



**NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**6th Session**

**Day 1**

**12<sup>th</sup> Assembly**

**HANSARD**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6TH, 1994**

Pagination reflects print edition

**Speaker: The Hon. Jeannie Marie-Jewell**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 1994**

Page 1

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mr. Allooloo, Mr. Antoine, Hon. Silas Arngna'naaq, Mr. Ballantyne, Hon. Nellie Cournoyea, Mr. Dent, Mr. Gargan, Mr. Koe, Mr. Lewis, Hon. Jeannie Marie-Jewell, Hon. Rebecca Mike, Hon. Don Morin, Hon. Richard Nerysoo, Mr. Ng, Mr. Ningark, Mr. Patterson, Hon. John Pollard, Mr. Pudlat, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Whitford, Mr. Zoe

**ITEM 1: PRAYER**

---Prayer

**SPEAKER (Hon. Jeannie Marie-Jewell):**

Mr. Clerk, would you ascertain if His Honour the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories is prepared to address the Legislative Assembly.

**ITEM 2: OPENING ADDRESS**

**COMMISSIONER NORRIS:**

Madam Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the Sixth Session of the 12th Legislative Assembly.

The past few years have been a period of change and adjustment in the Northwest Territories, as we consolidated departments, decentralized and privatized some services, changed our approach to staff housing, and moved towards the constitutional reality of two new territories by 1999.

Standing and special committees of this House have played a major role in the process, particularly in the areas of health, social services and housing and in helping to meet the financial challenges resulting from cuts in the transfer payments we receive from the federal government.

We've been through some very difficult situations, but we have managed to maintain spending levels for essential programs and services, and to make sure that certain initiatives were introduced to create jobs now and to build for a better future.

The public servants who deliver our programs and services have faced the greatest challenge with respect to reforms instituted by the government and the Legislative Assembly. Change is never easy,

particularly when the challenge is to do more with less. The process leads to uncertainty and anxiety for many people, yet our public servants have demonstrated a great deal of professionalism and integrity in tackling the job that has to be done.

There is considerable work to complete before the term of the government ends, including the development of a strategy to combat family violence and the reform of income support programs. Of particular importance to government at this time is the need to introduce significant legislative initiatives before this session is recessed later this week so that standing committees can use the summer period to consider them and undertake any public consultation that will be required.

Madam Speaker, on a number of occasions, beginning with the introduction of a private Member's bill by the Member for Deh Cho, the government and the Assembly have spoken about their commitment towards making sure our constituents have a legislated right of access to information relating to the operations of government and its institutions. Consequently, the government will be introducing an Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act before the recess.

The act proposes to provide the public with a right to access information held by government, subject to specific and limited exceptions. The bill will also control the manner in which the government may collect and use personal information about individuals and would establish an access and privacy commission on the recommendation of the Legislative Assembly. Budget projections relating to the act and a legislative action paper on establishing an ombudsman will also be presented to the House.

Madam Speaker, all of us are aware of the need to address shortcomings in the existing legislation as it relates to the safe operation of existing mines in the Northwest Territories and new mines that may develop as a result of extensive diamond and basic metal exploration currently taking place in the western territories.

As a result, a new Mine Health and Safety Act will also be introduced before the recess. The bill marks the end of a long process involving extensive consultation with the industry, trade unions, non-union workers and mine occupational health and safety committees. It will replace the present Mining Safety Act which is both antiquated and unwieldy and very difficult to understand.

The new act isn't written for lawyers and judges. Instead, the proposed bill is a clear and simple document that will be easy to understand by the average mine worker and his or her supervisors. The need for clarity cannot be too strongly emphasized. In many cases, understanding the rules about mine safety can mean the difference between life and death.

Madam Speaker, during this session, the government will also be presenting the following bills for consideration in the House: The Guardianship and Trusteeship Act, the Aboriginal Custom Adoption Recognition Act, an Act to Amend the Liquor Act, and Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1995-96.

The Aboriginal Custom Adoption Recognition Act is designed to eliminate the time-consuming process of formalizing custom adoptions in the Northwest Territories. The act establishes a simple procedure to obtain recognition of an aboriginal custom adoption that will have the same effect as a court order.

The Guardianship and Trusteeship Act provides for the court appointment of a guardian to make decisions on behalf of an adult who is not capable of independently managing his or her personal care or health care, and for the appointment of a

Page 2

trustee for an adult who is not capable of independently managing his or her financial affairs.

Amendments to the Liquor Act will widen the scope of the local option system of liquor control presently set out in existing legislation. It will also give the Liquor Licensing Board more control over its proceedings and enable a responsible Minister, at the request of a community, to ban the consumption, purchase, sale or transportation of liquor in the community in which a special occasion is scheduled to occur.

Finally, Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1995-96, will be presented in October. It will detail capital spending plans that are designed to maximize opportunities for northern-based construction companies and job opportunities for people wanting to participate in a wage economy.

Your government considers these bills essential to the good conduct of government business. I particularly wish to recommend passage of Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1995-96.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness Prince Philip for undertaking a visit to the Northwest Territories this summer. A number of special events are being planned.

Madam Speaker, I would now like to commend to you, for your earnest consideration and wise judgement, the business of this House, as I declare open the Sixth Session of the 12th Assembly of the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

---Applause

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

You may be seated. Item 3, Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Tu Nedhe, Mr. Morin.

ITEM 3: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement 1-12(6): New Social Housing Rent Scale

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Later on today, the new social housing rent scale will be tabled. Over the past ten years, ever since the recommendations of the Special Committee on Housing, there has been growing concerns about the need to revise the social housing rent scale.

The existing rent scale has been in place since 1983. At that time, communities were divided into two groups. One group was called home ownership communities. These were communities where it was felt home ownership programs would be successful. The other group was called non-home ownership communities. These were communities where the cost of home ownership was thought to be too expensive for most residents.

The existing rent scale charges very low maximum rents in the so-called "non-home ownership communities." This means that people with incomes high enough to afford home ownership, have no incentive to move. This contributes to overcrowding and housing shortages, which is so severe in many communities.

It will come as no surprise to Members, or the public, that the federal government is not prepared to subsidize high income tenants in cost-shared rental housing. CMHC will reduce its funding by a further

\$5.3 million, unless we address this issue with a revised rent scale that charges high income tenants more realistic rents.

That being said, Madam Speaker, a new rent scale is long overdue. Over the years, in many reports and consultation meetings, tenants, community leaders and MLAs have urged that the rent scale be changed. In the recent community consultation meetings held across the NWT, residents made many suggestions for changing the rent scale. The Advisory Committee on Social Housing and all MLAs have voiced concerns and suggested changes.

The rent scale that will be tabled today addresses many of these concerns.

1. The new rent scale will be applied in the same way in every NWT community, Madam Speaker. It will treat all tenants fairly and equitably regardless of where they live.
2. All rents will remain affordable. No tenant will pay more than 30 per cent of their household income for rent.
3. There will be no across-the-board increases in rent, in fact, lowest income tenants will be paying less rent.
4. High income tenants will be encouraged to become home owners.
5. Education and employment will be encouraged.
6. Federal funding will be maintained.

Madam Speaker, the new rent scale recognizes the high cost of living in remote communities. It also recognizes the additional costs of raising large families. There will also be deductions for units in poor condition.

Implementation of the new rent scale will be gradual. Major rent increases will be phased in over the next two years. The first increase will not take effect until January 1, 1995, but decreases will take effect in July, 1994.

Information on the new rent scale is going out to all local housing organizations, community governments, band councils and Metis locals. Representatives of these groups will be invited to attend a consultation

meeting in their district in May or June, to be briefed and to discuss the new rent scale and other housing issues.

Madam Speaker, I believe the new rent scale is fair to all tenants. I appreciate the input of tenants, local housing organizations, the Advisory Committee on Social Housing, MLAs and the public in the development of the new rent scale. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

---Applause

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 3, Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Nerysoo.

Minister's Statement 2-12(6): Progress On Income Security Reform

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, Members will recall that earlier in this session, I reported on the joint federal/provincial/territorial meetings of Ministers responsible for Labour Market and Social Services and the agenda for income security reform.

Since the Ministers' meetings, officials have been working to develop principles and criteria that would be used to guide investment in the \$800 million strategic initiatives fund. The fund, established in the recent federal budget, is to provide for cost-shared demonstration projects whose design, delivery and outcomes can be considered in the redesign of the income security net in this country. It is our government's intention to gain approval under this program for the investing in people initiative, which was presented earlier to the Standing Committee on Finance.

Our initiative would see up to seven pilot projects being undertaken and the provision of over 200 additional adult training seats to our current activity levels. Subsequent work activity projects would allow people to combine academic and on-the-job training as they prepare for the labour market or further post-secondary training. The proposal calls for a joint federal/territorial investment of some \$6 million over two years. The GNWT share of the resources will come from re-profiled funds from the departments of Social Services and Education, Culture and Employment.

