committee Report 9-12(4): Final Report On Arctic College

**MR. KOE:**

Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the Standing Committee on Agencies, Boards and Commissions to present our report on the review of Arctic College. Over the past two years, the committee held public hearings, informal consultations with board members and college officials, students, faculty and formal meetings with the Minister and his officials.

The standing committee wishes to acknowledge the participation and input of the Arctic College board of governors and Arctic College and department officials, staff and student representatives throughout the review. As well, the committee appreciates the comments of members of the public who appeared as witnesses or provided written submissions during the public hearings.

**Introduction**

Throughout the review process, the committee focused on the following aspects:

-the mandate, composition, organizational structure and function of the board of governors of Arctic College and its various committees;

-the working relationships between the board of governors and the Department of Education;

-the operation of Arctic College, particularly related to administrative planning, the establishment of priorities and the development of a framework for the delivery of educational services and programs;

-strategic planning and funding allocation system developments;

-pertinent legislation, regulations and policy;

-statutory relationship between the Minister and the college;

-the role of the Science Institute;

-adult education programming at the community level; and,

-future direction of Arctic College and post-secondary education in Nunavut and the new western territory.

Time was also spent during the latter part of the review on three announcements made by the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment. First, was the government's decision to decentralize Arctic College into two separate college systems with head offices in Iqaluit and in Fort Smith. Second, was the development of a new strategic plan which would shape the direction of the department over the next ten to 15 years. Third, the integration of the Northwest Territories Science Institute with Arctic College.

Mr. Speaker, within our report, we identify issues in the areas we focused on as a committee. Over the two years that we reviewed Arctic College, the Minister and his officials responded favourably to the comments of the committee and to the interim report. In this report, we show where the college has attempted to address our concerns and highlight areas where further change is required.

Areas which particularly require attention are:

-legislation to implement the establishment of two colleges for the Northwest Territories;

-a draft strategic plan for each of the two colleges prior to the introduction of the legislation to establish the new college system;

-a formal process for the delegation of responsibilities from the Minister to the new boards; and,

-a formal process for obtaining the input of community education councils on local programming and planning.

Motion To Receive Committee Report 9-12(4) And Move To Committee Of The Whole, Carried

Mr. Speaker, now therefore I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, that the Standing Committee on Agencies, Boards and Commissions Final Report on Arctic College be received and moved into committee of the whole for consideration. Mahsi.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The motion is in order. To the motion.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

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---Carried

Item 10, reports of standing and special committees. Item 11, reports of committees on the review of bills. Mr. Arngna'naaq.

**ITEM 11: REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON THE REVIEW OF BILLS**

Report On Bills 2, 3 And 4

**MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Mr. Speaker, I wish to report to the Assembly that the Standing Committee on Legislation has reviewed Bill 2, Bill 3 and Bill 4 and wished to report that Bill 2, Bill 3, and Bill 4 are now ready for committee of the whole.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Arngna'naaq. Pursuant to rule 70(5), Bills 2, 3 and 4 are ordered into committee of the whole. 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. Item 18, consideration in committee of the whole of bills



and other matters: Minister's Statement 3-12(4), Sessional Statement by Premier; Bill 1, Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1994-95; Committee Report 3-12(4), Review of the 1994-95 Capital Estimates; Committee Report 7-12(4), Committee Review of DeLury and Associates Limited Contracts; Committee Report 8-12(4), Final Report on the Elimination of the Highway Transport Board; and, Tabled Document 11-12(4), Report from the Fort Providence/Cambridge Bay Strategic Planning Workshops. By the authority given to me by Motion 1-12(4) regarding sitting hours, we will put the Assembly into committee of the whole until the committee is ready to report progress, with Mr. Whitford in the chair.

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

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Good afternoon. The committee will now come to order. Yesterday, when the committee adjourned, we were on the review of capital under Education, Culture and Employment Programs. What is the committee's wish? Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to continue with the Department of Education, Culture and Employment.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 1, Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1994-95

Committee Report 3-12(4), Review Of The 1994-95 Capital Estimates

Department Of Education, Culture And Employment Programs

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Mr. Minister, we were still on general comments, I believe. Would the Minister like to take the witness table or appear from there? Mr. Minister, are you prepared? Minister Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am prepared to proceed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Department of Education, Culture and Employment. We are still on general comments. Mr. Ningark.

General Comments

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have general comments and partly a question to the Minister. When a community or a regional divisional board requests of the government a capital project for the capital plan, who decides the final prioritization of the capital projects? I say this, Mr. Chairman, because there are times when the community education boards or the divisional boards wanted to have a capital plan to have first priority and the Minister may not have agreed with it. I am told by the people I represent that it is not always the case when a community wants a community centre to be built the first year and when the Minister's priority does not agree with the community, then that plan is either deferred or not in the capital plan. In some cases, the Minister may change the capital plan. My question is, how serious is the input from the regional divisional boards or community boards taken by the Minister? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the community educational council authority take the board very seriously. It's been my view that we should try to transfer as much of the responsibility for planning and managing of resources to those agencies. The only issue that would be of concern to me would be whether we could accommodate a particular project within the financial resources that have been allocated. Generally speaking, that is the way I am approaching that particular matter.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. General comments, Member for Natilikmiot.

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, once we get into details at the appropriate time, I will be asking further questions. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

General comments. We have Mr. Arvaluk and then Mr. Gargan.

**MR. ARVALUK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister has indicated several times that they are now in the process of changing the criteria on the capital plan on the basis of new enrolment methods of students. The Minister knows that in two years, I have been bringing up the question of overcrowding in Chesterfield Inlet. I guess my blunt question is, Mr. Chairman, does the capital plan that is now in place have the new criteria in mind?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Mr. Chairman, the development of the plan was based on the criteria that was previously used, except to say the projects themselves. We will consider the

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new criteria and standards once they have been developed and approved by myself and my Cabinet colleagues. We had planned to have them done by December of 1993, but we've only been able to get the framework together and we'll probably not have them complete, in detail, until early January of next year.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. The Member for Aivilik.

**MR. ARVALUK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. January of next year, meaning a couple of months from now, I take it. They will then be implemented and used for capital plans thereafter?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Mr. Chairman, yes. We've been directed, by the Standing Committee on Finance, to develop some new criteria and standards and we are responding.

We knew that there was a need for us to respond previously and that's what we are doing now.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Mr. Arvaluk.

**MR. ARVALUK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Then I take it that the Department of Education will be developing a new method of capital planning. In other words, I suspect that Chesterfield is an acute situation, but it's not an exception. Under the old criteria, a lot of schools, including Pond Inlet, are in overcrowded situations. What I'm trying to get at here is that this particular capital plan on education has no significant increase with all the significant enrolment. Some students who have dropped out before are coming back to school and the birthrate is twice as much as the national average. It has surprised the department that kids are also enrolling in kindergarten and the students are coming back after the grade extension program has been introduced. Will there be a more relevant budget made so that we should not relegate ourselves to the 1994-95 capital estimate but completely drop this idea and put in a new fresh approach to capital planning on education.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Member for Aivilik. Minister Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The whole issue of the standards and criteria that have been used previously is clearly out of date. It's obvious from our calculations, that we are not planning to respond to the growing populations of school age children and also adult training programs that we are implementing in our communities.

As a result of that, we have taken the initiative to come forward to respond, first of all, to the kinds of comments that have been made by the Standing Committee on Finance and concerns expressed in this House, to revise the standards and criteria. We are doing that now. I had hoped that we could have them concluded by December. However, because we have been preoccupied by a number of other issues, such as the budgetary process, we have been unable to complete the

details of that work. As a result, it is going to take us about an additional month before we have concluded that issue.

In future, the capital planning we do will be based on those new standards and criteria of which high school planning is another aspect. St. Pat's, I believe is the first high school built 25 years ago, so the standards that are being used are a bit old and really not, in many ways, reflective of the kinds of programming that we are going to offer in that school. So, that is the problem and we recognize it.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. Mr. Arvaluk.

**MR. ARVALUK:**

Mr. Chairman, I suppose that I will be asking more questions when this new criteria, or education strategy, is introduced in the sitting in February and March. I will be asking this during the question period for the purpose of clarification and validity of that new approach. However, Mr. Chairman, I would like to make several general comments on the need to recognize education as a priority. I understand the government is making the social housing shortage a priority. I am not disagreeing with that. However, I think we should not be confused between the crisis of social or public housing shortage and the planning priority of education. I think a lot of answers can be made down the road when you have good educational programs. I think that has also been demonstrated in Greenland where they have 200 years of education. They have become a lot more independent and competitive in the free market. Also, if you look at that market, it's approximately 4,000 Inuit students in universities and colleges. Although we're very far from Greenland, this is the kind of aggressive approach they have been taking.

I think we are doing the same thing in the north, especially with the parents and teachers now, with the new attitude toward education for their children. I think we, as the government, must respond accordingly. We simply cannot simply preach about affirmative action programs, high unemployment of the aboriginal people and the high importation of the outside employees for construction, police, nurses, teachers, et cetera. I commend the Minister for taking on the fresh look, not just on the attitude for education, but also in the capital planning that will be initiated.

Today's reality in the communities is not what the government figures, or what the formula is for finding out that communities require a certain number of classrooms. I hope we will be making a more realistic, rather than a bureaucratic or scientific approach, to figuring out what our needs are for school programs in the communities. These are the general comments I wanted to make at this time, Mr. Chairman. Thank you very much.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Nerysoo, do you wish to respond? Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the last ten years, as a Member, one of the things that I have campaigned for -- and it is based on the campaign that people elect you -- was the establishment of a student residence or a hostel in Fort Providence. One of the things that I kept hearing from the Executive is that you have to get support from the communities. The support you get is interpreted the way the

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government wants to interpret it. Although the support was based on getting in as a Member, the Executive Council doesn't think that is a factor in determining where capital projects should go. So, one of the avenues I have taken is to request the support of local education authorities in that area. I have gotten very little response. They didn't give me any support at all. Naturally, I looked at the reasons. More aboriginal issues is a reason why they refuse to support my request.

My whole purpose of getting a hostel is so we can somehow support the agricultural aspirations of the community, Mr. Chairman. During the last Assembly, I made a motion in the House which was supported by this Assembly. That didn't help. The government didn't act on it. One of the reasons for that is that now, the process is to have the divisional boards address the capital allocations of the regions. Again, I have a situation in which some programs deal with Fort Smith and some other programs deal with Fort Simpson. But, for the purposes of my opening remarks, I will refer to the Deh Cho divisional board as the board I deal with, with regard to the aspirations of my community.

Mr. Chairman, on April 18, I made a presentation to the Deh Cho divisional board. This was a 30-page presentation justifying why Fort Providence should have a hostel. At that time, there were two hostels being built in Fort Simpson and one of them wasn't being used at that time. I requested the Deh Cho divisional board give me that hostel and just barge it to Fort Providence, because it was under used. However, after two hours of meeting with the board on April 18, I was given a letter sometime in July explaining that the board couldn't support me at this time. Every month, I get a 20-page report from the divisional boards -- very vague reports, nothing concrete. It doesn't tell us about motions or discussions or anything like that. So, I've looked at the reports. It says in three or four sentences that Mr. Gargan made a presentation. I have written back to the divisional board of education to request transcripts of the discussion after my presentation. Because I felt that it would make the board very uncomfortable if I stayed there while they discussed my wish, I left after I made my presentation. They didn't provide me with any minutes of the meetings that took place or of the motions, or anything that suggests why they didn't support me. To this day, I have not received anything on why my request was not supported. Of course, I also made a Member's statement on it on many occasions.

I have a file. This is one file that is getting thicker and thicker by the year, without going anywhere, Mr. Chairman. My one problem is, when does a Member stop being a Member, and when do the divisional boards become the supreme authorities in allocation of capital projects? I cannot distinguish this myself.

I do not belong to the Standing Committee on Finance, so I hope the committee will listen to many of the issues I am expressing and hear where I am coming from.

Another way of addressing the issue would be to decide whether or not we should have divisional boards as witnesses, when discussions are made on education and why these things are happening here and there. I haven't been successful in getting anything to explain why they refused my request. I am left in the air with nothing to do but address it here, because it is my last resort to address a situation like this.

Mr. Chairman, the other thing is that -- I don't know when -- in the divisional board's report, I saw my own honourable Member for Nahendeh make his presentation for his case. I see, by the capital

allocation, that Jean Marie River is getting some money for a new one-room classroom. Fort Simpson is getting a new elementary school. Trout Lake is getting a new school. Renovations are given for the Thomas Simpson School. I don't know how much consultation Mr. Antoine did with the divisional boards, but during the last two meetings that happened in Fort Simpson, I was the only one who made a presentation for my community.

The other thing that I want to express concern about is that there is talk about the divisional board planning to shut down the school in Kakisa. The people in Kakisa are concerned about that. I don't know how they justify that, but the people in Kakisa are left in limbo. They don't know where they stand with regard to the school in Kakisa yet. We have a new one-room school in Jean Marie River. The population in Trout River is not much different. Once again, where are the priorities of the divisional boards? In my opinion, their priority is this: to ensure that we have regional high schools, that everything goes toward that; and, as much as possible, limit the allocations to the communities that would make it difficult for those regions to establish themselves. That is the only rationale I can come up with.