Madam Speaker, I believe we must be both aggressive and progressive in order to participate in the national agenda of change. We cannot afford to have changes imposed upon us and overlook our unique social, cultural and economic needs. We need to make a meaningful contribution to this reform, but we will have to try some new approaches, so that we can benefit from some practical experience in larger scale employment development.

To ensure that we are on the leading edge of change, I am advising this Assembly that our government will establish, on April 11, an income security reform task group. The group will be headed by Mr. Conrad Pilon, the assistant deputy minister.

Madam Speaker, I again return to my earlier statement to inform the House that the Honourable Rebecca Mike, Minister of Social Services, and I have again been invited to meet our counterparts in Ottawa on April 17 and 19 to review the federal government's action plan. The action plan will lay out, in detail, the scope of the income security reform review and its program and fiscal principles and its objectives. The federal government has announced that its fiscal objective for 1996-97 is to reduce expenditures in the Canada assistance plan by some \$1.5 billion from its projected 1994-95 expenditures levels.

Madam Speaker, it has also been a joint objective of the departments of Education, Culture and Employment and Social Services to release a discussion paper on the entire matter of income security reform. Due to the very dynamic nature of the national agenda and the continuing work on the scope of the reform, we have delayed the release of the paper until sometime after the mid-April ministerial consultation. Our paper can then be more comprehensive and match more closely the federal plans for consultations and activity over the summer months.

I will correspond with all Members later this spring and provide them with the discussion paper along with a proposed plan for consultations with respect to the reform initiative. I would expect to review progress and major policy issues in this Assembly in the fall session. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

---Applause

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 3, Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Baffin Central, Ms. Mike.

Minister's Statement 3-12(6): Progress On Income Security Reform

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to follow up on the statement on income security reform made by my colleague, the Honourable Richard Nerysoo.

Madam Speaker, the Minister spoke about the scope of reform. The overall objective of reform is to build a social security system that better integrates social policy, income support, labour market and learning policies and programs. The focus for redesign is not on programs, but on people and will occur with the recognition that people's needs vary according to their individual circumstances and the stage of their lives.

A number of federal programs will be affected by the review. They include but are not limited to: unemployment insurance and labour market programs; the Canada assistance plan; benefits delivered through the tax system such as the child tax credit; vocational rehabilitation of disabled persons; Canada pension plan disability pensions; survivors' and children's benefits; post-secondary education; and, the Canada student loans program. For the Northwest Territories we recognize that our review in terms of linking to federal programming must include social housing rental policy, hunters' and trappers' assistance programs, our employment development and short-term employment programs, student financial assistance program, child day care programs, and there are probably other areas that can be explored. Programs for seniors are not part of the social security reform. They will be addressed separately through the development of a discussion paper later this fall. We must carefully assess the financial impact of change with the knowledge that we will undoubtedly be receiving fewer dollars and that

Page 4

we are going into negotiations soon on a new formula financial arrangement.

Madam Speaker, Canada's social security net is going to change. We must work in partnership to maximize the opportunities to restructure our income security programs to invest in people to allow them to become more productive, self-sufficient and self-reliant. Government, families and individuals all have a responsibility to contribute to building a strong and healthy society. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

---Applause

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 3, Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Nerysoo.

Minister's Statement 4-12(6): Development Of The Inuuqatigiit Curriculum

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. The NWT school system is based on the philosophy that education must be founded on local culture if it is going to be relevant to students, families and communities. The Department of Education, Culture and Employment, boards, divisional boards of education and schools across the Northwest Territories have made a good deal of progress in developing curricula and school programs that are appropriate for the many languages and cultures within the Northwest Territories. Today I would like to announce another important initiative in this area.

This coming September, Inuuqatigiit, a curriculum which enhances and enriches first language and culture for Inuit students, will be piloted in schools in the Baffin, Keewatin, Kitikmeot and Beaufort-Delta regions.

Inuuqatigiit, which is designed for students from kindergarten to grade 12, is the first curriculum designed in the north which reflects the Inuit perspective. Inuuqatigiit means Inuit to Inuit, people to people, or family to family. It also implies a togetherness and unity between people. Enhancing unity for the benefit of students, teachers, schools and communities is the most fundamental goal of the curriculum.

The curriculum is to be used by Inuinait, Inuvialuit and Inuit across the Northwest Territories. To ensure that the concerns and priorities of all Nunavut regions are well-represented, Inuuqatigiit was developed by an advisory committee of Inuit educators from the four regions in which the curriculum will be used. These committee members have worked extensively with people in their regions, including educators, parents, key community members and elders. The elders have played a central role by providing important resource information and validating the curriculum as the work has progressed. It is the knowledge of the

elders that gives the curriculum the true sense of Inuit culture.

Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to individually recognize and thank the members of the Inuuqatigiit advisory committee for their dedication and commitment to development this curriculum. They are: Rose Marie Kirby of Inuvik, representing the Beaufort-Delta; Millie Kitupana and Rosemarie Meyok, both of Coppermine, representing the Kitikmeot; Guita Anawak of Rankin Inlet, Eva Noah of Baker Lake and Elisapee Karetak of Arviat, representing the Keewatin; and, Naullaq Amaquq of Iqaluit, representing the Baffin. The committee's work has been coordinated by Liz Apak Rose, the Inuktitut curriculum coordinator for the Department of Education, Culture and Employment.

Madam Speaker, Inuuqatigiit will play an important role in enhancing Inuit culture and language. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

---Applause

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 3, Ministers' statements. Item 4, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Deh Cho, Mr. Gargan.

**ITEM 4: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

Member's Statement On Housing Issues In The NWT

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about housing issues in the Northwest Territories. In many communities we have a serious shortage in the number of units available to people who need social assisted housing. The federal government has made the decision to reduce the amount spent on social housing programs across the country. These federal cutbacks have lead to the difficulties this government has faced when attempting to fund territorial housing projects.

In January, when the Finance committee met, it took the position that this government is aiming to have no deficit. This is a noble goal and one which I hope we can accomplish. However, if we do end up with a deficit I would personally prefer that we invest that money. It is my opinion that providing shelter to people in need is an investment. The overcrowded, run down conditions which some people live in is absolutely appalling. I realize that the Housing

Minister is working to ratify this issue, however it is crucial that the Government Leader, backed by her Cabinet, adopt a firm position too.

Inadequate housing affects numerous departments. It affects the Department of Social Services in that poor housing conditions may cause an increase in the need for social assistance. There may be an increase in family abuse which would, in turn, produce a need for more counselling services. It affects the Justice department because the need for corrections services will increase. Education, Culture and Employment will also be affected because the children's learning ability will suffer.

Generally, the social problems of society will be reflected by the way the government decides to invest our money. Madam Speaker, I strongly believe that the money spent today will be money saved in the future. This government must set a stage for future governments to ensure that this issue becomes and remains a priority. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

---Applause

Page 5

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 4, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South, Mr. Whitford.

Member's Statement On Training Programs For Aboriginal People

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, for the past number of years, while I have been in the employment of the government, I have been involved with a good number of programs related to employment and training of aboriginal peoples. I started off with a program called NORTRAN when I was at university. NORTRAN was a program that was associated with the oil and gas industry, pipeline and pumping services that were required for that industry. It recruited northern people and, based on their talents and interest in particular jobs, they would take them to places, expose them to that type of work, and give them the training they needed in the event that the pipeline would be built in the north and that the oil and gas industry would take off.

Later on, I was involved with the office of native employment. That was the beginning of what is now

called equal opportunities, I believe. There, I was involved in developing an inventory of aboriginal people, their education, and their skills, and tried to match them up with jobs that were becoming vacant, so we could put more aboriginal people in jobs in the territorial government. That worked fairly well.

I must say that with NORTRAN, the success rate was pretty good for the length of time that I was involved with the program. I believe there are a couple of Members in this Chamber here that may have been associated in some way with it, and who I had the pleasure of working with.

The office of native employment was relatively successful and it eventually became the equal opportunities program and the forerunner to the affirmative action program. I then moved to the northern careers with the federal government and that did the same thing, Madam Speaker. It recruited who we referred to at the time as high flyers, aboriginal peoples who had a talent that the government could use and who had a desire to work with the federal government. I see my time is up, Madam Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, colleagues, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I'm leading up to a point here. I'm doing a "Lewisism," I think, as Mr. Gargan referred to it. The northern careers program took high flyers, put them in positions within the federal government, and trained them to work in positions of middle and senior management. During the period of time the program ran, it showed some very positive results, recruiting people who have special skills, but who never quite had the opportunity because of roadblocks in the way of preventing aboriginal peoples from getting into these particular positions.

These programs, NORTRAN, office of native employment and native careers enhanced their opportunities and, Madam Speaker, during the years I was associated with them, they were quite successful. I was also quite pleased with the western Arctic leadership program. It was based on a principle that there are people who rise above the average who have special talents. The program hand-picks those

individuals and puts them through an intense training, work them to their maximum, develop their talents so they can go out and become examples for others and fill the needs that aboriginal people should be filling in the work place that would benefit all northern people.