Even though my school was built in 1960, and even though I know there are school buildings built in 1973 that are being replaced, I haven't made a point of that. Because, I feel that the issue of responsibility has to be addressed here and now. I hope that it also clarifies my position on what I should be doing, in order to achieve what my community needs, and whether or not I am wasting my time travelling to these divisional board meetings, and making my case without any apparent results.

I don't wish the Minister to respond. But, I wish that Members would hear me out, see where I'm coming from and the concerns I have. I would hope that perhaps next year there might be plans for a hostel in Fort Providence. I want this government to take the first initiative to identify future allocation of money for a hostel in Fort Providence. I also want the community of Fort Providence to be the first to make their case to refuse it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Your thoughts will be well-recorded in Hansard. Mr. Minister, do you wish to respond? There was no request for it. General comments. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to refer to yesterday when I was reading the committee report into the record. On page 22, there is a paragraph which talks about previously planned expenditures in excess of \$10 million being cut from the five year plan. I just wanted to advise the committee, that paragraph seems a little bit ambiguous. What we were really referring to was the total planned expenditures reported in the 1994-95 capital forecast documents for the community of Yellowknife. They were actually \$14 million less than planned expenditures reported in the previous year.

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Because of that, Members were concerned about the magnitude of the changing plans and therefore questioned the capital planning process being used by the department.

I think that our recommendation then spoke to that. The Minister has advised that the department is, in fact, revising their capital planning criteria. I'm hopeful that in future budgets we won't see the same sort of dramatic shifts in funding, which call into question the capital planning process. I just wanted to clarify that point, Mr. Chairman. After reading the remarks in Hansard, that one paragraph appears to be a little bit ambiguous. It referred, in fact, to the \$14 million that was cut from the budget for Yellowknife.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Dent. Mr. Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Could I ask, Mr. Chairman, for additional clarification? Was that the funding that had been allocated to Sir John?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

It was more than one line item. It included another 17 classroom school which had been shown in the previous year's documents. It did include some of the funding for Sir John Franklin. It included a change in values to renovations to both Sissons and...I can't remember the other school right off the bat. It might

have been McPherson. I would have to get the detailed documents out, Mr. Chairman.

I wasn't to try to call into question any one of those single items, but that was where the committee concern about the planning process came in, and why Yellowknife was used as a specific example in one of the motions yesterday. We weren't convinced that the planning process had been properly accounted for with the changes that were outlined.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Dent. Minister Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just with regard to further clarification for Members of the committee of the whole. Just note that we are meeting with Yellowknife District No. 1, and we are dealing with the matter of capital expenditures -- for instance, for Sir John Franklin -- as part of the process of transfer, and what that means in terms of that project in the future. Just so there is no confusion, there is no attempt on our part to withdraw any expenditures that are required. I use the word "required" because it is important for us to understand that it is not simply a matter of picking money out of the air and moving it. There is a requirement, we've identified it, and it is part of those discussions.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. General comments. Mr. Arngna'naaq.

**MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the concerns that has been raised in one of my communities -- namely Baker Lake -- has to do with the Arctic College building there. The building was built back in the days when buildings were pre-fabricated. The building we have in Baker Lake is partially thinly-insulated, and requires constant renovation to keep it going. I'm just wondering how the department has, at the present time, and even in the past, made long-range plans for buildings for Arctic College. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Member for Kivallivik. Minister Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Mr. Chairman, generally speaking, we work with the campuses in the regions, along with the divisional boards, wherever possible. As a result of that, we identify those particular requirements and identify whether they are priorities for expenditures for capital money for educational reasons. We also work to identify Arctic College buildings that either need emergency repair or upgrade. We can do that with the board and with the Arctic College campus as well.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Minister. Member for Kivallivik.

**MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Mr. Chairman, I note that there has been a recommendation made by this committee. However, I would like to find out, as well, what steps the department will be taking to create long-range plans for Arctic College campuses across the Northwest Territories.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you. It is a very good question and I appreciate it at this point in time. It is part of the long-term strategy we are considering, in terms of revising the Arctic College strategy that had been produced. We are reviewing that particular strategy, not only in terms of programming and services in communities but also in long-term capital planning. That has been one of our problems. I know that previous Ministers who held this portfolio recognized that one of the weaknesses in the Arctic College programming was that we were not planning as well for campuses and infrastructure to deliver those programs.

It has been a problem for us and we recognize that. We have asked the Arctic College board, the president and the campuses to help in developing some plans to meet the accommodation needs in their particular region.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Does that mean that planning will be taking place, similar to the planning the department is doing now with the schools across the Northwest Territories?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are two aspects to the plan. One, is to deal with the question of the infrastructure for school programming, and the second one is to ensure that the strategy and programming for Arctic College, or post-secondary programming, is a part of that planning as well. Because, as I said, that was one of the weaknesses in the system, in terms of not really knowing how

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many students we were going to accommodate in the Arctic College programming.

I would ask, also, for Members to recognize that -- I believe one of the recommendations that was made by the Standing Committee on Finance addressed this -- there is the possibility of us considering the idea of leasing space for Arctic College programming. There is nothing to suggest that we can't encourage private enterprise to build the buildings and to lease them to us for programming reasons. It is only helpful in terms of the economy, in ensuring we have the resources. I just wanted to point that out. I think it was a good recommendation by the Standing Committee on Finance.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand the pressures that are on the Department of Education, regarding the somewhat unpleasant problem we have of people going back to school and taking advantage of our northern education system. But, I must note that some of the highest expectations and interest are in the area of the Arctic College. I am afraid that the capital plan, over the next several years, is going to have to recognize those pressures.

Mr. Chairman, I believe strongly that the training programs that we can expect to be delivered in preparation for Nunavut government, and also in

preparation for the land claims, should be delivered in the Arctic College. I know the Minister agrees with that. This is a golden opportunity to use some of the new money that will be coming from the federal government, from land claims, to support our community programs in our college system all across the Northwest Territories. I know he sees that as an opportunity.

I guess I am focusing in on the Nunatta campus with which I am most familiar, although I am sure this is an issue elsewhere, but I see a real shortfall and a real problem with married students' housing. I mention married students' housing because I note that the five year plan of the department looked at replacing single students' housing because the aging, former Ukiivik residence will have a limited life span and ultimately is going to have to be replaced. I must offer my opinion that the married students' housing is an even greater priority. We can limp along with the former Ukiivik residence. It has lasted some 30 or 40 years, and it could probably continue to last, but these married students with families are mature students coming back to school and are a very good risk for the college. Even though it is more difficult to house these students with their families, their success rate is excellent. They have had some life experience, they know what they want and they have a very good chance of succeeding and doing well. I would like to get this on the record now, this is an area I think that is going to have to be addressed.

I will quickly tell a story of a student I heard about who is from Arviat. He has a big family but is so dedicated to concluding his education that he is at the Nunatta campus taking management studies and living alone in the single student residence without his family. He is having trouble. He is wondering if he can make it. He is finding it very lonely and stressful. This is the kind of dedication that many of these students have. I would like to see this issue addressed. I would like to endorse the comment of the Standing Committee on Finance that we may be able to look at alternatives to building an expensive building, particularly with the Nunatta campus. There may well be lease options available that are cheaper, both short-term and long-term. I think the Minister should be quite open to that.

Mr. Chairman, I did note that there was a newspaper ad, recently, which called for a study of student housing needs. If the Minister could elaborate on that a little bit more, I would appreciate it. I believe that something is being done to address this issue. I believe the study will show that the married students'

housing demand in Nunatta campus, in particular, is very high. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Member for Iqaluit. Minister of Education.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Mr. Chairman, I think the Member has identified an area, not only in terms of the accommodation of programs, but accommodation for students who are attending Arctic College programming.

It has been recognized by the board that there have been times that, in a programming area, we have been crisis managing. We are just responding to increases in student population based on that particular year, rather than recognizing their significant requirements now with the implementation of the final agreements, either the Gwich'in, the Sahtu or the Nunavut. There is a significant amount of training that is required to implement those agreements.

One of the problems is that we have not generally planned to ensure that we meet those training needs. Of course, there are the daily requirements of business and government. We are training individuals to meet our employment requirements. In that sense, the whole intent of the review is to identify what the priorities are in each particular campus, including Nunatta, in terms of those programs. It is also to plan long-term, not short-term.

There is something about planning short term and addressing crisis situations. The problem is, how many students are we expecting in two, or five, years from now. We have not done a very good job of that.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. The Member of Aivilik, Mr. Arvaluk.

**MR. ARVALUK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just need a clarification before we go to page by page. On the definitive objectives, on page 16-4, of the culture and careers activity, "to design and build a community learning centre in Coral Harbour attached to the school." On the bottom, "to complete construction and school additions in Norman Wells...And Coral Harbour." I don't mean to go into detail, Mr. Chairman, I just want to use the page by page method for example only. If

you would allow me, on page 16-10, the details of capital for Keewatin, "renovate learning centre, Coral Harbour, \$235,000, 1994-95." Right above that, there is a prior cost for a four-plex learning centre in Rankin Inlet for \$1.45 million -- almost \$1.5 million -- for a four-plex only. What I am trying to understand, from your definitive objective, you are renovating the school in

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Coral Harbour for \$2.6 million and it's to be completed in 1994-95. Renovations will include all sections that were used as the learning centre for adult education. If you use that area in your school extension program, how can you possibly attach the adult education centre, which will probably be a two-plex or three-plex type, or three classroom type.

According to the vice-president of Arctic College in Keewatin, Coral Harbour is one of the most active and successful adult learning centres in Keewatin. It has classes day and night and has produced I don't know how many students, who never used to work, but are now employed in fairly complicated fields. One of them is now a manager of the housing association. Another one is now a bookkeeper at the hamlet office.

We also got a letter from you stating that a stand-alone adult education centre will be built in Coral Harbour. I don't know where the budget for \$250,000 fits. I guess that is my question, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

I'd have to, Mr. Chairman, ask to bring my staff in to ask them more specific questions. The problem, if the honourable Member will recognize this, is that we had a shortage of space in the school. One of the problems is that we wanted to do some renovations in that building, to allow for programming this year. In addition to that, we still needed to do some renovations to the learning centre. That's in order for us to respond even to the problems that we're having right now. I understand the concerns of the honourable Member. The problem, though, is that with the resources that have been identified, we have not been able to accommodate all those requests that have been made.

I'll deal with that request of the stand-alone centre because that commitment is there and we intend to

proceed with it. It's just a matter of planning with the regional board and the Arctic College to ensure that we have the facilities there available.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. Perhaps we can deal with it a little bit more when your witnesses arrive later on. Mr. Arvaluk, continue.

**MR. ARVALUK:**

Mr. Chairman, then I would like to be allowed to ask the same question when we go page by page at 16-10, with his officials here. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Yes, by all means. Next on the list is Mr. Pudluk, from High Arctic.

**MR. PUDLUK:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to the previous questions I've asked the Minister, I will be elaborating a little bit more on it. When we received a letter from the Arctic Bay Education Council chairperson, Levi Barnabas, and members of the Baffin regional education board, they requested a grade 11 extension last year. They put in a proposal for a grade 11 extension to the honourable Minister, but the Minister did not put it into the capital plan. He indicated to us that we should try and request the same extension in 1993-94. The Baffin Divisional Board of Education

is aware of this problem and they are aware of Arctic Bay's request.

In the surrounding communities, such as Grise Fjord and Resolute Bay, I am aware that there will not be any grade extensions. However, Arctic Bay is the closest to getting it. I feel that it would be best if they could get a grade 11 extension so that these surrounding communities can go to Arctic Bay to attend grade 11.

Today, I am aware that there is one Resolute Bay student who is attending school now in Arctic Bay, due to the fact that it is closest to his home community.

I have a very grave concern about this, knowing last year that the Minister refused when they requested the grade 11 extension. Today, I noticed that the department doesn't have any plans of extend the



grades. I know they have a lot of reasons why they are requesting the extension and the community education council and the Baffin Divisional Board of Education had already made plans for that extension.

However, on the 19 of November, I received a letter -- I have it here with me -- coming from those two communities, asking for support for this extension. Arctic Bay residents and students have requested Baffin Divisional Board of Education for support on this and I know very well that they will be supported by the divisional board. Can the Minister, today, consider the request by the Arctic Bay residents? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Minister Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's really an operational plan and not necessarily a capital issue. The problem, Mr. Chairman, is a lot of people misinterpret the issue of extension of grades to mean expansion to schools. Extension of grades doesn't always mean that we need additional space in the schools. It's the same situation that is occurring in my particular constituency as well, where grade 10 is being requested in Aklavik and Fort McPherson. The fact is that the community, along with the board, needs to sit down and decide what program they are going to offer for those high school students. They should identify whether or not there is enough space in the school, to deliver the program or whether we need to renovate the school so that we can provide for subjects such as chemistry or biology, or for that matter, if they need another classroom to deliver home economics and industrial arts. That is a bigger issue and it really needs to be worked out with the divisional board. I don't, personally, oppose the idea of the extension if that plan is there. I have accepted and recommended all those extensions that have been requested of me to Cabinet, and Cabinet has generally accepted them.