I fear, at times, that maybe we're losing sight of the fact that although people are supposed to be created equal, there are people with special skills and talents who we have to support. We have to put those people into situations where they have a chance to blossom. I thought the western Arctic leadership program was such a program. Many people have expressed to me that this government is losing sight of this objective and there may be some action at work to discontinue this program for one reason or another. I have become quite concerned because it will not do any good for people who want to have an opportunity to take advantage of a program like that which will benefit all northern peoples.

I would encourage the government to reconsider very carefully, if they are indeed considering discontinuing that program. I would encourage them to take a look at the success of these programs in the past. Thank you, colleagues, thank you, Madam Speaker.

---Applause

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Item 4, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, Mr. Lewis.

Member's Statement On Leniency On Youth Re Law Enforcement

**MR. LEWIS:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. On Monday, I had the opportunity, along with some of my colleagues, to be at a local gathering of people because the High Commissioner of India was visiting. Always in cases like this, you get pinholed by constituents. At this particular occasion, a local businessman by the name of Mr. Tony Chang raised the issue of law enforcement. I told him that at the very earliest opportunity, I would raise this issue with the Minister of Justice in this House. But, the next day the Minister was not here so I couldn't raise it, and he's not here again, so I can't question him.

However, I will raise it as an issue that is of concern to this constituent. My understanding is that stealing is against the law. Not only it is in the bible as one of the sins of the commandments of the good Lord, but it

is also against the law to steal. His concern is that young people who engage in stealing are just getting a slight tap on the wrist and told they are bad people and they shouldn't do this. Then, they are told a second time that it is wrong and they shouldn't do this.

This constituent is concerned that the police are taking a very soft attitude and that is the wrong message to be giving to young people. Charges should be laid when people are engaged in this, and they shouldn't be encouraged to keep on doing it by just having a slap on the wrist. Thank you.

Page 6

---Applause

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 4, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Iqaluit, Mr. Patterson.

Member's Statement On Election Of Iqaluit Municipal Council

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I rise, once again, to discuss the situation in Iqaluit with regard to the town council. First of all, I would like to say that I'm pleased today to learn that the Honourable Silas Arngna'naaq has appointed Mr. Robin Beaumont, municipal administrator for the town of Iqaluit, the registrar and returning officer for the town.

---Applause

This is encouraging. Thank you. And he's got a wonderful new haircut as well, on top of that. This is very encouraging, Madam Speaker, to me, although I did note that the appointment remains in effect until December 31, 1994. The letter goes on to say, "or until such time as the municipal election process is concluded in Iqaluit, whichever comes first." So, it at least suggests to me that there is, hopefully, a good possibility of the May/June election, which I'm very confident the majority of my constituents in Iqaluit want to see.

Another promising sign that the situation of crisis -- as it was described by the then Minister of Municipal Affairs last November when the town council was dissolved -- has now subsided. I understand that Mr. Beaumont left today for a holiday in San Francisco.



---Laughter

I'm sure this is a very well-deserved holiday on his part and I think the fact that he felt that he had the opportunity to take such a holiday suggests to me that the town's affairs must be under control.

There is more encouraging news, Madam Speaker. Yesterday, I received a copy of a letter from Mayor Pat McMahon, president of the NWT Association of Municipalities to the Honourable Silas Amgna'naaq, Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs which informs him of the following motion: Motion 94-1, passed March 30 or 31 at their recent directors' meeting. "The NWT Association of Municipalities requests that the Government of the Northwest Territories establish an election date without delay in Iqaluit." The letter went on to say...My time is up.

---Applause

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

(Microphones turned off)

---Laughter

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

May I seek consent to conclude my statement, Madam Speaker. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Madam Speaker, no, the letter did not go on to say my time is up.

---Laughter

The letter went on to say, "The institutions of local government are revered as the very foundation of democracy. The absence of an elected body in Iqaluit is viewed by the NWT Association of Municipalities board of directors as a deprivation of democratic rights to all citizens of Iqaluit, plus has dire consequences on the orderly economic development of the town. Further, this situation is setting an

undemocratic precedent within the Northwest Territories. The board of the association has strong concerns with municipalities being subjected to authoritarian government rulings without a foreseeable or preset conclusion to the situation. The NWT Association of Municipalities requests that the Government of the Northwest Territories permit re-establishment of an elected local government, without delay. Further, that the GNWT dissolve the present advisory committee upon the election of the new council in Iqaluit." Thank you, Madam Speaker, and Members for sharing these two encouraging developments. Qujannamiik.

---Applause

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. The Speaker would like to recognize students from the Inuvik Grollier Hall and their chaperons. Welcome to our Assembly.

---Applause

Item 4, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Frame Lake, Mr. Dent.

Member's Statement On Promotion Of International Air Routes In Circumpolar Corridor

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, later today I will table resolutions from two or three organizations which are currently working to promote international air routes in the circumpolar east/west corridor. These three organizations include one made up of 50 aviation experts from the US, Canada, China, Korea, Japan and what was formally Russia. It is known as the east/west air routes consortium.

Another group is called the international association of mayors of northern cities. A third one is called the northern forum, which is an organization of leaders of northern and Arctic regions of the world. Madam Speaker, all three groups have as their goal the encouragement of northern governments to improve air links to promote trade and commerce, joint business ventures, scientific and technical endeavours, tourism, cultural exchanges and cooperative joint ventures between airlines.

As most Members know, there is already new business between contractors here and between regional governments, in what was formerly Russia, which has created a need for

reliable and convenient air services between Canada and those regions.

Madam Speaker, currently to go to eastern Russia, it means that you have to travel through Moscow via Montreal or through Anchorage by way of Salt Lake City or Seattle.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

By charter.

**MR. DENT:**

Or charter, that is true. There is no direct Canadian link between Canada and eastern Russia, although this could easily be accomplished with an air route negotiated by Canada, US and Russia.

In the interests of trade and commerce, this would allow access through Edmonton, Winnipeg and Vancouver to the circumpolar world. Madam Speaker, these three organizations would like to encourage governments to lift unreasonable restrictions on air commerce and negotiate multi-lateral air agreements between circumpolar countries.

The feeling is that if the northern circumpolar world is to come together in the import and export of skills and industry, the sooner these multi-lateral agreements can be reached, the sooner more jobs will be created. Madam Speaker, I hope this government will support these initiatives. Thank you.

---Applause

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 4, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Nerysoo.

Member's Statement On Support For Original Concept Of Arctic Winter Games

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I wish to speak on the matter of the Arctic Winter Games. Madam Speaker, the initial purpose of the Arctic Winter Games was to provide northern sporting and cultural events that would bring together the northern communities in Alaska, Yukon and Northwest Territories. It was intended to provide an opportunity

for northern athletes and cultural performers to compete and allow for an interchange of cultural performances from each of the three Arctic jurisdictions in North America.

Madam Speaker, the Arctic Winter Games was established as an Arctic event. It was established for northern athletes and performers. It was established to provide athletic events for our northern athletes who do not always get opportunities to participate in international, national or provincial athletic events. It was established to give all of our athletes and performers, both young and old, male and female, opportunities to look forward to and maintain their participation as athletes in any sport that was approved for the Arctic Winter Games.

I want to state, Madam Speaker, that I support this concept and feel the Arctic Winter Games should maintain its original concept and abide by the principles originally adopted when the Arctic Winter Games was first launched.

Madam Speaker, the Arctic Winter Games must retain the principle of including all ages of athletes, both men and women. It must retain the idea that sports and cultural events should be supported in which we can achieve representation from each northern jurisdiction. We should not support sporting events that simply satisfy only one or two jurisdictions, but rather we must ensure that all partners participate in any athletic or cultural event in the Arctic Winter Games.

Madam Speaker, I have had the opportunity to participate in the Arctic Winter Games trials and games both as a junior and senior athlete. I have seen some in this House participate as athletes or spectators and some have indicated their support of the Arctic Winter Games. All I believe support the original principles and objectives of these games. All recognized the comparability of our northern athletes.

Madam Speaker, I wish to seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. All recognized that northern communities need an event that will

showcase our athletes and cultural performers. The Arctic Winter Games has allowed for participation of all athletes and performers, from ten years old to 80 years old. Madam Speaker, I hope we do not lose sight of this achievement. I hope we do not lose sight of the commitment to our young and old athletes to continue to participate in good healthy living. I hope we recognize, Madam Speaker, that these are Arctic Winter Games, not simply northern athletic games.

Madam Speaker, the Northwest Territories, as we all know, spends the largest amount of dollars in preparing and allowing for participation in the Arctic Winter Games. It is important that we remember that Alberta has other events or, for that matter any other province, such as their own winter and summer games.

We owe a commitment to all of our athletes, not to simply promoting diplomatic gestures to satisfy other jurisdictions. The Northwest Territories, Yukon and Alaska athletes and performers look forward every two years to the Arctic Winter Games. The Northwest Territories directors who represent us on the Arctic Winter Games board should reflect seriously on these priorities and their priorities.

Madam Speaker, jurisdictions have the right to choose to participate in the Arctic Winter Games. I, for one, support the Arctic Winter Games based on the original concept and principles adopted in 1967 by Alaska, Yukon and the Northwest Territories. We should remember we had Arctic Quebec participating in past Arctic Winter Games and we should remember that they chose to withdraw after we participated in Schefferville, Quebec. Let history be our lesson. As soon as the costs for provinces is an issue, they will either try to influence the games to satisfy their expenditures or to reclassify the participants of Arctic Winter Games.

Madam Speaker, I ask all Members to support the Arctic Winter Games so that all our athletes, young and old, men and women, have an opportunity show their athletic prowess while parading our Arctic cultural richness.

Page 8

I have heard, Madam Speaker, that some jurisdictions are pressing for the removal of senior events. I say no to this suggestion, and I would ask the Minister to promote and support all ages of athletes and cultural performers within the Arctic Winter Games. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Hear, hear.

---Applause

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 4, Members' statements. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Inuvik, Mr. Koe.

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 1-12(6): Response To Report On Proposed Elimination Of Highway Transport Board

**MR. KOE:**

Mahsi, Madam Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Transportation, but since he's not here I will direct it to the Premier. On November 29, 1993, the Standing Committee on Agencies, Boards and Commissions presented its final report on the proposed elimination of the Highway Transport Board. The report requested a comprehensive response to our recommendations which, according to our rules, was due on March 29, 1994. My question to the Premier is when might the standing committee expect to receive a response on this report?

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Madam Premier.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Madam Speaker, I will take the question as notice and provide an answer tomorrow. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Deh Cho, Mr. Gargan.

Question 2-12(6): Distribution Of Work-Load For Ministers

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, last week I made a Member's statement with regard to the work-load of the Executive Members. One of the things that I find right now is that, Madam Speaker, even within the next six months, I've consulted with several Ministers about their possibility of travelling into my constituency, and also to find out whether

there could be a commitment made to do that. Even that is very difficult. Some of it I could realize why, and I think it's because they've taken on more responsibilities. I would like to ask the Premier if she would advise us as to whether she would, in the very near future, make an announcement to equally distribute the work-load among all the Cabinet Ministers?

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Madam Premier.

Return To Question 2-12(6): Distribution Of Work-Load For Ministers

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Madam Speaker, it's my intention to make a number of changes to portfolio responsibilities, probably at the end of April. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South, Mr. Whitford.

Question 3-12(6): Investigation Into Mine Vehicle Accident

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to direct a question to the Minister responsible for safety. During the last weekend we had a tragedy in the Northwest Territories on the ice road. It dealt with an individual receiving some very serious injuries, causing death as a result of an exploding tire. We have a lot of equipment in the Northwest Territories that is imported from other places and, consequently does break down. I wonder if the Minister has instructed his staff to investigate this fatality to ensure that this type of thing is not going to occur with other construction firms that use that type of equipment.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister of Safety and Public Services, Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 3-12(6): Investigation Into Mine Vehicle Accident

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Just to indicate to the honourable Member, the matter of the incident that he speaks of is presently under investigation by staff of occupational safety and health within the safety division. They have not provided the details of the investigation yet, and will probably take several days to complete that particular investigation.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Whitford.

Supplementary To Question 3-12(6): Investigation Into Mine Vehicle Accident

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. The House probably will be adjourned by the time this information gets back. I would like to ask the Minister if he will provide myself, at least, and other Members who are interested in this incident, with copies of this report so that we can provide our constituents -- which many of us do who have construction firms of this type -- with the information so that they can also take precautions. Will the Minister provide that information to me after the House is sitting?

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister of Safety and Public Services, Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 3-12(6): Investigation Into Mine Vehicle Accident

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. What I will do, Madam Speaker, is undertake to advise all Members of the conclusion of the investigation. I cannot commit, first of all, to releasing the actual investigative report itself because there may be some details that would not normally be made available. But I will advise the honourable Member of the conclusions of the investigation itself, and, in fact, inform all Members of this House.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Iqaluit, Mr. Patterson.

Question 4-12(6): Minister's Plans To Meet With Iqaluit Municipal Advisory Committee

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs is undoubtedly aware of some issues that have been identified as pressing by the Municipal Advisory Committee in Iqaluit, and reported to this House through myself. They include land development, the financial and operational review of the town, and the matter of an early election. I would like to ask the Minister, in response to the invitation of the Municipal Advisory Committee and myself to urgently visit Iqaluit and meet with the Municipal Advisory Committee, has the Minister been able to make plans to visit the community and undertake that meeting?

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, Mr. Arngna'naaq.

Return To Question 4-12(6): Minister's Plans To Meet With Iqaluit Municipal Advisory Committee

**HON. SILAS ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. At this point I am starting to make plans for travelling to various communities. One of the communities that I am looking at is Iqaluit. I understand the Member's and the advisory committee's frustration, and would very much like to meet with the advisory committee as soon as I possibly can. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 4-12(6): Minister's Plans To Meet With Iqaluit Municipal Advisory Committee

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Madam Speaker, the days of this session may be numbered. I would like to ask the Minister if he expects to be able to firm up a date today or tomorrow for this important visit. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, Mr. Arngna'naaq.

Further Return To Question 4-12(6): Minister's Plans To Meet With Iqaluit Municipal Advisory Committee

**HON. SILAS ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Yes, Madam Speaker, over the next day or so I should have a firmer date as to when I can get into Iqaluit. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Madam Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister if he can inform the House of the progress on the financial audits of the town for the 1993 fiscal year.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Mr. Patterson, that is not a supplementary, however there are other Members who do require and have placed their hand forth to put questions, so I will come back as it is another item. Initially, your question posed a visit for the Minister, and not financial audits. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Deh Cho, Mr. Gargan.

Question 5-12(6): Equalization Of Work-Load In Cabinet Shuffle

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, again, my question is to the Premier. In her response, Madam Speaker, about the shuffling of the Ministers, the Premier did indeed indicate there will be changes made at the end of April. I would like to ask the Minister whether those changes also include the equalization of the work-load.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Madam Premier.

Return To Question 5-12(6): Equalization Of Work-Load In Cabinet Shuffle

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Madam Speaker, that is one of the considerations. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Inuvik, Mr. Koe.

Question 6-12(6): Response To Final Report On Arctic College

**MR. KOE:**

Mahsi, Madam Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment. On December 1, 1993, the Standing Committee on Agencies, Boards and Commissions presented its final report on Arctic College. This report also called for a comprehensive response from the government. This response, according to the rules of this House, was due March 31, 1994. As some of the rules seem to be a little flexible, I'm forced to ask this question, when might the standing committee expect to receive a response on this final report on Arctic College?

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister of Education, Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 6-12(6): Response To Final Report On Arctic College

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I believe I may have tabled that response already. If not, I will get back to the honourable Member as to when I will be, in fact, providing that document. But, I think I tabled that document.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Frame Lake, Mr. Dent.

Question 7-12(6): Cross-Cultural Training Program For GNWT Employees

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. My question is for the Premier. It has to do with the government response to the recommendations of the Special Committee on Health and Social Services. One of the recommendations made was that an effective cross-cultural training program be established for all front line workers. The government has committed in its response to provide a cross-cultural training program for all new employees within the first six months of their employment with the government. My question to the Premier is, when will this program be up and

running? When can we expect employees to be taking this cross-cultural training?

Page 10

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Madam Premier.

Return To Question 7-12(6): Cross-Cultural Training Program For GNWT Employees

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Madam Speaker, it is my understanding that some employees are already taking part in a cross-cultural training program and are actively participating. However, it is anticipated that it will take about six months to have it totally up and running. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for High Arctic, Mr. Pudluk.

Question 8-12(6): Minister's Travel To High Arctic

**MR. PUDLUK:**

Thank you. I would like to ask the Minister of Housing and DPW a question. Last fall, he was planning a trip to my constituency and the trip had to be cancelled because the Honourable Mr. Morin's mother got sick. I wonder if the Minister is still planning to visit? If he is, is my constituency on the top of his list? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister responsible for Housing and Government Services, Mr. Morin.

Return To Question 8-12(6): Minister's Travel To High Arctic

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. It is number one on my list.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Iqaluit, Mr. Patterson.

Question 9-12(6): Progress On Audit For Town Of Iqaluit

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I have another question for the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs on the matter of the town of Iqaluit. Madam Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister if he could advise the House on progress in doing the official audit of the books of the town of Iqaluit for the trying year of 1993?

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, Mr. Arngna'naaq.