That's not an issue with me. I don't have a problem. What needs to be done is broader planning. If you also add grade ten or grade 11 to the school, the question is, are you going to add a teacher? If you add the teacher, you need to provide housing for that teacher. Those are all parts of the plan that need to be addressed. If they aren't, then we won't have the ability to address the programming needs for the student. We

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have to look for accommodation for the student. We'll provide the resources, but that is all part of the package.

I just raise that point because there is an impression out there that extension of grades means extension to schools. I hope that in the planning we can alleviate that. But, in principle, I can indicate to the honourable Member that I have no problem with the extension of grade 11, but it does need some planning with the board because part of that plan requires us to transfer O and M monies to the community, as well.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. Member for Baffin South, Mr. Pudlat.

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Mr. Chairman, further to the remarks from the Member for High Arctic, last year, I received a letter from the chairman of the divisional board of education. It was regarding a grade extension. When we requested a grade extension in Lake Harbour, we were able to get a grade ten extension. First of all, I wish to commend and congratulate the Minister of Education for proceeding with our request.

I'm not sure whether this should be discussed through the capital plan. As he indicated, grade extensions usually go under the O and M budget. I can't talk for the Member for High Arctic, but as we were talking, he made it clear to me that they needed grade extensions in the High Arctic. I told him they might be able to make plans for grade extensions in Arctic Bay, Cape Dorset and Sanikiluaq. The Minister indicated to us that grade extensions don't go under the capital plan. I'm not even sure they go under the O and M budget. There have been a number of requests for grade extensions. I can tell you for sure that we don't request these extensions just for the sake of requesting them.

When the community comes to us with concerns about schooling, we try to tell them that we have financial restraint occurring in the government. Parents really want their kids to attend school. I just wanted to mention this a little bit more. I wanted to indicate to the Minister that when we make requests, it is for the sake of the community, not just for us, as MLAs. We try and work hard for our constituent's needs. I wouldn't mind if he responds to my question

regarding grade extensions, whether they go under capital funding or O and M funding.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Pudlat. Minister Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have no comments. I appreciate the words that the Member has spoken. I think they are important in the decisions that we are making regarding education. I want Members to recognize that even if we are embarking on a program of extending grades in our communities, that success is based on good planning. It is not only based on commitments where we agree in principle, but we are also committed to providing the financial and human resources such as teachers or extra staff in the communities to ensure the success of the program. That needs work and planning. It is not meant to make it difficult for the communities.

The other issue is, presently, the school programs are growing quickly. We don't have the dollars to respond to all the requests that are made. We need to make sure we have good programming for students from kindergarten to grade ten, or whatever grades are in the communities. On the matter of Arctic Bay and grade 11, I can respond to the Member in the affirmative. That program will be proceeding in 1994.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. The Member for Amittuq, Mr. Allooloo.

**MR. ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am concerned that there seems to be a lack of interest on behalf of MLAs on such an important department. There is no quorum.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Allooloo. I count 11 people. We're short. I shall sound the bell.

---SHORT RECESS

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

The House will come back to order. We have a quorum again. The chair recognizes Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You're very kind to recognize me. I appreciate it.

---Laughter

On the issue of grade extensions, I agree with the Minister. It is a tough one and one where a lot of planning and thinking is required. I would like to ask the Minister if there has been an issue so far, when you extend grades, about the division of responsibilities? Everywhere there are schools that go from kindergarten to grade 12, parents get all upset because there are big children and little children, they are all mixed up. There have been all kinds of proposals for elementary schools, middle schools and senior high schools. Has that been an issue at all, during the life of this program, to extend grades about physical separation of people because of the different sizes and ages of people and the different programs? My guess is that, eventually, that will happen because that is what has happened everywhere. I am wondering if that has happened to date with our own program.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Lewis. Minister Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It has not been one of our major problems that has been encountered. It is one of the questions that has been asked about the future of the program, but, generally speaking, what has been the most critical issue to date has been programming and actual accommodation for the students, even within the schools that exist or additions to those schools. That has been the most important question that has been raised with us. There has been some discussion in a number of communities to suggest a possibility of stand-alone high schools, but we are not at a stage right now where the student population could justify us building stand-alone buildings. We have to recognize that in our planning with the resources, both financial and human that we have access to, that we have to use the buildings that are there or provide for extensions and expansions to the school before we consider stand-alone buildings. That is generally the way the discussion has taken place.

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**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. The Member for Yellowknife Centre.

**MR. LEWIS:**

Merci bien, Monsieur. I would like to ask the Minister, when you are looking at expansion of a school in the sense that you have to add more grades to it, do you have a system to decide how or if you are going to do it? From what I have been able to learn to date, it depends very much on how much pressure comes from a community saying this is what we want. Usually, it is because of that pressure that we decide to go in that direction, but do we have any objective system of deciding whether or not to go ahead? Is there an objective system for planning? You could say, by this date, it may be possible. The fear I have is that we just simply do it because the pressure is so great to jump in.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Lewis. Minister Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Mr. Chairman, I can't say to the honourable Member that there is any definitive guidelines that are used at this particular juncture. A great deal of the initial policy initiative that was undertaken was to -- once the communities expressed an interest -- respond as positively as we could. Part of the underlying final decisions are based on community planning in terms of reviewing their school, the kinds of programs that are to be offered to their students, and the resources that are available within that community. While they may agree in principle, the final decision will be based on those assessments that have been done by the community and the divisional board. Generally speaking, I can't say to you, here are the guidelines that we are following. The guideline is that we are trying to deliver as much of the high school programming near the communities that request it.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:**

I just have two more questions. I can see if you want to extend or provide programs which may require capital construction, but is it a question of the programs people want or a question of the number of students that you have, who are at a certain level, who would like to continue on to another grade?

Are there a number of people that you use as your guide before you decide to go ahead with extensions?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Lewis. Minister Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

I can't say that there is a specific number. That is a difficult thing to say. There are programs that we start in some communities that have nine students beginning. There are some communities that have 22 students beginning. The irony about that is we begin with those numbers. Rae-Edzo is the closest community. I believe we started with about 22 with the idea that there was going to be 22 in the high school program. It ended up with 78. We had not considered the potential students in the community. Sometimes, we don't take them into consideration. Now, since those results have occurred in our communities, we are taking note of those students and asking the young people in the

communities whether or not they are interested in returning. We are making them part of those calculations.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. Member for Yellowknife Centre.

**MR. LEWIS:**

Under section 23 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, there are several sections about the provision of schooling in French or English. In both of these major clauses regarding the rights of our linguistic minorities, they talk about the right of people to have instruction in their language in that school, but also they talk about the rights to have minority language educational facilities provided under public funds. In both cases, they talk about where numbers warrant. In the case of extension of grades, you said you've done it with nine students. In the case of implementing the requirements of this charter provision, what numbers do you use before you decide to build something so people can have instruction in French?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Lewis. Minister Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Mr. Chairman, just so that there is no confusion here, we are not building onto a building, just for nine people. We are trying to deliver a program within the existing facility. Once it expands beyond those initial numbers, then we consider the expansion of the program just to accommodate those students. I just want to be clear about that.

What the honourable Member is raising is an additional matter that we are taking very seriously. As Minister, I take it very seriously that there is an obligation on our part for us to seriously consider section 23 of the Constitution. Part of the Northwest Territories Act also includes our commitment to French and English. As a result of that, the department, along with this particular community, is working to try to organize the resources for the governance of a school and the resources for a French first language program. We are already offering it. The question is, how much do we expand it across the Northwest Territories in terms of Iqaluit, et cetera? We are going to have to be cautious about it, but still be responsible in responding to those needs as well. I can't give you numbers at this particular juncture. We are trying to work together on that particular matter.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Minister of Education, Mr. Nerysoo. Are there any other general comments? Mr. Ningark.

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a general comment that I'm sure is common to other communities in the NWT. It is with regard to the structure and the material used in construction of education centres throughout the territories. I would like to make the Minister aware of the problem that I have seen in my community. I'm sure it is also a problem in other communities in this jurisdiction, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, in Pelly Bay we have a problem that occurs almost every year, especially in the winter when the temperature is below freezing. Mr. Chairman, every year we have little kids playing along the steel railing of the school. The steel railing is alongside of the steps leading into the building. The little ones, six or seven years old, maybe ten, put their

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tongue onto the metal and get stuck. This is extremely dangerous.

I'm wondering if the Minister would consider this seriously and perhaps talk to the people at DPW and make sure that the kind of material they use in future construction is not steel.

The problem we have in Pelly Bay has been discussed by the community education council. I am informed that the community is dealing with the problem and I'm sure the problem will be eradicated. I don't know when, but some time very soon. I want to know if the Minister is aware of this problem. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Member for Natilikmiot. I noticed everybody winced when you mentioned that. I think we've all tried it at one time or another. Mr. Nerysoo, would you care to respond?

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Yes, we probably all have, Mr. Chairman. I take the information and the advice of the honourable Member seriously, along with my colleagues here. So, we will review that particular matter and see if we can find a solution.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. General comments. Mr. Koe, Member for Inuvik.

**MR. KOE:**

Thank you. In this age of high tech, how do schools, resource centres, colleges and even language centres purchase high tech equipment such as computers, video equipment, et cetera? I don't see any category in here. Is that budget given to the school boards and they allocate it?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, generally that is the way it is done. We allocate the finances to the school boards. At times, there is a special requirement on our part to purchase capital. We have just purchased a computer program and connection for a networking system for all our schools, under capital. So, we can network each school across the Northwest Territories,

but that's a special situation. Generally speaking, the board is the one that gets the financial resources.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you, Minister. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Does this government own, in any community, busses or vans to transport students?

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

I could not lie, yes we do.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you, general comments. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

I thought it was a policy or an intent of this government to get out of that business. The reason I mention it is, I see under headquarters, on page 16-15 -- I know we're not there -- there's money allocated for replacing busses and vans. I was just curious. I thought the intent was to get out of that business and put it in community school boards and private sector hands.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to note though, there are certain situations where we still do purchase vans. For instance, the students that live in residence, at Akaitcho Hall here or the students at the Rae-Edzo school or some of the other residences across the Northwest Territories. We purchase vehicles for them to maintain their students. That's generally what these requests are for.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. General comments. Does this committee agree that we go line by line?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

Line By Line

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Page 16-9, detail of capital, culture and careers, building & works, headquarters, total region \$185,000. Is that agreed? Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

What's this item, capital development, college, \$30,000?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

You have to give me some time here to find it. Mr. Chairman, we do have programs that are still being delivered here in headquarters, even though we may not have headquarters here itself. There are still programs that we're generally going to be offering and there are ongoing O&M requirements.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

The item is capital development, college. It doesn't make sense to me, that's why I'm asking. What is that specific one?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you. It says various. It doesn't say what the particular project is. There are renovations to occur in some of the facilities that we are now using. It's like any other various project. We know that we need renovations, the question is which project we're going to proceed with, at this particular juncture. But I can ask my staff to come in and we can be more specific about those issues. The problem is that we don't have the tenders out. That's the problem with it.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Koe. Order. Mr. Koe has the floor.

**MR. KOE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just for clarification. That \$30,000 then, is available to the other campuses other than just headquarters, is that correct?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

The Minister would like to bring his witnesses in at this time. Does this committee agree?

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**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

If, Mr. Chairman, you could just wait for a second and then I'll answer.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Okay. How does the committee feel that we take a...carry on? Okay, let's sit here and wait.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

For the record, Mr. Minister, would you introduce your witnesses at this time?

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my left, is Hal Gerein, deputy minister and Jim Kaulbach, coordinator of capital planning.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Proceed.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you. The funding that has been identified includes projects in Fort Providence, Fort Smith, Hay River, Aurora Campus in Inuvik, Broughton Island, Clyde River, Igloodik, Lake Harbour, Cambridge Bay and Taloyoak.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Headquarters, total region, \$185,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Fort Smith, total region, \$4 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Inuvik, total region, \$205,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Baffin, total region, \$9,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. I'll continue with the detail of capital. Keewatin, total region, \$244,000. Mr. Arvaluk.

**MR. ARVALUK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I asked the Minister a question before the witnesses arrived but he suggested I wait until the officials were here. So, I will ask the same question, keeping in mind that the community learning centre in Coral Harbour is part of the school wing and there are capital plans to make an extension on the school. I guess my question is, where will this new learning centre be attached? The extension of the school, on page 16-14 will include part of the school that was being occupied by the community learning centre.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What has occurred is that there is an existing arm in the school where, I believe, the Arctic College students used to occupy three classrooms. We've converted those three classrooms to six. This has happened already. What is now occurring, for \$230,000, is minor interior renovations, finish upgrades, computer networking, and mechanical and electrical upgrades. That is what is occurring. Then, there is a school addition planned for, as well, on the recent addition section. It is the old wing that has been renovated.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Arvaluk.

**MR. ARVALUK:**

Mr. Chairman, I'm not quite clear yet, as to what is being renovated for \$235,000. Is the old wing going to be torn down and extended for the regular school? What part of the building is going to be renovated?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What is being renovated is the old wing of the school. The school addition that we are considering will be added to the recent addition so that all the school programming will be in one portion of the building and the adult programming, the Arctic College programming, will be in the other. That is what is planned. That, generally, has been agreed to by the community and the Arctic College program.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Arvaluk.