Return To Question 9-12(6): Progress On Audit For Town Of Iqaluit

**HON. SILAS ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. As the Member is aware, the financial position of the town of Iqaluit is just one of the major issues that has to be covered. As far as the audit is concerned, I understand the auditors were in Iqaluit just last week. I don't, as yet, have any details of their visit to Iqaluit. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Inuvik, Mr. Koe.

Question 10-12(6): Provision Of Report Re Investing In People Initiative

**MR. KOE:**

Mahsi, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I was very interested and quite pleased with the progress on income security reform. The Minister of Education, Culture and Employment made a statement today on it. I just have a few questions on some of the content. One of the comments the Minister made was that the program investing in people initiative was presented to the Standing Committee on Finance. Will the Minister be providing information to other Members of this House who are not Members of the Standing Committee on Finance?

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister of Education, Culture and Employment Programs, Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 10-12(6): Provision Of Report Re Investing In People Initiative

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I will provide a package of information, once I have concluded it, to all Members of this House so they may advise their constituents of the criteria for the \$800 million and the manner in which we're considering investing the \$6 million over the next several years.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Amittuq, Mr. Allooloo.

Question 11-12(6): Progress Report Re Official Languages Directives

**MR. ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, February 15, 1994, during our last session, the Premier in the opening remarks for her department, announced that the priority of the official languages unit will be the drafting of directives to ensure language programs and services are available. She went on to say that update of the progress of the official languages directive manual for employees would be provided before the end of

Page 11

session of this Legislative Assembly. I haven't seen the progress report. I wonder if the Minister is prepared to table it or give us an update of the progress of the official languages directive manual for employees? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Madam Premier.

Return To Question 11-12(6): Progress Report Re Official Languages Directives

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Madam Speaker, I will attempt to do that. I believe the work is almost complete. I will attempt to provide that information to the honourable Member. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Allooloo.

Supplementary To Question 11-12(6): Progress Report Re Official Languages Directives

**MR. ALLOOLOO:**

Madam Speaker, the Premier made a commitment to this House. I would like to ask the Premier if she would provide the information to this Legislature before the end of this session, since, during the last session, she was not able to do that? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Madam Premier.

Further Return To Question 11-12(6): Progress Report Re Official Languages Directives

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Madam Speaker, I will provide the information to the honourable Member and all Members of the Legislative Assembly. I know the work is almost complete and I realize we will not be here for an extended period of time. If I cannot have it for tabling, I will make sure that, at the earliest possible convenience after it's completed, it will be circulated to all Members. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Baffin South, Mr. Pudlat.

Question 12-12(6): Change To Visitation Policies In Correctional Institutes

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Justice. Since he is not present, I will be directing my question to the Premier. This question has been an ongoing concern in some of my communities. It is with regard to correctional institute inmates and the policies in these institutions. From some of the communities, some relatives are welcomed to a place where there is an inmate, in the Baffin or in Yellowknife, for example. The hours are set for when you are allowed to have visitors. In Iqaluit, some relatives have tried to visit inmates from the nearby communities. Since the visiting hours were set, they were not able to see their relatives. I wonder if the policy can be changed, so these people coming from outside of the community where the correctional institute is could be allowed to see their relatives outside of visiting hours. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Madam Premier.

Return To Question 12-12(6): Change To Visitation Policies In Correctional Institutes

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Madam Speaker, I will discuss the issue with the Honourable Minister of Justice and see if there can be some flexibility for people who are coming into town and are probably only in town for a few hours. In Yellowknife, if people are in for two or three hours, they have been allowed that privilege if they could explain that they were only in town for a few hours. I personally have arranged this on a number of occasions in Yellowknife. So I will discuss this with Mr. Kakfwi to see if that flexibility could be awarded to other correctional institutes. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Pudlat.

Supplementary To Question 12-12(6): Change To Visitation Policies In Correctional Institutes

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Thank you, Madam Speaker. Thank you for your response, Madam Premier. I realize that the end is coming close for our meeting. I wonder if you can provide me with a response in writing? Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Madam Premier.

Further Return To Question 12-12(6): Change To Visitation Policies In Correctional Institutes

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Madam Speaker, I will arrange to have that done. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for North Slave, Mr. Zoe.

Question 13-12(6): Review Of Social Assistance Regulations

**MR. ZOE:**



Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, my question will be directed to the Minister of Social Services. Madam Speaker, you are probably aware that the Department of Social Services has instructed a committee to review regulations pertaining to the social assistance program. This committee is supposed to review and make recommendations for changes to the regulations. Could I ask the Minister if this review has been concluded? I believe it has been about two years now. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister of Social Services, Ms. Mike.

Return To Question 13-12(6): Review Of Social Assistance Regulations

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to thank the Member for bringing that to my attention. I don't believe that the recommendations have been forwarded to the department. If not, I will look into it and get back to the Member tomorrow. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Zoe.

Supplementary To Question 13-12(6): Review Of Social Assistance Regulations

**MR. ZOE:**

Madam Speaker, this was an initiative of the department. I believe the committee that I am referring to is the committee of superintendents that were instructed to review all existing regulations pertaining to the social assistance program. A number of issues have been raised about this because the workers at the community level follow these regulations. This group was instructed to review these regulations and it was ongoing work initiated by the department. To date, I haven't heard if the work has been concluded. I want to find out if the department has concluded the work or not. What is the status of it to date? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister of Social Services, Ms. Mike.

Further Return To Question 13-12(6): Review Of Social Assistance Regulations

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. As I responded to the Member, I indicated that I will get back to the

Page 12

Member and report the status of the recommended changes that were made two years ago. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Kitikmeot, Mr. Ng.

Question 14-12(6): Recommended Changes Resulting From Department Of Health Functional Review

**MR. NG:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Health. Yesterday, on our last day of the Fifth Session, my honourable colleague from Yellowknife Frame Lake asked about the status of the functional review of the Department of Health. The Minister answered that there were some recommended changes to the department's structure in that functional review. What are those recommended changes from the functional review? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister of Health, Mr. Pollard.

Return To Question 14-12(6): Recommended Changes Resulting From Department Of Health Functional Review

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Good afternoon. I haven't had a chance to absorb the recommendations. I haven't had a chance to talk to the people who made the recommendations. I haven't had a chance to talk to the people in FMBS and in the Department of Health about those recommendations. I certainly haven't had a chance to figure out the impact of putting together Health and Social Services would have upon the suggestions that are being made to me with regard to the Minister of Health at the present time. I want to impress upon the Members that these are not hard and fast recommendations. Events may have overtaken some of these recommendations simply because of the

merging together of the two departments. I don't have anything beyond that to report to the House at the present time. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Ng.

Supplementary To Question 14-12(6):  
Recommended Changes Resulting From Department  
Of Health Functional Review

**MR. NG:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Does the Minister plan on tabling the results of this functional review in the future, so Members of this House, regional health boards, members of the public and interested groups and organizations will have an opportunity to review the recommendations in that review? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister of Health, Mr. Pollard.

Further Return To Question 14-12(6): Recommended  
Changes Resulting From Department Of Health  
Functional Review

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, certainly any changes that are absolutely proposed for the Department of Health, the restructuring of the department, the putting together of the two departments and the total restructuring of the two departments, administratively, will have to go through a process of being proposed, going to Financial Management Board for approval and will come to this House, or through its committees and we will advise and be consulting with the boards in this regard. It will effect everyone who is connected with Health or Social Services. So there will be a process and people will be advised, Madam Speaker. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Ng.

Supplementary To Question 14-12(6):  
Recommended Changes Resulting From Department  
Of Health Functional Review

**MR. NG:**

When does the Minister plan on advising Members of this House on the due process for reviewing this functional review? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister of Health, Mr. Pollard.

Further Return To Question 14-12(6): Recommended  
Changes Resulting From Department Of Health  
Functional Review

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Madam Speaker, the process is already in place, as with any restructuring or reorganization. As I said before, it has to be proposed and has to go through FMBS and on to FMB. That process is already in place. With regard to a time frame, I really want to sit down and discuss this report that I have before me with the two departments, those being FMBS and the Department of Health. Once we have looked at that, then I would like to sit down with Madam Premier and discuss how she wants to proceed with regard to doing the functional review plan that I will hopefully have ironed out for Health and merging it with Social Services. I anticipate that the Premier will instruct the Minister of Social Services and myself to get together and start to work on it. I would think that sometime before the fall session, the plan will be available in a very late draft form for this Legislative Assembly, Madam Speaker. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Natilikmiot, Mr. Ningark.

Question 15-12(6): Negotiation Of Contract For Rent  
Supplement Program In Taloyoak

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Madam Premier. Madam Premier, my question is directed to the honourable Minister for Public Works and Services. Madam Premier, some time ago, the honourable Minister communicated with a group of business people in Taloyoak, formerly Spence Bay. The community group wanted to negotiate a contract with the honourable Minister's department to construct a unit or units for lease back to the Housing Corporation. I know the honourable Minister is a proponent of keeping work in the community. When business prospers, so will the community prosper.

My question to the honourable Minister is, will the honourable Minister consider, very seriously, negotiating a contract with the group in Taloyoak, formerly Spence Bay, so that the group would

Page 13

be able to lease buildings back to the Housing Corporation? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Mr. Ningark, my title is Madam Speaker. Minister of Public Works and Services, Mr. Morin.

Return To Question 15-12(6): Negotiation Of Contract For Rent Supplement Program In Taloyoak

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I believe the question is to the Minister of Housing for the rent supp program. I will consider it. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Ningark.

Supplementary To Question 15-12(6): Negotiation Of Contract For Rent Supplement Program In Taloyoak

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Thank you, very much. Madam Speaker, when will the honourable Minister get back to me on his decision? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister of DPW, Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question 15-12(6): Negotiation Of Contract For Rent Supplement Program In Taloyoak

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I will get back to the Member tomorrow. Thanks.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South, Mr. Whitford.

Question 16-12(6): Terms Of Reference For Hay River Group Home Inquiry

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, last week several Members asked questions concerning Greenway Realty in Hay River and about the dilemma they're facing. The Minister promised to have a full independent inquiry into the matter dealing with Greenway Holdings and Social Services. The Minister referred to the terms of reference for this independent inquiry. Has the Minister concluded the terms of reference?

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Minister of Social Services, Ms. Mike.

Return To Question 16-12(6): Terms Of Reference For Hay River Group Home Inquiry

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Sometime tomorrow, I will be tabling the terms of reference and probably the name of the person who will be doing the review.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Iqaluit, Mr. Patterson.

Question 17-12(6): Provision Of New Social Housing Rent Scale In Inuktitut

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. This is a question for the Minister responsible for the NWT Housing Corporation. I understand that the proposed new social housing rent scale will be tabled later on today. I'm anxious to consult my constituents on this very major issue. Many of them, particularly tenants in social housing, are unilingual. I would like to ask the Minister, will the document that he's tabling today be available in Inuktitut?

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Morin.

Return To Question 17-12(6): Provision Of New Social Housing Rent Scale In Inuktitut

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Yes, it will be.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Item 6, written questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Frame Lake, Mr. Dent.

**ITEM 6: WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

Written Question 1-12(6): HIV/AIDS Related Expenditures For Fiscal Years 1993-94 And 1994-95

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Health, and this is probably more of a technicality than anything else. Because the House prorogued yesterday, my written question would have died on the order paper yesterday. Although I'm sure the Minister of Health had planned to respond, in any case I will again pose my question from yesterday.

Would the Minister responsible for the Department of Health please provide this House with a detailed outline of HIV/AIDS related expenditures made in fiscal year 1993-94; and,

Would the Minister provide a details outline of HIV/AIDS related expenditures planned for fiscal year 1994-95.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 6, written questions. Item 7, petitions. Item 8, reports of standing and special committees. Item 9, tabling of documents. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Frame Lake, Mr. Dent.

**ITEM 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS**

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would now like to table Tabled Document 1-12(6), two resolutions I mentioned earlier in my Member's statement which urge northern governments to work together to eliminate unnecessary red tape which hinders the establishment of circumpolar air links between regions of northern countries. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 9, tabling of documents. The honourable Member for Tu Nedhe, Mr. Morin.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 2-12(6), New Social Housing Rent Scale, NWT Housing Corporation, April 6, 1994, in English and Inuktitut. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 9, tabling of documents. The honourable Member for Hay River, Mr. Pollard.

Page 14

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, on behalf of Mr. Kakfwi, I wish to table Tabled Document 3-12(6), Legislative Action Paper, Office of the Ombudsman. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 9, tabling of documents. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 4-12(6), Heritage Resources - A Legislative Action Paper Proposing New Heritage Legislation for the Northwest Territories.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 9, tabling of documents. The honourable Member for Hay River, Mr. Pollard.

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, as required by Section 32.1(2) of the Financial Administration Act, I'm tabling Tabled Document 5-12(6), a list of all inter-activity transfers exceeding \$250,000 within departments for the period December 6, 1993 to March 28, 1994. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 9, tabling of documents. The honourable Member for Baffin Central, Ms. Mike.

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 6-12(6), the correspondence sent to me from Pangnirtung Fisheries Limited regarding some

statements that were made when we were dealing with Mr. Todd's budget for Economic Development and Tourism.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Item 9, tabling of documents. The honourable Member for Deh Cho.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Madam Speaker, I would like to get unanimous consent to go back to item 8, reports of standing and special committees.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to return to item 8, reports of standing and special committees. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Gargan.

**REVERT BACK TO ITEM 8: REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

Committee Report 1-12(6): First Report Of The Advisory Committee On Social Housing

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker, honourable Members. Madam Speaker, I'm pleased to present the first report of the Advisory Committee on Social Housing. The Advisory Committee on Social Housing is a unique committee in our Legislature. It was designed to provide the Minister responsible for the NWT Housing Corporation with advice on major housing issues.

The committee also reviews proposals for housing strategies, programs, and policies. The committee provides Members and the Minister with an opportunity to work together on housing issues in a cooperative, non-adversarial way that is in keeping with our consensus government.

Madam Speaker, the advisory committee process has worked well. We have discussed many housing issues, ranging from federal funding cuts to the review of the rent scale. The committee Members are satisfied that their concerns are taken seriously by the Minister and the corporation. Housing issues are complicated, but no other issue as deeply affects the basic quality of life of all our constituents. Housing means homes. Homes where people raise their families and try to build a better life for themselves.

We are facing serious challenges in housing today. Funding cuts by the federal government have left us with a severe housing shortage to address on our own. Our young and growing population means this shortage will get worse. We must find new and better ways to provide more housing and make the best use of the housing we have.

These are very difficult issues, Madam Speaker. But we must work together for the good of all the people we serve. Through open consultation and sharing of information and ideas, the advisory committee has been able to work as a team with the Minister to address these issues.

The next year also promises to be a busy one for the committee. Earlier this year, consultation meetings were held in every Northwest Territories community. The committee also moved forward with plans to review the recommendations from the communities and district consultation meetings later on this summer. We will report back to the House next fall with our recommendations on the corporation's community consultation framework. Just for the record, Madam Speaker, when I refer to the consultation meetings that were held in every Northwest Territories community, those were the housing authorities that held the consultation meetings, not the Advisory Committee on Social Housing.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank the Minister and other Members of the Advisory Committee on Social Housing for their goodwill and cooperation over the past year. I hope that this spirit of working together through the difficult issues we face will continue. Madam Speaker, that concludes the first report of the Advisory Committee on Social Housing.

Motion To Receive And Adopt Committee Report 1-12(6), Carried

Therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Natilikmiot, that the first report of the Advisory Committee on Social Housing be received by the Assembly and adopted. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

---Applause

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

---Carried

Item 8, reports of standing and special committees.  
The honourable Member for Deh Cho, Mr. Gargan.

Page 15

**MR. GARGAN:**

Madam Speaker, I would like to get unanimous consent to go back to item 5, oral questions.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to return to oral questions. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Gargan.

**REVERT BACK TO ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS**

Question 18-12(6): Changes To Dental Mechanics' Legislation

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker and honourable Members. Madam Speaker, during the last session, I made a statement with regard to the denturist in the Northwest Territories. One of the difficulties that many aboriginal people in the communities are experiencing is with regard to partial dentures. Most of the work that is being referred to is with regard to full dentures. Much of the cost that is incurred for aboriginal or status people is through Blue Cross. One of the difficulties of the individual, Mr. Enzoe, is that even though Mr. Enzoe is doing partial dentures, he is not being paid for it. When you are referred to a denturist, he is a professional in all aspects of dentures, not just full dentures, but partial as well. However, he isn't being paid for partial dentures that he does for aboriginal people. It could be done in a few days, as opposed to a few months. I would like to ask Mr. Pollard if he intends to somehow accommodate Mr. Enzoe so he could be paid for doing partial dentures?

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister of Health, Mr. Pollard.

Return To Question 18-12(6): Changes To Dental Mechanics' Legislation

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, there is nothing I can do in the interim. The law is quite clear right now. The Dental Mechanics Act does not allow for the making of partial plates in the Northwest Territories by a denturist. I had considerable work done on it and we have looked at other jurisdictions across Canada. I am presently having the department prepare a legislative proposal to change the legislation and bring it to the House to give some leeway in this area. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Gargan.

Supplementary To Question 18-12(6): Changes To Dental Mechanics' Legislation

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I really haven't got a problem with who does the work with regard to dentures. The only problem I have is it is the aboriginal people who are being affected by the lack of action by this government. But the Minister said unfortunately he cannot change the legislation now. Which section of the Dental Mechanics Act suggests that a denturist cannot practice up here?

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Minister of Health, Mr. Pollard.