**MR. ARVALUK:**

The adult education centre is now located in the old staff house of the hamlet because the school is too full. Arctic College got kicked out of the school because grades ten and 11 have to be housed there. I don't want to go to page 16-14 yet, but these topics are more or less connected. As soon as the word "attached" is stated as a definite objective, I guess you more or less have to talk about them together. The old section, until September, was occupied by the

adult education centre, and the school extension is not going to be in that wing. If not, where is it going to be extended to?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The new addition that we're considering is on the recent addition. It is a new section that we're talking about. The renovations for the Arctic College programming are in the old wing. I recognize that what happened was that we had to remove the adult programming out of there to accommodate the school age population. The addition will be able to accommodate the growth of the student population, while the renovations to the old wing will provide for six classrooms and additional program space for Arctic College programming. We'll be able to accommodate both K-12 and Arctic College programming with these renovations and additions.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Arvaluk.

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**MR. ARVALUK:**

On page 16-14, the \$2.6 million is for, as the Coral Harbour education council requested, five or six extra classrooms. There was a meeting between Mr. Colbourne from the department, and Mike Shouldice, Vice-President of Arctic College, Leonie Duffy, governor of Arctic College, and Fraser Hope from the divisional board in Rankin Inlet or Baker Lake around May 6. They discussed that whole issue. What you have now in Coral Harbour school is a newer part of the school, and the old wing which is being used by adult education as part of the whole present condition of the rooms. Therefore, we'll add only three on top of that. I don't want to hear that, when you house adult education in that old wing. Hopefully, you will exclude the adult education section of the old wing, when you are making plans to make an addition for \$2.66 million in the new part. I don't want to see a report stating that we included the adult education centre as a regular school unit as we assessed it.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are considering that. That was part of the discussions that took place. What we were concerned about was providing both adult Arctic College programming and, at the same time, expanding the school, providing a new addition that accommodated the school age population in that community. The total number of classrooms is five, plus one science room in that new section. That is what we are looking at. From the calculations, that will be able to accommodate the total number of students in that community.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Arvaluk.

**MR. ARVALUK:**

Going back to page by page, 16-10, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I usually try to read as much material as I can concerning my riding. During the discussion between Mr. Colbourne, Mr. Shouldice and governors of the Arctic College, Leonie Duffy and Fraser Hope, after the whole discussion took place, Mr. Colbourne told them, "We better have a stand-alone adult education centre." The Standing Committee on Finance, which I was lucky to be a Member of, was presented with this capital budget and noticed that the adult education centre will only be renovated for \$235,000, wiping out the decision that was made by these officials to make a stand-alone adult education centre in Coral Harbour. I have not yet seen, to date, paper or any other kind of communication stating that the department has changed its mind.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't want to suggest to anyone, or to the Member, that there was no request for a stand-alone building. In fact, there was. Like everything else, there is a need for a plan for that particular request. With the resources that we have, we can provide a new addition to the new portion of the school, plus renovate the old section to provide for adult college programming facilities that will address the shortages of space for that program. That is what we are addressing right now. So, there is a new section for the kindergarten to grade 12 students. That is what is occurring.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Arvaluk.

**MR. ARVALUK:**

Can the Minister tell me, then, why there was no communication indicating that the department had changed its mind in accounting for that? I understand that we are trying to be efficient and the economic considerations were part of that decision. But, why was there no communication when they changed their mind -- after the officials had met and agreed to have a stand-alone centre -- when the department unilaterally decided, without Arctic College representatives, that there will no longer be a stand-alone centre?. Why wasn't there a letter or something, at least, to me or to Coral Harbour indicating that is no longer the case?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

The problem, Mr. Chairman, clearly is this. There were officials who went into Coral Harbour. They met with members of the CEC. The CEC was part of the review of a number of options. The decision from that meeting was that we would go with the renovations to the old wing and the additions to the new wing. That was what was agreed to in the community itself. I don't know what else to indicate to the honourable Member, but that was the decision and the direction that was given to us after consultations in the community itself. Perhaps I have to apologize to the honourable Member for us not advising him, but it was my understanding that, once the community had agreed to it and they supported it, it would have been supported here. I will note that particular issue and I will deal with it, in terms of ensuring that we communicate with other Members on an ongoing basis.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Arvaluk.

**MR. ARVALUK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I forgot that the chairman of the community education council was not present at the time, Mr. Pudluk. However, I will be pursuing that during the question period after I have communicated with all members of that meeting and



the subsequent communication between different bodies -- the divisional board, Arctic College, et cetera -- because I am not yet convinced that there was no breakdown of communication after the decision was reversed to have the old wing to be renovated for an adult education centre. I am not objecting to the point. I'm just not pleased that the change of mind has not been communicated to the chairman of the community education council, to me or anyone else who is concerned about the decision that was made by those parties that were involved. I will get some more information and pursue it later on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Keewatin, total region, \$244,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Total buildings and works, \$4.643 million. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to bring to the attention of the Minister that -- and I don't know how much review was done with regard to the capital allocations -- but I would like to ask the Minister to have his department look at the situation with regard to the one-plex that we have in Fort

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Providence. It is overcrowded. They don't even have space for computers. Many of the computers are plugged into multi-receptacles in one wall. So, you have two outlets and ten plug-ins that they use for computer purposes. That place is overcrowded. I did one presentation there just before the session and it was very crowded. I don't know how you could have that kind of environment and still be able to learn. I want to bring that to the Minister's attention. I think there is a need to look at doubling that space so at least the adults in the community have a good place to study. Mahsi.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman. I thought those were comments. We will consider them seriously.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Total buildings and works, \$4.643 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Equipment acquisition, headquarters, total region, \$65,000. Is that agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Fort Smith, total region, \$10,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Kitikmeot, total region, \$20,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Total equipment acquisition, \$95,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Contributions, headquarters, total region, \$270,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Baffin, total region, \$300,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Keewatin, total region, \$40,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Kitikmeot, total region, \$15,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Total contributions, \$625,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Total activity, \$5.363 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. We're on page 16-13, detail of capital, educational development. Buildings and works, headquarters, total region, \$135,000. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, could we ask for some detail on what capital development, schools includes, please?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

These include things such as geotechnical surveys; structural, mechanical, electrical and architectural assessments; and, programming and planning studies. The following communities are directly involved in accessing these funds: Fort Providence, Fort McPherson, Arctic Bay, Pond Inlet, Resolute, Arviat and Cambridge Bay.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A question to the Minister about the renovations to Sir John Franklin. I am just wondering whether the department is committed to renovating Sir John Franklin as is stated here, or what the situation is? I understand that a report has been prepared for the department on Sir John. The conclusion was that adding to Sir John was perhaps a short-term solution and that replacement was ultimately going to be required. I was wondering if we could get some clarification on that.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

I think a report was done saying that the renovations should be done, and there was a suggestion that a new high school would ultimately be required. But, that's without the divisional board and ourselves really sitting down and reviewing what the programming

requirements are for the high school here. The fact is, the assessments indicate there is a lot of space in the building and structurally, it is sound enough to continue. So far, that has been the discussion that has been going on.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What I'm really asking is whether the department is committed to renovating that school, or will they do a feasibility study to ensure that renovation makes the most sense. If I recall, the costs for renovations were last projected at around \$11 million to meet the requirements. I see that we are projecting total capital projections, including the future, of \$9.5 million. I just want to be sure that we are not tying ourselves into renovating a structure that may be better replaced.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Mr. Chairman, that is the nature of work that has to be done and concluded to find out all that information.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dent):**

So, basically, this \$50,000 then is just to get together with Yellowknife Education District No. 1 and determine what the future process will be. Is that correct? This \$50,000 is really just for negotiations for the future for the high school for Yellowknife Education District No. 1? Is that correct?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is for the programming review that needs to be done for us to consider the renovations that are necessary for the high school.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I can get a bit of an explanation of what a programming review is.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Mr. Chairman, I will ask Mr. Kaulbach, who is more expert than I am in planning, to respond to that question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Kaulbach.

**MR. KAULBACH:**

(Microphone turned off)

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Could you repeat what you just said, Mr. Kaulbach. Some of the Members are having a difficult time hearing.

**MR. KAULBACH:**

The programming work that takes place evaluates the various options and needs of the facility. It considers conceptual ideas and starts looking at long-term monies required for the program. This project, in particular, has two stages put in place prior to the actual design. One of them is this first stage, which is programming and planning.

The next stage is actual hard core planning where they start evaluating the various options that are taking place.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Given the dramatic changes in the five year plan for Yellowknife schools capital, can the Minister advise how funding is being provided to do the same sort of program evaluation for the overall school district? In other words, how are they funded right now to do the overall planning?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Mr. Chairman, the boards are generally funded to do that work already, with their own planning. It is not something that normally comes up when we get to the specific projects and then we begin to fund those specific projects. General planning and looking at what the needs are in terms of school population, the potential for growth, with information that is gathered or, for that matter, funding under the formulas to those schools.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Headquarters, total region, \$135,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Fort Smith, total region, \$5.034 million. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Just one concern. I don't want to say anything about what's going to be the capital estimates for this fiscal year. I want to also look at the future years' anticipated capital which is over \$12 million. Somewhere in there under the five year capital plan, there are also capital allocations for the renovations of the Fort Providence school and the adult ed that is now too small.

I would hope that if we look at next year's budget, this budget will probably go up quite a bit and that would mean then that other regions are going to be left out, perhaps. I want to make sure that in their allocations the need in Providence is quite reasonable but it is quite high too, and it's going to have an impact on the Fort Smith region by itself.

I'm saying that if it so happens that there is quite a large allocation to the Fort Smith region, that it is not at the expense of Fort Providence.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Mr. Chairman, again it is advice that is being given by the honourable Member. Just to note that in future planning, for instance in the Arctic College programming, 1995-96 I believe is the planning money for a facility in Fort Providence, and 1996-97 is the actual construction for that particular building.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Fort Smith, total region, \$5.034 million. Mr. Dent.

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**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just wondering if, since our meetings in the Standing Committee on Finance, the department has taken a look at the possibility of combining the new elementary school in Fort Simpson and the renovations to

the Thomas Simpson School into one project and, if so, what the results were of that evaluation?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you. A little over \$10 million for the combination.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Fort Smith, total region, \$5.034 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Inuvik, total region, \$1.934 million. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

Yes, I notice school additions in different communities here but I'm aware that there are plans for grade extensions in the Delta, Aklavik, Fort McPherson and Tuktoyaktuk, but there are no capital monies going in

for any additions or renovations to the existing schools. What are the plans to accommodate school additions in the Delta/Beaufort communities?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's good of the honourable Member to take care of my constituency. Mr. Chairman, I want to say this, and it's a point I made here earlier. Extension of school programming doesn't necessarily mean expansion to schools. The problem with the suggestion of extension is that somehow there is a misconception that there's an automatic addition to schools. That's not necessarily the case.

What needs to be done -- it was a point I made earlier -- is that there needs to be a program plan which addresses the program needs, both in terms of the financial resources, the human resources, student accommodation and program accommodation. Once that is done we can indicate whether there is a requirement on our part to consider additional space and accommodation, more additions to the school, to meet the increasing grades in those schools. Until those are done it becomes very difficult to suggest that there's a need for extension.

Another issue is that there may be space in the schools already that are not being used but, for instance, are being used in adult programming which can be utilized for high school programming and needs to be renovated as such. The question then is, how do we accommodate the adult Arctic College programming? We have to work with the community to address those particular needs. That's the way in which we are dealing with it right now. There are other renovations.

The unfortunate problem we have across the north, while the honourable Member may not recognize this fact, is that Aklavik and McPherson, in terms of major renovations, had to be moved back so we could accommodate some of the more serious problems of population growth in other communities such as Igloodik, Arviat or Coral Harbour. Those were the issues that we were concerned about.

I may suffer politically, but I think from a management perspective it's the right decision to make. If we're always looking for money just to build in our

communities, we are certainly not going to address the immediate needs of the student growth in some of the more serious problem areas. I made mention of this issue because it is something that has to be considered when we all plan for capital expenditures in education.

As it is -- I mentioned this before -- we are very short of funding in this area despite the fact that we've indicated a priority here. It seems that there has been no major increase in education, nor is there any direction given for that to occur.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not intending to do all the political work for my honourable colleague, but there's an impact within the region and that's why I'm raising this. My concern is one that was raised earlier. Who is doing the studies? Who is doing the work? Does the Beaufort/Delta Divisional Board of Education have funds and are they doing the studies? It has a major impact on the schools and the residence in Inuvik. That's why I'm raising it.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Inuvik, total region. I'm sorry, Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the schooling policy there's a requirement on the part of the boards to develop their plans to meet the needs of grade extensions or, in fact, address the problem areas where we have reductions in student populations. For instance, in Inuvik that could cause problems or could provide for additional space that could be utilized for other program areas.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So, the plans for upgrades or renovations to the existing schools, and plans for looking at the long-term impact on the student residence in Inuvik, all fall within this overall plan that you're talking about. Is that true?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Yes, Mr. Chairman. That is correct.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Inuvik, total region, \$1.934 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Baffin, total region, \$9.205 million.

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**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Keewatin, total region, \$2.66 million. Mr. Arvaluk.