Further Return To Question 18-12(6): Changes To Dental Mechanics' Legislation

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Madam Speaker, there was an inference there that partial plates are not available to aboriginal people in the Northwest Territories at the present time. They are available to aboriginal people and they are supplied through dentists' offices and visiting dentists in the NWT. There is an allowance for payment through an agreement with the federal government for aboriginal people to receive both full uppers and lowers and also partials, in many instances, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, the Dental Mechanics Act is quite specific. It mentions that a denturist can

supply and fit a full upper or a full lower denture. It does not mention partials for a denturist or dental mechanics in the Northwest Territories. That is the act we are looking at changing and upgrading, Madam Speaker. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Gargan.

Supplementary To Question 18-12(6): Changes To Dental Mechanics' Legislation

**MR. GARGAN:**

I would like to get this straight for the record. If there is a section that makes reference to only full upper or lower dentures, it doesn't say anything about partial. If it is not mentioned in the act, does that mean he cannot practice or does it just mean that he can be practising because it doesn't make reference to partial dentures?

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Minister of Health, Mr. Pollard.

Further Return To Question 18-12(6): Changes To Dental Mechanics' Legislation

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. The Dental Mechanics Act makes no mention of the fact that a dental mechanic or denturist can make a partial plate. So it specifically says the denturist can do full uppers or full lowers. The act does not allow for a denturist to make partial plates and fit partial plates in the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Final supplementary, Mr. Gargan.

Supplementary To Question 18-12(6): Changes To Dental Mechanics' Legislation

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you. My final supplementary, Madam Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister of Health when he expects the amendments to the Dental Mechanics Act so that denturists can make partial plates?

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister of Health, Mr. Pollard.

Further Return To Question 18-12(6): Changes To Dental Mechanics' Legislation

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Madam Speaker, I anticipate having suggested changes to the act before me sometime before June. We'll have them ready for the fall sitting of the Legislative Assembly, assuming it passes through Cabinet. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South, Mr. Whitford.

Page 16

Question 19-12(6): Denturist Able To Work With Licensed Dentists On Partial Plates

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. My question will be for the Minister of Health. It concerns the Dental Mechanics Act, to follow up on a question Mr. Gargan was asking. It was my understanding that the denturists could make partial plates with the impressions that were made by a dentist. I understood he couldn't work on his own, but could work in conjunction with licensed dentists. I just wonder if that is correct?

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Minister of Health, Mr. Pollard.

Return To Question 19-12(6): Denturist Able To Work With Licensed Dentists On Partial Plates

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

That is correct, Madam Speaker. A denturist, Mr. Enzoe who is resident in Yellowknife, can make partial plates and provide them to a dentist for fitting in the mouth, using the dentist's impressions. When I say the denturist can't make partials, what I mean is he can't work on his own. He can't see a patient, take the impressions, do the fittings, and so on and so forth, on his own. He can do that for full uppers and full lowers without the patient seeing a dentist.

When it comes to partials, the patient should see a dentist and the dentist can then have the partials made by the denturist. There is some provision for the making and manufacturing of partials in the

Northwest Territories, but it doesn't allow Mr. Enzoe to work on his own, as far as partials are concerned. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Whitford.

Supplementary To Question 19-12(6): Denturist Able To Work With Licensed Dentists On Partial Plates

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, after the denturist has made partials, in conjunction with a licensed dentist, will the denturist be paid for his work, if the work is done in conjunction with a licensed dentist?

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister of Health, Mr. Pollard.

Further Return To Question 19-12(6): Denturist Able To Work With Licensed Dentists On Partial Plates

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Madam Speaker, in that particular instance, the dentist would be doing the impressions, et cetera, and Mr. Enzoe would be providing the dentist with the partials. So, yes, the dentist would be able to pay and be able to bill the patient, whether they are covered under a private plan in the Northwest Territories or if it is an area covered by us through Blue Cross, ultimately at the expense of the federal government. Yes, there would be a payment made in that case. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Iqaluit, Mr. Patterson.

Question 20-12(6): Review Of New Rent Scale By Advisory Committee On Social Housing

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation about the proposed new social housing rent scale. My question is, did the Advisory Committee on Social Housing review the proposed new rent scale? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Morin.

Return To Question 20-12(6): Review Of New Rent Scale By Advisory Committee On Social Housing

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Yes, the Advisory Committee on Social Housing reviewed the proposed new rent scale a year ago. They reviewed it just about a year ago for the first time. They also reviewed it just recently again. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 20-12(6): Review Of New Rent Scale By Advisory Committee On Social Housing

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Madam Speaker, I would then like to ask the Minister responsible for Housing, if the advisory committee gave any advice on the proposed new rent scale and, if so, what advice they gave? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question 20-12(6): Review Of New Rent Scale By Advisory Committee On Social Housing

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I've been working with the advisory committee for the past year and with community organizations. That is how the new rent scale was developed. Any changes you see in there came directly through recommendations by people. In general, people complained about the rent scale. They said it discouraged people from working and from going to school, so we changed it to address those issues. With all due respect to the Member, I will be moving this into committee of the whole to discuss it, where everyone has a copy. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.



Supplementary To Question 20-12(6): Review Of New Rent Scale By Advisory Committee On Social Housing

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I do appreciate that I will have another opportunity in committee of the whole, but I'm very curious, Madam Speaker, to follow up on this line of questioning with the Minister. The Minister has said that the proposed rent scale was basically developed on the advice of the Advisory Committee on Social Housing, advice which has been given over the past year. My question to the Minister, then, is did the Advisory Committee on Social Housing endorse and approve the proposed new rent scale? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question 20-12(6): Review Of New Rent Scale By Advisory Committee On Social Housing

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Yes.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 20-12(6): Review Of New Rent Scale By Advisory Committee On Social Housing

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Madam Speaker, I'm aware that the Minister for the Housing Corporation is the chair of the Advisory Committee on Social Housing and I guess I would like to ask him, as a final supplementary, since he has reported to the House that the Advisory Committee on Social Housing has approved the proposed new rent scale and since the mandate of the advisory committee is to review major new or revised policies or programs proposed by the Housing Corporation and to provide advice to the Minister responsible for the NWT Housing Corporation and the Legislative Assembly, then why does the first report of the Advisory Committee on Social Housing not say a word about approving the proposed rent scale?

All it says is that it was reviewed. Why is there not a word about the position of the advisory committee approving this rent scale? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question 20-12(6): Review Of New Rent Scale By Advisory Committee On Social Housing

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I don't know why there isn't a specific word in the report saying that they approved the rent scale. But, let me assure you that they did so in the last meeting. The Member is a Member of the advisory committee. He wasn't present at that meeting, but they did approve the new rent scale. We've been working on this new rent scale for well over a year and I've been working fairly closely with the advisory committee. We tried to address the recommendations they brought forward to the Housing Corporation. We addressed approximately 98 per cent of them, and I feel it is the best compromise, that's what you have before you today. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Point of privilege, Mr. Patterson.

Point Of Privilege

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Madam Speaker, the honourable Minister suggested that I am a Member of the Advisory Committee on Social Housing. I am an alternate Member. He also suggested that I did not attend a recent meeting. I was not invited to attend that meeting. That is my point of privilege, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. For the record, Mr. Patterson, you do have a point of privilege. There were some imputed motives that you were a Member of the Advisory Committee on Social Housing. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Natilikmiot, Mr. Ningark.

Question 21-12(6): Community Consultation Included In Report Of Advisory Committee On Social Housing

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Housing. What is in the report is also a part of what has taken place in the community consultations. Is that correct, Mr. Minister? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Morin.

Return To Question 21-12(6): Community Consultation Included In Report Of Advisory Committee On Social Housing

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. In the report, it mentions that there was a community consultation process and it should also mention when they took place. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Ningark.

Supplementary To Question 21-12(6): Community Consultation Included In Report Of Advisory Committee On Social Housing

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, what is in the report is not the final decision of the House. Is that correct, Mr. Minister?

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question 21-12(6): Community Consultation Included In Report Of Advisory Committee On Social Housing

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. In the first report of the Advisory Committee on Social Housing, it is advising the House of the things that took place in the last year. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Baffin South, Mr. Pudlat.

Question 22-12(6): Quality Of Replacement Dentures

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, although I don't have dentures yet, I asked the Minister of Health for an application for dentures. Sometimes people lose their dentures the same way we lose our teeth. I know that some people lose their dentures, too. Perhaps someday when I get dentures, I might lose my dentures. For people who have dentures, is that the cheapest possible price you can a second pair of dentures for? I know the first pair is very expensive. It says you have to have five years in between one denture to the next. If you have to get new dentures before five years is up, then maybe the first dentures were not very good quality to begin with. I don't know where I send the dentures

Page 18

that do not last. Maybe the dentures are not very good quality. That is my question, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister of Health, Mr. Pollard.