**MR. ARVALUK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When I became a Member of this House, a couple of years ago, I realized we have been getting arenas and new nursing stations in Chesterfield Inlet, but the whole area of education and the need for capital planning for the purpose of education seems to be neglected.

With the \$2.66 million, the Minister stated there will be a five classroom addition to Coral Harbour. I want to ensure we are not going to be creating under the Chesterfield situation, whereby Chesterfield right now is in acute need of extension and it was already full when it was completed a year and a half ago. I told the department, and especially the Minister from time to time, that we are holding our regular classes in industrial arts and the home economics area, and we are having our Inuktitut curricular programs in the porch where the coats and shoes are supposed to be. In fact, they are still there but we just ignore them and hold our classes there. Yet, because it is only two

years old, there is no plan for an extension until 1998-99. Hopefully, that will be recognized with this Minister's new initiative or education strategy.

I just want to know, are we sure now with the grade 12 extension? A very fast rate of population growth in Coral Harbour was abnormally rapid because, not just the birth rate, but also the immigration to Coral Harbour because it is a nice and dry community. There are nice surroundings. Everyone is coming from Northern Quebec, Baffin and some other Keewatin communities. It makes it very hard to handle the housing situation and the school area. Can the Minister tell me that a five-classroom addition with this \$2.66 million will satisfy Coral Harbour's population growth for at least five years?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is certainly our intention to plan future schools with a view of the increased population in communities. But, even with all the good planning we try to do and with all the improvements in sizes of our classrooms in future, it may be that we may never get a handle on some of the problems we are having. It is our intention to try to work to ensure that we can accommodate the student population in the community. That is our goal, whether or not we are totally 100 per cent successful, we will never know ahead of time.

Compared to what had been originally proposed for this particular plan or this school of Coral Harbour in 1992, there is an additional \$853,000 just to meet the growth in that particular project. So, we recognize the problems that are occurring. As a result of that, we are trying to ensure that we provide the resources to accommodate the community and the students.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Keewatin, total region, \$2.66 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Kitikmeot, total region, \$5.632 million.  
Mr. Ningark.

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate that the Minister has planned to renovate the old school in Cambridge Bay. Speaking of the old school in Cambridge Bay, the Kitikmeot board of education is in support of renovating the old school because the Kitikmeot board of education is currently making use of the old elementary school to deliver its high school programs. The board is very anxious to have this school renovated.

I believe it was in August, 1993, that the Department of Education, Culture and Employment made changes to the Kitikmeot capital plan without consulting the Kitikmeot board of education. Now, the Kitikmeot board of education plays a high priority on the renovation. They went as far as deferring the renovation to the school in Pelly Bay and also the school in Taloyoak. I would like to remind the Minister and the Kitikmeot board of education that we don't want to lose sight of not doing the renovation for Pelly Bay and Taloyoak education centres. They are equally important.

At this point in time, the Kitikmeot board of education's priority is the renovation of the old school in Cambridge Bay. I hope the Minister will consider doing the renovation early in 1994, perhaps beginning January, 1994. This is a much needed facility. Of course, we would like to have a high quality of education programs delivered, not only in our region, but throughout the jurisdiction of this government. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Kitikmeot, total region, \$5.632 million.  
Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Total buildings and works, \$24.6 million.  
Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Equipment acquisitions, headquarters, total region, \$225,000. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

What communities are these busses and vans for?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The following communities have busses: Rae-Edzo, Cape Dorset, Pangnirtung and Chesterfield Inlet.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

What are the details of \$65,000 for community dishes and rebroadcast equipment?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

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**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you. With regard to that particular matter, television and radio services is responsible for the installation and maintenance of television and radio receiving rebroadcast facilities in 28 communities throughout the Northwest Territories providing CBC television and radio plus regional aboriginal radio to those communities not served directly by CBC. I will be prepared to provide the specific communities in which we are providing these resources as soon as we can make them available.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

Based on that statement, I assume that communities have to apply under some kind of criteria or policy.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This funding is generally required in 1994-95, 1995-96 because the whole broadcast system will be changing from analog to digital. That will necessitate the installations of new decoders and ancillary equipment in all sites. That is generally what is occurring right now.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

The next item is video equipment for Yellowknife. My question is, for whom is the \$65,000 allocated, and for what?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In 1994-95, it is for the replacement of one BVW 400 camera with digital equivalent. That is what is required.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

For whom?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you. It is for our television and radio unit in the department.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to the video equipment, the Standing Committee on Finance has asked the department to provide a justification for in-house versus contracting out video production. I was just wondering whether the Minister can advise us as to when the department is going to be prepared to make this presentation?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you. I would hope that we would have it prepared for the Standing Committee on Finance review, when we get to our department under the operations and maintenance budget.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Arngna'naaq.

**MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Mr. Chairman, regarding the line, "busses, vans and new replacements," the Minister has stated, in no uncertain terms, that he would like to get out of the purchasing of busses. Why is there a line here for busses and vans?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, there is still generally an obligation on our part, until we can get out of the business. I agree that is what I have said, and in my view, we will get out of the business. But there are residences in these communities that need support. Rae Edzo is one community, where you have high school programming in one portion of the community -- in Edzo -- while the elementary school is in the community of Rae. We have a situation where students travel back and forth. That is the situation right now in that community. That has been an ongoing thing. We also have a student residence, and we transport students to events other than just school programming.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Arngna'naaq.



**MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Mr. Chairman, at what point does the Minister envisage that these will be run by independent operators?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Well, I hope, -- depending on whether I'm here after the review -- to have this conversion done before the next election, so private enterprise can assume responsibility for these areas.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Headquarters, total region, \$225,000. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Mr. Chairman, the Minister was talking about dishes and broadcasting equipment. Am I to assume that this is the time to talk about telecommunications too?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

I'm not sure what Mr. Gargan means. Telecommunications in what sense? If you're talking about telephones, that particular responsibility falls under Mr. Morin.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Distance education is covered under this?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The question the honourable Member asked me is whether or not distance education is covered under this area,

education generally. The answer is yes, distance education is an issue under the department.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Headquarters, total region, \$225,000.

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**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Fort Smith, total region, \$20,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Total equipment acquisitions, \$245,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Contributions, headquarters, total region, \$6.515 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Fort Smith, \$120,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

The item I see for the next few regions, is furniture and equipment. Are these special allocations to individual schools or do individual schools have to apply and are weighed according to some criteria? Do certain schools qualify for furniture and equipment? I guess my question is, how does the department decide who gets new furniture and equipment in any given year?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the cases where we have identified furniture and equipment, it is generally for new schools or schools that are having additions put on them. These are automatic. They are part of the project, to conclude the project and to provide the furniture and equipment in those schools.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Fort Smith, total region, \$120,000. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I understand there is going to be a new elementary school built in Fort Simpson for over \$4 million. Then, under furniture and equipment, this new school is going to get \$120,000. I can't envisage the \$4 million school being completed for the new school year. Am I missing something here? Is there a new school being constructed this fiscal year, to be completed for next fall, that justifies this allocation? If not, perhaps you might want to look at reallocating this for an addition to the adult educational facility in Fort Providence.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Minister.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have recognized the problem with regard to the adult educational facility. We have spent \$96,000 in providing for it in Fort Providence, at least this year, with the view that we are going to plan for a new one next year. The furniture and equipment for new schools in Fort

Simpson are part of the proposed renovations to Bompas Hall and the Thomas Simpson school. That is what has happened.

Previously, the furniture and equipment used to be shown as part of the project. Now, the new method of providing information means we have separated them out from those particular projects.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Fort Smith, total region, \$120,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Inuvik, total region, \$66,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Baffin, total region, \$334,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Keewatin, total region, \$82,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Total contributions, \$7.117 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Total activity, \$31.962 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Department summary, capital expenditures, total capital expenditures, \$37.325 million.

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**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

That concludes the Department of Education, Culture and Employment. Does this committee agree that it is concluded, and the department?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

I'd like to thank the Minister and witnesses at this time.

---Applause

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Now, we'll take a 15 to 20 minute break for stretching.

---SHORT RECESS

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Act II, Scene I. With the concurrence of the committee, the next person on the list is Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Since the Minister of MACA is not available, the next one would be Public Works and Services.

I would also like to ask if we can proceed right through the opening remarks and into general comments and go line by line. If it's possible, can the Minister give his opening remarks to the Members? That way they don't have to wait for it to be in Hansard tomorrow. Thank you.

Department Of Public Works And Services

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Is the Minister able to give his remarks directly to the Members? Am I to understand that he doesn't read them into the record, but just give them to you in written form? Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Chairman, we could ask him to read them into the record, by all means. But, if he could provide the copies for the Members as soon as possible, then they don't have to wait for tomorrow's Hansard before they want to make their general comments. We can then continue on with general comments and go line by line this evening. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Member for Thebacha. I understand. Mr. Minister, did you understand the request?

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They're gone to get copies of the opening remarks for all the Members.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. With the concurrence of the committee, the Minister will then proceed with his opening remarks. Mr. Minister.

Introductory Remarks

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to appear today to review the proposed 1994-95 Capital Main Estimates for the Department of Public Works and Services. The department has a mandate to design, construct, operate and maintain GNWT assets, and to provide a broad range of services to other departments, boards and agencies so they can deliver their programs and services to the residents of the NWT. The objective is to deliver cost-effective and efficient facilities and services and to ensure that residents and businesses realize maximum benefits from expenditures.

Responsibility for managing construction of capital projects has now been fully decentralized. Ten project management positions were transferred from headquarters to regional and area offices this year.

The government's decentralization initiative has resulted in the construction of several new facilities in the communities of Fort Smith, Hay River, Fort Simpson, Inuvik, Rankin Inlet and Iqaluit. I am pleased to say, Mr. Chairman, that all of the contracts for new offices and housing facilities were with locally-owned development companies.

The new "building and learning strategy" and the business incentive policy are two significant initiatives that enhance the benefits flowing to northern communities from our construction programs.

As Members know, the Minister of Education and I have initiated the development of a strategy that will use our capital projects to train more northerners in the building trades. Construction projects offer tremendous training and employment opportunities for local residents. Under this new strategy, communities will be able to more actively participate in the planning and implementation of these training programs.

The strategy is being implemented in six pilot communities, Gjoa Haven, Pangnirtung, Rankin Inlet, Aklavik, Fort Good Hope and Fort Simpson, in 1993-94. A total of 25 local residents received training this summer. Together with the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment, I will table a final copy of the strategy during this session.

The industry certified construction worker training program was also delivered on seven projects. Over 30 workers were trained in Baker Lake, Cambridge Bay, Lac La Martre, Trout Lake, Cape Dorset, Arctic Bay and Pond Inlet.

Ensuring that the preferences available through the business incentive policy are effectively creating northern benefits and reducing the leakage of dollars to the south continues to be a priority.

The Senior Management Preference Committee, chaired by the department, provides much more effective scrutiny of the policy and companies applying for benefits. This senior management involvement in the administration of the policy has greatly enhanced our understanding of the issues facing northern companies in competing against southern companies for government contracts, and improved our ability to respond to their concerns. In addition, the consolidation of departments has allowed for better coordination between our contracting

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and purchasing activities, and has resulted in an initiative to boost northern manufacturing.

Five 20,000 gallon fuel storage tanks for Snare Lake are currently being manufactured in Hay River. This will result in the creation of a new manufacturing shop and create approximately ten new jobs. A number of smaller fuel tanks are being manufactured by another company in Yellowknife, which has created four jobs.

In Hay River, two new furniture manufacturing operations are now supplying much of our office and residential furniture needs.

In a continuing effort to assist the development of local construction companies, a greater emphasis is placed on negotiated contracts. For example, Cabinet approved negotiated contracts with a joint venture made up of the Gwich'in and Inuvialuit for the construction and operation of the Inuvik Visitors' Centre. A contract was also approved for major crushing work in Rankin Inlet and Whale Cove, with a joint venture of local contractors and an experienced northern contractor. The Fort Simpson office complex was negotiated with a new development company owned by residents of Fort Simpson.

The department has also entered into many sole source contracts with hamlets and local companies. For example, a sole source contract was entered into with the Fitz Smith Native Development Corporation for site clearing for the aircraft maintenance hanger in Fort Smith. The department has entered into almost 70 contracts for road site land and dust control work in the Fort Smith, Inuvik and Baffin regions. Almost

all these contracts in the road site land and dust control programs are either sole-sourced or tendered by invitation with hamlets, bands or local contractors.

In cooperation with MACA, a number of full authority agreements were established to allow communities to exercise a greater role in the management of projects. For example, the Hamlet of Rae Edzo will manage the Bay Island bridge repairs, the Rae drainage improvement project and the sewage solid waste project. There is also a full authority agreement with the hamlet of Arviat for granular development.

The school and assembly building project in Trout Lake was delivered through the construction management approach. Seventeen local residents have been employed at various times during the project and four of these residents have also received construction worker training.

Local and northern involvement was central to a number of construction projects in Gjoa Haven. As I mentioned earlier, the community was selected as the Kitikmeot pilot community to test and develop the implementation of the new "building and learning strategy."

One of the projects used for training was the renovations to the adult education centre. The construction management approach was also used on this project. Our own staff acted as the general contractor and nine local employees were involved with the project. Four of the trainees on the adult education centre then moved on to work by themselves on the renovations to a house, with one of the trainees acting as the supervisor.

Also in Gjoa Haven, the fire hall contract employed four local residents, and a local firm received a sub-contract, worth approximately \$600,000, on the fuel storage facility project. A total of 15 local residents were trained and/or were employed on construction projects in Gjoa Haven this past summer.

The department also has an agreement with the Department of National Defence to construct additional tankage at our fuel storage facilities in Pelly Bay and Broughton Island. The department was allowed to use our GNWT contracting procedures, and the construction contracts were won by northern companies. In addition, a fuel vehicle was purchased for Pangnirtung. In all of these locations, fuel to the Department of National Defence will be through our POL program, which is delivered by local contractors.

This year, we also completed the construction of the new Legislative Assembly building on time for this session.

The village constructed by northern contractors in the Russia Republic of Sakha was officially opened in September. Fifteen northern companies received over \$11 million in contracts from this project and provided work for approximately 60 northern residents. Public Works and Services played a critical role in closing that deal.

As you are aware, most of Public Works and Services' activities in the capital program are directed at constructing facilities for other government departments. In 1994-95, the department will manage capital projects valued at about \$90 million. For its own programs, the department is requesting \$12.8 million.

I will briefly highlight the department's capital projects.

About \$2.1 million is required for government buildings and works. The bunker C fuel storage tanks in the central heating plant in Fort Simpson will be dismantled, the site cleaned up and a study on the long-term viability of the plant will be conducted. Mechanical and electrical systems in the brown building and the federal building in Iqaluit will also be upgraded. The amount of \$750,000 will be spent to upgrade ventilation systems to new national building code standards in ten schools.

The amount of \$450,000 is requested for the energy conservation capital program. This program is aimed at decreasing the consumption of energy in government

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buildings. In all cases, these costs will be recovered in five years or less through lower operating costs.

A total of \$1.6 million is required to address office space needs across government. In response to direction from this committee, this year the GNWT office allocation standards were revised, and an office accommodation strategy has been developed. In addition, a comprehensive inventory of existing office spaces across the Territories was carried out, and used in developing the new accommodation services capital needs in this plan.

The amount of \$277,000 has been allocated to address the most immediate and highest priority office consolidation and improvement needs in Yellowknife.

As recommended by the standing committee, the department will continue to examine this need and address shortfalls as they are identified.

In the regions, the largest accommodations project is proposed for Fort Smith, where the regional office building was constructed in 1940. This building requires extensive upgrading or replacement. A study of the building is to be completed this year to determine the best way to proceed. The amount of \$428,000 has been identified in the plan for potential tenant improvements in a new building which would be leased, or renovations to the existing building.

The restructuring of government initiative necessitates major improvement projects in Iqaluit, Inuvik and Hay River.

The amount of \$342,000 is requested to replace vehicles and equipment for various GNWT departments, boards and agencies.

The amount of \$1 million is being requested to undertake the dust control program in 39 communities.

The amount of \$210,000 is requested to continue the expansion of the mainframe computer systems. These upgrades are necessary to keep up with the demand for these services.

The department is requesting a total of \$7.5 million for petroleum products fuel facilities and vehicles. Of this total, \$6.9 million will be spent on fuel storage facilities in seven communities in four regions. The construction of the fuel storage facility in Snare Lake will be completed. Construction will continue on the fuel storage facilities in Arviat, Clyde River, Coral Harbour and Gjoa Haven. Work to expand and improve the fuel storage facilities in Igloodik and Lake Harbour will also start.

The amount of \$600,000 of the petroleum products capital is required to replace existing fuel delivery trucks for Arviat, Chesterfield Inlet, Fort Good Hope, Repulse Bay and Tuktoyaktuk.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening remarks. I will be pleased to respond to questions from the Members.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Minister Morin. The report from the Standing Committee on Finance. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Standing Committee On Finance Comments

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to Public Works and Services, the committee supports the department's initiative over the past year to provide new office and housing facilities to the communities of Fort Smith, Hay River, Fort Simpson, Inuvik, Rankin Inlet and Iqaluit, as a result of the decentralization plan. The committee noted that the department has also decentralized ten project management positions to regional and community offices.

The committee also supports the department's initiative to develop comprehensive office plans for accommodating headquarters personnel in Yellowknife. Through departmental consolidation and termination of various leases, the department projected savings in the order of \$1 million over the next five years. Based on these estimated savings, the department obtained supplementary funding of approximately \$626,000 to complete office renovation and tenant improvement projects in Yellowknife. Members were disappointed to learn that, as of October, very little of this money has been applied to the purpose intended. In addition, forecast spending on Yellowknife renovations and improvement for the fiscal year 1994-95, have been cut by \$800,000.

Mr. Chairman, the committee is of the opinion that this development will adversely affect the efficiency of headquarters personnel. The committee would like the department to revisit plans for headquarters office improvements and report back to the committee.

In addition, committee members believe that, given the current commercial real estate market in Yellowknife, by going to public tender rather than over-holding leases, it is likely that headquarters personnel could be accommodated more cost-effectively.

Committee Motion 44-12(4): To Adopt Recommendation 14, Carried

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that the committee recommends that the Department of Public Works and Services review the Yellowknife office plan and resubmit their estimates for office renovations and tenant improvements for 1994-95.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. 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

Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Progress has been made by the department and its client departments in the use of "standardized building" designs in facilities such as schools, hamlet offices and health centres. The committee supports this approach and encourages further applications in facilities such as group homes, treatment centres, tourist facilities and libraries. This method will result in significant

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cost-savings and ensure consistent standards within communities.

Criticisms of architects "over-designing" facilities surfaced during our review, particularly in smaller settlements. Members request that the department seek simpler solutions that, while consistent with design standards, are more practical and easier to maintain in smaller communities.

In the town of Inuvik, buildings are being removed from the high temperature hot water system, operating through the utilidor. Detached houses have already been removed and row housing units are scheduled to come off next year. Recognizing that there are substantial cost-savings in this conversion from the high temperature hot water system to boilers, the committee would like assurance that Public Works and Services, the NWT Power Corporation and the client departments are coordinating their construction plans.

Committee Motion 45-12(4): To Adopt Recommendation 15, Carried

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that the committee recommends that the Department of Public Works and Services coordinate plans for existing and future capital projects for Inuvik which reflect the phasing out of the high temperature hot water system. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. 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

Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

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

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. The floor is now open for general comments. We are on page 8-7. Mr. Ng.

General Comments

**MR. NG:**

With regard to the department managing the Rankin Inlet mine tailings project for DIAND, are there any other projects that the department is managing on behalf of DIAND or is that the only one?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is the main one right now.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Member for Kitikmeot.

**MR. NG:**

There are others then, but that's the main one. The question was is that the only one?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Mr. Morin.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As far as I know, that's the only one.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Morin. General comments. Member for Natilikmiot.

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, listening to the Minister's remarks and looking at the copy of his presentation, I would like to commend the honourable Minister in his initiative and strategy to award contracts to locally-owned companies, to use capital projects to train more northern people in the building trades. The new strategy will be and is welcomed by the residents of the communities across the Northwest Territories. Especially in the area where the honourable Minister's department and Education cooperated to train local residents in the areas of construction, and buildings and works.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Ningark. General comments. Mr. Alloofoo.

**MR. ALLOOFOO:**

General comment, Mr. Chairman. I recognize the work the Minister has done to improve local involvement with capital projects that he has stated in his opening remarks. I have a certain problem in my community that the Minister is aware of. I have a contractor who, even though he said in his bid he was going to use a northern person, when the actual work was being done, he used a person from outside the NWT. For those contractors who don't comply with what they said they would do in bidding on jobs, is there any penalty? What happens to those contractors who break their promises of what they will do?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Alloofoo. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is a Housing Corporation tender that Mr. Alloofoo is talking about. A contractor said in his tender that he was going to use a northern trades person and he hired a person out of the south.

The contractor will be fined. He will be written a letter, warning him that the next time he does that, we will send the circumstances to the Senior Management Preference Committee and we will recommend that his northern preference be lifted.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Alloofoo.

**MR. ALLOOFOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I know that the Housing Corporation is bound by the business incentive policy because they are part of government. I think

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that's established. Does the government have a policy or are they going to create a policy that will clearly tell the government when to revoke northern preference from certain companies?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Alloofoo. The Minister of Public Works.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Right now contractors fall under the business incentives policy, and they have northern preference, which is 15 per cent. Every case is dealt with on an individual basis. We removed northern preference from some companies. We've been taken to court over the issue. The judge has ruled that it is a policy issue and not an issue to be dealt with in the courts. It is up to the territorial government. We have a Senior Management Preference Committee that deal with every case, case by case. The committee looks at all the unique circumstances. Thank you.

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. General comments. Are we prepared to go line by line?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

Line By Line



**MR. WHITFORD:**

Detail of capital, directorate. Buildings and works, headquarters, total region, \$65,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Total buildings and works, \$65,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Total activity, \$65,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Project management, buildings and works, headquarters, total region, \$1 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Total buildings and works, \$1 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Total activity, \$1 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Accommodation services, buildings and works, headquarters, total region, \$277,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Fort Smith, total region, \$784,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Inuvik, total region, \$308,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Baffin, total region, \$184,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Keewatin, total region, \$33,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Kitikmeot, total region, \$8,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

There must be a mistake there.

---Laughter

Total building and works, \$1.594 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Total activity, \$1.594 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Page 8-16. Buildings and Works. Buildings and works, headquarters, total region, \$1.385 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

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**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Fort Smith, total region, \$160,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Inuvik, total region, \$75,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

The Baffin, total region, \$450,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Total building and works, \$2.07 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Total activity, \$2,07 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, a question for the Minister on the Baffin region. You got a little bit ahead of me on buildings and works. In our books, we're showing \$50,000 for electrical power distribution in Sanikiluaq and I thought I understood that, by March 31, 1994, the Sanikiluaq power distribution system would be taken over by the NWT Power Corporation. If that's the case, why would Public Works have any money in their budget for that system?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Dent. Minister Morin.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sanikiluaq has opened up two sub-divisions that require electrical service. As housing construction proceeds, single-phase extensions were provided, on a temporary basis, to

housing construction in 1991. Further housing construction necessitates balanced phase extensions throughout the two sub-divisions. These funds will not be required if the system is transferred to NWT Power Corporation effective April 1, 1994. We are hoping to do that but we have to keep it here for now. If it transfers like it's supposed to, we will give it back.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Minister Morin. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister has promised that he will return that money on April 1, 1994, if the power distribution system is being operated by the Power Corporation, so we will have to trust him to do that, I guess.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Dent. We have it on record indicating that. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You can trust me. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

The chair next recognizes Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can I ask the committee's indulgence to go back to Inuvik region? Page 8-16. Thank you. I was just making a couple of calls to officials in Inuvik on the upgrade of the high temperature hot water system for Grollier Hall. Looking at the motion we just passed from SCOF, in the next five years, there are four or five major buildings in Inuvik that are going to be eventually taken off the high temperature hot water system, which is in the utilidor, and turned to boilers.

Presently, there is a committee in Inuvik, the utilidor committee, looking at the impact of coming off the hot water system and going onto boilers. As each major building comes off the system, somebody ends up paying the cost for that building because, all the heat comes from the water pumped out of one boiler at the power plant, through the pressure system and then through the utilidors in the town. My concern here is that we don't expect the studies to be done in the

short term. It will take four to six months for the study to be done.

Then, there's an impact study and whoever's on the committee -- it's a government committee, including some town officials -- will come up with a coordinated approach. I was under the understanding that this \$75,000 was going to be deferred until a later time, or until this coordination was done in Inuvik. I am curious as to why it's still in the plan?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Koe. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The department participates in that Inuvik utilities and planning committee, in conjunction with the Department of MACA, the NWT Power Corporation and town council. The planning is coordinated with the activities of this committee, which is developing a plan for an orderly shut-down and abandonment of that system. We need this money now -- we are working with that committee and everybody knows what is happening -- for the development and plan for an orderly shut down.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

The \$75,000 is going to be used to do the planning and the studies. Is your department doing that? Am I understanding this correctly?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Koe. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

This \$75,000 is to build a detached boiler room adjacent to Grollier Hall and install two oil-fired boilers to heat the student residence. That has been agreed to by this committee.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Koe.

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**MR. KOE:**

I don't want to get into an argument at this stage. My concern is that we have to make sure all the ducts are lined up in order, before we start taking one building off the system, and before all the plans are in order. That's my concern.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Koe. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll double check if those ducks are lined up and I will get back to you on that. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Lining up ducks, perhaps we should be in Renewable Resources for this. We were on Baffin. No, we were finished Baffin. Total activity was \$2.07 million. We have agreement?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Page 08-19, vehicles and equipment, equipment acquisition, headquarters, total region, \$33,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Fort Smith, total region, \$87,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Inuvik, total region, \$70,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Chairman, I think there was some concern, and I would like to ask the Minister again, for the record, with regard to Public Works. I would like to know what methods the Minister's office has been using in order to ensure that the government is making full use of their vehicles and that it's not just a given that departments can request new vehicles every year. Particularly in times of restraint. I would like to ask the Minister, are the vehicles being used over a four year period, or maybe over a five year period, as opposed to the normal four years? Can the Minister tell me what type of measures his office has taken? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Member for Thebacha. Minister Morin.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The department has a formula to replace vehicles; it's not over a given period of time. But, when maintenance bills or the cost of a major overhaul on the vehicle are no longer cost-efficient, it makes more sense to buy a new vehicle. We have also looked into the possibility of leasing vehicles. In that, there's a greater cost as well. We have reduced the number of vehicles that we have. We've asked departments to use more of the pool vehicles instead of having their own vehicles. That helped us reduce costs in this activity. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Minister Morin. Any other comments? We were on Fort Smith. Total region, \$87,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Inuvik, total region, \$70,000.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

(Microphone turned off)

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

We're on page 08-19. Inuvik, total region, \$70,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Baffin, total region, \$78,000. Mr. Pudlat.

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister for Public Works, is the \$78,000 for the whole Baffin, or is it for a particular community? Which communities is this for in the Baffin region? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Pudlat. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It includes: a half ton truck, for Government Services and Public Works, Clyde River, for \$19,000; a half-ton pick-up, for Executive, Sanikiluaq, for \$18,000; half-ton pick-up, Government Services and Public Works, Pangnirtung, for \$19,000; mini van, Department of Health, Iqaluit, \$22,000, for a total of \$78,000. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Morin. Baffin, total region, \$78,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

I'm sorry, that was \$78,000 for the Baffin. My mistake. We have that corrected, for the record.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Kitikmeot, total region, \$74,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

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**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Total equipment acquisition, \$342,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Total activity, \$342,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

We have unanimous agreement. Systems and communications, equipment acquisitions for headquarters, total region, \$210,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Total equipment acquisition, \$210,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Total activity, \$210,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Petroleum products. The chair recognizes Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to systems and communications, there appears to be quite a significant cut from previous years. Can the Minister explain what this cut was from?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Madam Marie-Jewell. We'll ascertain that. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is less need.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

There's less need of what?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Minister, less need of what?

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Computers.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

That's it? The chair recognizes the Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

The funding is required to continue the expansion of the mainframe computer system. Anybody can read that. There are significant amounts being requested in other departments. Taking into account that there is practically \$290,000 cut back on this, how would this need have an impact on the ability of the department to communicate? What has been cut

from this particular activity? I'm just wondering whether the funds have been moved to another activity. I would like the department and the Minister to attempt to explain that.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't believe it has been moved to any other activity. The capital that we are requesting will be used to purchase and install data communication equipment that is required to expand the network to meet GNWT requirements, as well as equipment that the system computer service technicians need to install the equipment and support the network operations.

Also, the \$150,000 portion is for disk drives to be added to increase capacity. Tape drives would be replaced, and memory increased, to enhance processing capabilities. The central processor will be upgraded to meet the increasing user demands.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Then can the Minister explain what he wants \$210,000 for, Mr. Chairman? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A total of \$60,000 is needed. The scope of work, for the \$60,000, is capital funding to purchase and install the data communication equipment that is required to expand the network to meet GNWT requirements, as well as equipment that the system and computer service technicians need to install the equipment and support the network operations.

The \$150,000 is needed to buy disk drives which will be added to increase the capacity. Tape drives will be replaced, and memory increased, to enhance processing capabilities. The central processor will be upgraded to meet the increase in user demands.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

If the Minister is indicating that it is required to expand the network to GNWT requirements, how can he state that there is less need for this type of equipment? That's what I'm trying to find out. Where is the cut, and why has it been cut compared to last year's funding?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. The honourable Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What I'm saying is that I don't need the money in this activity in this department.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Order. Member for Thebacha.

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**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Chairman. The Minister is being contradictory. First of all he says there is less need for it, then he says he needs the money to expand the networking system. I'm trying to find out whether the cut from last year's budget to this year will have any implications regarding communications requirements. He is basically saying there is less need, so I don't need the money.

Committee Motion 46-12(4): To Delete Funding Under Activity Systems And Communications On Page 08-23 Of Capital Estimates, Defeated

Well, if that's the case, Mr. Chairman, then I move that the funding required under the activity systems and communications be deleted.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

The motion is to delete this page, I understand. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Chairman, yes, the funding for systems and communications. If the Minister feels there is no need

for it and can not justify what it is going to be spent on, I move to delete the funding for systems and communications.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you, Member for Thebacha. There is a motion on the floor to delete the systems and communications budget for the page 08-23. To the motion. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I realize that it is 8:00 pm and maybe we're not communicating as well as we should. I will make it very clear that there is a need for the \$210,000. The Member asked why there was a reduction. There was probably no need for any money over \$210,000, but there is a need for the \$210,000. I read the scope of the work into the record, twice now, but I will do it one more time. I will do it very slowly and in a louder voice, then perhaps I will be able to communicate a little better.

The capital funding for the \$60,000 will be used to purchase and install the data communications equipment that is required to expand the network to meet GNWT requirements. As well, the equipment the system and the computer service technicians need to install the equipment and support the network operations. That is what will be accomplished with the \$60,000. That is what their need of \$60,000 is.

The need for the \$150,000 is, the scope of the work are disk drives being added to increase capacity. Tape drives will be replaced and memory increased, to enhance processing capabilities. The central processor will be upgraded to meet the increase in user demands. That is what the \$150,000 is needed for. I am requesting that money. I would not have been requesting it if we did not need it.

As well, Mr. Chairman, for 1993-94, I had said that there was no need for money over the \$210,000 figure because of decentralization. The request, through decentralization, was reduced one time only. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. To the motion. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Chairman, I recognize that the Minister is reading his scope of work from his briefing books and that is

why I am trying to get an answer. His answer doesn't really substantiate the project funding amount. First of all, if the Minister thinks about it, the ongoing initiative on decentralization and expansions, with regard to networking to many of the other communities, will require a greater demand for systems and communications. That is why I asked. Because of this decentralization initiative and the expansion of this, they will need more on their system. I wanted to know why the cut to this department was so significant when there is going to be a greater demand on the system? In one word, he says there is less need, and then, when he justifies it by reading his scope of work, he says, "install the data communication equipment that is required to expand the network to meet GNWT requirements." He is trying to justify the amount of money he is putting in for this year, but why was there such an extensive cut to this activity over last year, when there have been other initiatives that the department has taken on, such as decentralization?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. To the motion. The honourable Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you. The money we are requesting now has been reduced one time only by \$340,000, due to decentralization. There was no need for requesting more than the \$210,000 at this time.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. To the motion. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Chairman, is the Minister stating that because of decentralization, even though there is going to be a growth of demand with regard to the networking system in the government, there is no greater need to communicate what information they need through the existing system?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. To the motion. The honourable Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can I get the Member to repeat that, please?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

The honourable Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Because of the decentralization initiative, does the Minister feel the demand on the existing communication system is going to be less, with regard to getting information out?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, I don't think the demand will be less.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am inclined to follow the argument as to why this particular amount of money is being needed, and I haven't been very successful. As I understand it, the need to upgrade the central processing unit

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is because of the increase of use. There are far more people now who are going to use it. I wonder if the Minister could explain what the nature of this increased use is, because that hasn't been made clear.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. The honourable Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The GNWT's data communication network now currently connects over 3,000 terminal and PC users to the 12,000 HP 3000 mainframe computers in headquarters and regional data centres. Because of ongoing growth in the number of users and the number of computerized business systems, along with the ongoing initiatives such as decentralization, expansion will be required on some major network components. Within Yellowknife alone, there are close to 2,000 users who require computer access as part of their jobs. This number continues to grow. Capacity of some buildings has been exhausted. The same situation is



occurring in the regions, and in the communities, because of recent implementations of computer systems such as the new social assistance system.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. To the motion, Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:**

All right. We are not increasing staff. It is the same number of people. I don't see any new computers. In other words, the forced growth that we are looking at here must be for some reason. So, what is the forced growth, because the computers already exist. It is not clear to me what is forcing us to invest this money since I don't see anything new happening. What is happening that is new which requires us to invest the \$210,000?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you, Mr. Lewis. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Like I said, the capacity of some of the buildings have been exhausted in computers, so they have to be upgraded, as do computer systems, such as the new social assistance system.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:**

So, what has happened then, Mr. Chairman, as I understand it, is that the personal computers, 3,000 plus the 1,500, are at the maximum capacity and there is no other way of solving that problem. For example, you could store information on disks, which doesn't cost much, but instead you have to upgrade these computers. What is it precisely that needs to be upgraded?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The capital funding will be used to purchase and install the data communication equipment that is required to expand the network to meet GNWT requirements. As well, disk drives will

be added to increase capacity. Tape drives will be replaced and memory increased to enhance processing capabilities. The central processor will be upgraded to meet the increase in user demands. That's all the information I have.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:**

This is not a huge item, Mr. Chairman. But for those people who are interested, it would be better if the Minister, who is a politician, had his expert staff with him to answer questions that some Members may be interested in asking.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Even when I have my witnesses in the House, none of them are computer technicians.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. It is my understanding on this page, that this is budgeted as required. To the motion.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Question has been called. All those in favour? There is a vote on the floor. Question has been called by the mover of the motion. The vote is on the floor, so all those in favour, please raise your hand. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Chairman, I would like to know if we can get my motion translated.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

The Member is asking the concurrence of the committee to get the motion written and translated, I believe. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Okay, agreed. So, we will take a five minute break while the motion is being translated.

---SHORT RECESS

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. The committee will now come to order. Prior to our break, there was a motion on the floor. The request was made to have the motion written and translated. I would like to ask, for the record, the mover of the motion to read the motion, please. Thank you.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to defer consideration of the activity systems and communications in the Department of Public Works and Services, 1994-95 Capital Estimates.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

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

---Defeated

Thank you. We are back on page 08-23, detail of capital, total activity, systems and communications, \$210,000. Member for Thebacha.

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**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Chairman, I don't believe that 08-22 has been agreed upon yet, and I have a few more questions regarding this particular page. If I don't get the appropriate answers, I will have to keep questioning.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you, Madam Marie-Jewell. You have the floor.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Last year's capital budget, which was presented to this House, had \$520,000 in the revised forecast. The initial estimates were \$180,000. I am trying to make a point, which I believe Members are failing to see. Initially, there was a request for \$180,000. The revised forecast came in at \$520,000. So, with that, you have about \$340,000 more than we approved in last year's budget. This year, the Minister is coming in asking for \$210,000, which is less than what he had spent last year. Last year was more than what he initially asked for. What I am trying to do is avoid a supp to come into this House. I want to know, why hasn't he planned accordingly with regard to this amount. I am not getting a proper answer from the Minister. All I am asking is for a proper answer. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Now, I understand the question. It is phrased a little differently than how the original questions were phrased. You were asking for me to justify the \$150,000 and the \$60,000, so that was what I was trying to do. Now, I understand your concern and I would have the same concern if I was in your place. Last year, we came forward with a supp for \$340,000. That was a one-time supp to provide funding for mainframe modification in the regions. That was to redesign the software for the new POL systems, and the new health care systems, in the regions. We had to purchase that new hardware one time only, because of decentralization. In order for the regions to handle all this new information, we also had to purchase new printers for them to upgrade the system. It was a one-time cost. That was the only reason that we came forward with a supp. It was because of decentralization. Now we are back to normal and that is why we are now requesting \$210,000. The previous year, I believe it was right around \$190,000, before the \$180,000. The \$180,000 and the \$340,000 add up to \$520,000. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

I recognize that it's a one-time only cost, but within the budget...The Minister has said three times in this

House that the communication equipment is now required to expand the network, and if it's required to expand the network, then why is this funding reduced again?

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's because it has been expanded with the \$340,000 one-time supp that was passed by this House. That was the major infusion of money we needed to handle the decentralization initiative. We had to upgrade those computers in the region to handle all of those things. Now that work is done, we are back to normal now. We had to increase the capacity of the computers in headquarters to handle that. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

To the detail of the page. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Can I ask the Minister what type of equipment he plans to buy for \$60,000, that systems and computer technicians need to install this equipment to support the network's operation? What type of equipment is he looking at for \$60,000?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This capital funding will be used to purchase and install data communications equipment that is required to expand the network to meet GNWT requirements. That's to meet the requirements of the expanded network of the regions. We also have to meet those requirements at headquarters. As part of that \$60,000, the technicians need to install the equipment that is supporting the network operators. They use specialized instruments. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

What type of data equipment, Mr. Chairman?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have the name of the computer equipment. I would have to get that from the computer technician and he has gone to Rankin Inlet. So he is not available. Even my deputy minister would not have that information, I have asked for it already.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. The Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Is the Minister looking at only one type of computer equipment or various types? Is he only looking at Hewlett Packard, IBM, Apple, Macintosh? What type?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. The honourable Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I don't know the name of the computer equipment.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. The Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Chairman, I recognize this government's computer equipment is not consistent. Not only throughout the government, but throughout departments. Can the Minister advise this House as to the expansion of the mainframe system that he's put in place? What type of system has he put in place? Has it been a consistent system and what type?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The system that is in place, the mainframe computers, is a system that is compatible with the regions, so they can communicate.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Chairman, since I have just finished saying that the systems are not compatible, they are not consistent, I would like to ask the Minister what type of system has been put in place?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The systems are compatible at the regional and headquarters level.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the systems are not compatible, then what type of systems are in place?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Chairman.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know what you mean by "systems."

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Chairman, maybe his officials know. I would suggest that the Minister bring his officials in so he can get these answers, then we can move on to another activity.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Minister, would you like to bring in the witnesses?

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The name of the system is Hewlett Packard.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Since the Minister himself has said the systems are not compatible, what type of systems are in place and where is the Hewlett Packard equipment located?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe because of the Chamber, she is not hearing quite right. I had said the systems are compatible. I have never said the systems are not compatible. I have been saying they are compatible all night. The financial systems and record-keeping systems of this government are compatible. I never said not compatible.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

I know for a fact that the financial systems of this government are not compatible. They are not consistent in many different areas. Different departments have bought different systems and it's only lately that this government has put in an effort to request funding to attempt to make all the systems compatible and consistent. Therefore, I am asking for the types of systems in place. Mr. Chairman, I find it somewhat difficult, as a Member, asking these questions. I would suggest to the Minister that he bring in his witnesses, so he can get the answers and we can get on to the activity within the budget. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What I have been saying all night is that the systems and the upgrades, to be purchased with the money that I am requesting, are all compatible. The Member herself has said that is the reason we are requesting money; to make all the

systems compatible. So, yes, I agree with her.  
Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, this funding is not only required to expand the network, but is also to make the systems compatible. Is that correct?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

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

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It has to be compatible in order to expand it. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Chairman, my question hasn't been answered.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

What was the question again, Mr. Chairman?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mrs. Marie-Jewell, would you repeat the question, please.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Chairman, my question is, is the funding and the scope of the work required for an expansion of the system, to expand the network? What I'm saying is, if this money requested is being requested for making the system compatible as opposed to expanding the system, then he is not expanding the network. He is making it compatible. He is trying to standardize the equipment. That is different from expanding the network. Is that correct?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is both. We expanded the POL on health programs. They work on the Hewlett Packard computers. All the PC computer systems are compatible with the Hewlett Packard mainframe system. So, they are all compatible, and we are expanding them. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

So, therefore, this system that is being looked at is not only to expand the network in regard to what is required by the GNWT but also the compatibility. Even though the Minister doesn't know what type of system he has in place, whether they're compatible or not, and he recognizes that his officials are not technicians and they wouldn't be able to give him an answer.

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I would like to ask the Minister about the funding required. I'm specifically speaking about the \$60,000, not the \$150,000. This funding last year was to deal with decentralization. It is also for implementation of computer systems for the social assistance system that we have in place. Is the Minister basically saying that the demand on the data communication enhancement system will be less this coming year?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister, the concern is about the \$60,000. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, no.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the demand is not greater this year than it was last year, then one other problem I have with regard to this is that he is asking for less money but he wants to expand the network. At the same time, when you look at last year's funding, there were probably some of the same

reasons for the amount they came in with then. However, Mr. Chairman, during the year, the Minister admitted coming in with a supplementary estimate for \$340,000. Is the Minister stating he will not come in with any additional supplementary funding for systems and communications?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The funding that I am requesting here tonight, the total of \$210,000, is more than I requested last year. If you take into consideration the one-time supplementary that was needed because of the decentralization of this government, then I don't foresee any need for any other supplementary this year, at this time. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Chairman, the Minister indicated that he currently doesn't foresee a need for any supplementaries this year. But, I would like the Minister to state that he will commit that he will not bring in any supplementaries for systems and communications for this coming year.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, I couldn't possibly do that. One thing I haven't been capable of doing yet is foreseeing the future, being able to read the future. Once I'm capable of doing that, I would be able to make that type of commitment. But, at this time, I'm unable to do that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

You know, Mr. Chairman, first of all, there is no need for ignorant comments like that from the Minister and we don't anticipate any Minister to be able to foresee the future. But one of the responsibilities we place on

a Minister is, we expect them to budget accordingly. We expect them to try to stay within the budgets that they present to this House. Last year, there was over \$250,000 asked of this House, through a supplementary appropriation, up and over the initial budget the Minister presented. We were kind enough in this House to approve that supplementary.

However, since he didn't budget accordingly last year, I want to ensure that he attempts to budget accordingly this year. He has asked for less money than he spent last year. So, therefore, I am asking him to commit to this House that he will not bring in a supplementary appropriation for possibly \$500,000 or another \$250,000. I'm trying to avoid having the Minister come in with a supplementary appropriation. I've asked him, and I'll ask him again, will he commit to not bringing in a supplementary for systems and communications and to ensure that he is making every attempt to budget accordingly. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Last year we came into this House with \$180,000 for the budget. We have stuck to that. We had to come forward with a \$340,000 supplementary because of decentralization. That was a government initiative and we, as a service department, have to service those departments. It was a government initiative that increased the budget. It was a one-time thing. I take budgeting very seriously and I will make every attempt to stick to this budget I've come forward with. My department did not draw the budget up out of the sky. It is a fairly solid number and I'll make every effort to stick to that number, the \$210,000.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

So, therefore, Mr. Chairman, will the Minister commit to this House that he will not come in with extra funding or extra supplementary requests, with respect to systems and communications? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will commit to this House not to come forward for any extra money due to circumstances within my control.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's all I wanted to hear.

---Applause

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. We're on page 08-23 of the capital estimates for 1994-95. The total activity for the page is \$210,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Hallelujah.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Page 08-25, detail of capital, petroleum products, buildings and works, Fort Smith, total region, \$460,000. Member for Thebacha

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**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the Minister indicate what this funding is for? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Fuel tank construction, Snare Lake. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Is it one big fuel tank, Mr. Chairman, or is it many different fuel tanks? Since we have spent, in prior years, estimates of \$889,000, when you look at the size of the fuel tank for \$1.3 million, you must be getting a very big fuel tank. How many fuel tanks is this?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are five 20,000 gallon fuel tanks. We had split up the tender on this portion of it. We put the tender out for fuel tank construction. I am happy to report that an outfit out of Hay River won it. These tanks are being manufactured in the north. They are the first fuel tanks to be manufactured in the north. They will be taken in by winter road and installed for next year. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Chairman, if there are five fuel tanks, can the Minister indicate what size they are again, please? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They provide five 90,000 litre tanks.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Chairman, it appears that there has already been construction for providing these particular tanks. Is this construction nearing completion?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is the final stage of it. Those tanks will be mobilized in the winter. The heating fuel and the gasoline will also be transported this winter. The construction of fencing and the painting will be done this winter. The warranty and the final inspection will be done the following year. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you. That is good.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Total region, \$460,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Inuvik, total region, \$20,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Baffin, total region, \$2.24 million. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to the fuel tank construction in Clyde River, Igloolik and Lake Harbour, what is their capacity? Since, particularly in Clyde River, we spent \$1.7 million last year, is this, again, completion of construction for the fuel tank in Clyde River?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The work on the project for Clyde River is going into the second year of construction, when new tankage and dispensing facilities for the main facility will be complete. The storage capacities will increase in 1994 for existing capacities. P50 fuel oil will increase from 2.085 to 5.053 million litres, and motor gasoline will increase from 380,000 to 477,000 litres. Turbo A fuel will be increased to 642,000 litres. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Who is putting in these types of fuel tanks in regard to this initiative?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can I have the Member repeat the question? I didn't hear it.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Madam Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Are they local or outside contractors? Who is building these types of fuel tanks? Who is constructing these fuel tanks?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The construction of the fuel tanks in Clyde River involve local contractors. The community uses heavy equipment on the earth works, they use the local labour force and general labourers. Although the construction of fuel storage tanks requires specialized workers, contractors are required to use as many local labourers and services as possible, in accordance with the business incentive policy.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.



**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Chairman, I don't believe the Minister answered my question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Mr. Chairman, the money we are requesting for this year has to go out to tender yet, but it will follow those guidelines.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Member for Thebacha

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**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Since the prior years, there has been about \$2 million spent. He said earlier that this is going into the second year of construction. Therefore, whoever did the first year of construction is probably doing the second year of construction. Who is doing this construction?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have the name of the contractor handy.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Would the Minister commit to providing the name of who is constructing these fuel tanks, to determine whether it is a northern firm or whether it is a local firm? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Would the honourable Minister provide the name of the firm that was contracted previously and is contracted now?

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

I have one further question. I would also like to know when these types of tanks are being constructed in the community? We recognize that certain types of qualifications are needed, with regard to pipe fitting, high pressure welding, X-rays and what not, in constructing the fuel tanks. Has the Minister's department made any initiative to attempt to train northerners in those particular areas, since we do spend a phenomenal amount of money in building fuel tanks? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we have made a lot of progress in that area. Just the other day, Paul Brothers Welding Ltd., I believe, got their ULC approval from Canadian standards for fuel tanks. The manufacturer in Hay River is working for his approval right now. His tanks will be tested and they will get the ULC sticker as well. There are a lot of pressure welders available in the Northwest Territories to weld fuel tanks. The majority of the major fuel contracts do go to northerners.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

I recognize that a lot of them go to northerners, and we encourage northerners to build them, now that they're being constructed in Hay River and shipped to different parts of the north. I'm just wondering, since your department spends a phenomenal amount of money each year to place and replace fuel tanks, has your department taken the initiative to train people who are building fuel tanks? Not only in welding, but also in pipefitting, plastic lining welding -- which is different from high pressure welding -- X-rays, and those types of trades?

Not just hiring general labourers and encouraging the contractor to hire as many local labourers as possible

is one issue, but specializing general trades is the area that I'm bringing forth. I'm wondering whether there has been some type of initiative with regard to that?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We assist private enterprise and work closely with private enterprise. They are the ones who have the majority of apprenticeships for welders to get pressure welding tickets. The pressure welding ticket is what is needed to get welds X-rayed. Those people are available in the Northwest Territories and we'll continue to work with them to make sure those types of people are available. We try to make sure that it is northerners who work on our job sites and we try to maximize local labour as well.

At the present time, we are working on an expression of interest to manufacture components. Maybe that's another issue we can pursue as well, to make sure that no southern welders come into the territories to work on these tanks.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

That is good, but I'm wondering if there is any effort with regard to looking at pipefitting as a specialized trade? It is a specialized trade. Is the department attempting to train and take advantage of pipe fitters, similar to the high-pressure welding trade you talked about.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. To begin with, there has to be interest in taking training in the area that the honourable Member is looking at. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I will explore that as well, specialized pipe fitters for construction of fuel tanks. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Baffin, total region, \$2.240 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Keewatin. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

With regard to the aviation facility/fuel tank construction in Igloolik, \$100,000 is being forecasted. Is that for preliminary work?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. The honourable Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The project was done back in 1990. It has to be redesigned, basically, it has to be updated. That is what that money is being requested for. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Member for Thebacha. Then I have Mr. Lewis. Member for Thebacha.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you. So, this funding is probably to start designing the work. It states in the book that we are going to be looking at some \$5 million in future years.

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I think some of the points that I brought up with Clyde River, about building these types of facilities, apply here, to take full advantage of specialized trades such as welding and pipe fitters. You are just finishing up a \$4 million project in Clyde River and you anticipate another \$5 million project in Igloolik. The need for these types of trades is essential, Mr. Chairman. This is the point I'm trying to bring forth to the Minister. He should be able to tie this in with his capital plan. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's a good idea and I agree that we should try to tie training into it. I'll work with the Minister of Education on that issue. I'm in full support of those types of initiatives. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:**

I would like to move that we report progress, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you, Mr. Lewis. The motion to report progress is not debatable.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Quorum.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

We'll get the people in here right now. Thank you. There is a motion to report progress. The motion is not debatable. The motion is in order. To the motion.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

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

---Carried

The chair will rise and report progress.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

**ITEM 19: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 1 and Committee Report 3-12(4), and would like to report progress with two motions being adopted. Mr. Speaker, I move that

the report of the committee of the whole be concurred with. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The motion is in order. To the motion.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

---Carried

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

**ITEM 21: ORDERS OF THE DAY**

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

Mr. Speaker, meetings for tomorrow morning at 9:00 am of the Advisory Committee on Social Housing, at 10:30 am of the Ordinary Members' Caucus and at 12:00 pm of the caucus working group. Orders of the day for Thursday, December 2, 1993.

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Oral Questions
6. Written Questions
7. Returns to Written Questions
8. Replies to Opening Address
9. 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
16. First Reading of Bills
17. Second Reading of Bills
18. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

- Minister's Statement 3-12(4), Sessional Statement

- Committee Report 3-12(4), Review of the 1994-95 Capital Estimates

- Committee Report 5-12(4), Report on Tabled Document 145-12(3): Legislative Action Paper on the Workers' Compensation Act

- Committee Report 7-12(4), Committee Review of DeLury and Associates Limited Contracts

- Committee Report 8-12(4), Final Report on the Elimination of the Highway Transport Board

- Committee Report 9-12(4), Final Report on Arctic College

- Tabled Document 11-12(4), Report from the Fort Providence/Cambridge Bay Strategic Planning Workshops

19. Report of Committee of the Whole
20. Third Reading of Bills

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21. Orders of the Day

**MR. SPEAKER:**

This House stands adjourned until Thursday, December 2, 1993, at 1:30 pm.

---ADJOURNMENT