Return To Question 22-12(6): Quality Of Replacement Dentures

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I realize the problem that some people in the Northwest Territories have had. In many instances, it deals with their diet and the kinds of food they may be eating. There have been some occasions in this House when dentures have almost been tabled, Madam Speaker. I have asked the department to look at the construction of the dentures that are being provided, particularly to aboriginal people. I have asked the department to also look at the construction of partial plates that are being provided to aboriginal people. If there is some problem with the construction of the dentures, because of diets, in many instances, I intend to take that up with the federal Health Minister. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Iqaluit, Mr. Patterson.

Question 23-12(6): Finalization Of New Rent Scale

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister of Housing some more questions about the rent scale. Particularly, I would like to ask the Minister if the proposed rent scale, which will be tabled today, is final. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Morin.

Return To Question 23-12(6): Finalization Of New Rent Scale

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Yes.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 23-12(6): Finalization Of New Rent Scale

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Madam Speaker, if this is a done deal and what we are seeing is the new rent scale, why is he sending information on the new rent scale out to -- according to his statement today -- all local housing organizations, community governments, band councils and Metis locals? Why is he inviting all these groups to attend a consultation meeting in their district in May or June, if there is no further need for consultation because it has all been finalized already? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question 23-12(6): Finalization Of New Rent Scale

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. The new rent scale consultation process has taken place. It has been taking place for the past year. The rent scale that I tabled earlier today will go to all the municipal bands, the housing authorities and everyone else out in the

regions. It will be talked over with those people and explained to them so everyone fully understands the final new rent scale. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 23-12(6): Finalization Of New Rent Scale

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Madam Speaker, with respect to the honourable Member, I intended the consultation meeting in my riding earlier this year. The district manager of the Housing Corporation for Baffin had no detailed information on the new rent scale. In fact, all that the district manager could say was there would be a new rent scale and there would be some increases. But there was no detailed information provided, whatsoever, at that so-called consultation meeting. Is this what the Minister considers to be consultation discussions, in generalities with no details? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question 23-12(6): Finalization Of New Rent Scale

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. The consultation process has taken place in all regions, including Mr. Patterson's region. In general discussions, there weren't final recommendations or numbers, until just recently, to the Advisory Committee on Social Housing. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Final supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 23-12(6): Finalization Of New Rent Scale

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Madam Speaker, my understanding of the word "consultation" is that there is a proposal with detailed information on which Members of the public have an opportunity to provide input. The Minister has just

admitted that what was provided was general discussions and no detail. Is discussion of general principles, without sufficient details, adequate consultation on the sensitive issue of public housing rent scales? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question 23-12(6): Finalization Of New Rent Scale

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Like I have said, the proposal for a new rent scale was passed by the

Page 19

Advisory Committee on Social Housing about a year ago. That went to all the communities in the Baffin, South Slave, Inuvik, et cetera. It was discussed, they raised their concerns, their issues were addressed. Whatever issue was a concern was brought up through the Advisory Committee on Social Housing to the Housing Corporation. Pretty well all of them were addressed and what you have before you today is the new rent scale, from all that consultation. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Baffin South, Mr. Pudlat.

Question 24-12(6): Community Consultation Re New Rental Scale

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Thank you, Madam Speaker. Further to the questions being raised by the honourable Member for Iqaluit, I have the same question to the same Minister of Housing regarding the rent scale. I'm also a Member of the Advisory Committee on Social Housing and we dealt with the rental scale. A lot of my constituents have major concerns about this rental scale, if it is to be proceeded with. They want to find out all the information they can get before they accept the rental increases. So, I'm asking the Minister whether he has informed my three communities regarding the rental scales. Has he consulted with my constituency about the rental scales? A lot of my communities have come to me about the rental scale. So, can the Minister indicate to the House whether he

has consulted with any of my communities? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Morin.

Return To Question 24-12(6): Community Consultation Re New Rental Scale

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. The community consultation meetings were held in Baffin South in Cape Dorset on November 29, 1993, in Lake Harbour on November 30, 1993 and in Sanikiluaq on October 19 and 20, 1993. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Pudlat.

Supplementary To Question 24-12(6): Community Consultation Re New Rental Scale

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Thank you, Madam Speaker. The Minister indicated that he had consulted with the three communities in my constituency. He indicated he went to Cape Dorset and Lake Harbour, but I'm not sure whether he actually went to Sanikiluaq. However, my communities still want to know if this rental scale will, in fact, proceed. Will my constituents be able to raise any further concerns about it in the future? Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question 24-12(6): Community Consultation Re New Rental Scale

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Yes, the rent scale will proceed. For 20 per cent of the people, rents will decrease. That will kick in on, I believe, July 1, 1994. For 40 per cent of the people, the rents will stay the same. For 40 per cent of the people, the rents will increase. The increase will be covered over a two year period, with 50 per cent kicking in on January 1,

1995. The other 50 per cent will kick in January 1, 1996. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Iqaluit, Mr. Patterson.

Question 25-12(6): Provision Of Written Information To Communities Re New Rental Scale

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, apparently, consultations took place in my constituency about the proposed new rent scale. Yet, as of today, the Iqaluit Housing Authority does not have the document that will be tabled today. The meeting I attended in my riding, which was, I think, the community consultation meeting, presented not a shred of written material on the proposed rent increases.

Instead, the district manager gave a short, general speech saying basically that rents were going to be reviewed and that some rents would go up and some would go down. That was the extent of the consultation in my riding. I would like to ask the Minister, in the round of public consultations that apparently have already taken place in all communities, was there any written information presented to the public that they could consider, review and study, about the proposed new rent scale? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Morin.

Return To Question 25-12(6): Provision Of Written Information To Communities Re New Rental Scale

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Knowing government, I'm sure something in writing must have gone around during the community consultation process. I'm also aware that a year ago, we passed, in principle, a proposed new rent scale through Cabinet as well as through the Advisory Committee on Social Housing. It was a discussion paper that was put out to the public. We went through the community consultation process and brought all the issues back to the Special Committee on Social Housing. The Special Committee on Social Housing made some

recommendations, we made some adjustments to the rent scale, we took it back to Cabinet, Cabinet approved it, took it back to the Advisory Committee on Social Housing, they approved it, and I'll be tabling in the House later today. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

The document has been tabled in the House and that's why I've allowed discussion on the document. Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Page 20

Supplementary To Question 25-12(6): Provision Of Written Information To Communities Re New Rental Scale

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Madam Speaker, the Minister says that something must have gone out, knowing government. I was personally present at the meeting and took careful notes. To my recollection, Madam Speaker, there was no written information presented at the community consultation. I recall a generalized discussion paper that gave no concrete information about how rents might be adjusted or when, such as the Minister referred to.

I would like to ask the Minister, Madam Speaker, given that there has been no real detailed information -- and I think he would agree with that -- but just generalities presented to members of the public and even ordinary Members of this Assembly before today, and given that -- according to the Minister's statement of today -- the increases are not to take place until January 1995, if the district meetings held in May and June come up with some good suggestions about how this wonderful document can be approved -- given that there's all this time before January 1995 before increases take effect -- would the Minister not be open to improving the already perfect document and making some changes if some good ideas come out of that round of public consultations? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Morin.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Hallelujah, here we go again.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

I want to caution Ministers that when you are replying to a question not to provoke debate, and just answer the question. Thank you.

Further Return To Question 25-12(6): Provision Of Written Information To Communities Re New Rental Scale

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would consider it.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 25-12(6): Provision Of Written Information To Communities Re New Rental Scale

**MR. PATTERSON:**

So, Madam Speaker, I take it the Minister has said he is willing to consider advice from the expensive meetings that he is going to be sponsoring, bringing in local housing organizations, community governments, band councils and Metis local representatives to attend consultation meetings in their districts in May or June. He is willing to consider the advice. I take it, then, Madam Speaker, that it is now correct to say that the proposed rent scale before us today is not necessarily the final word. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Minister of Housing, Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question 25-12(6): Provision Of Written Information To Communities Re New Rental Scale

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Let me make it clearer. The rent scale that I tabled today is a new social housing rent scale. If there are any amendments to that at a future date, I would consider it, if there are different ideas. This is the final one that I tabled today. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Final supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 25-12(6): Provision Of Written Information To Communities Re New Rental Scale

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Well, Madam Speaker, I don't think the Minister can have it both ways. He says it is a final document that he tabled today, but he says it is open to amendments. Why is he going to be spending tens of thousands of dollars and, in Baffin, it will cost a minimum of \$25,000 to bring community representatives in for these series of consultation meetings? Why bother spending the tens of thousands of dollars to have these consultation meetings in May or June if this document is final and not amendable to change? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Minister of Housing, Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question 25-12(6): Provision Of Written Information To Communities Re New Rental Scale

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. This is the final document that the Special Committee on Social Housing and Cabinet approved. This will be the new social housing rent scale that the Housing Corporation will implement. We will be going through a community and regional consultation process. That is a process that happens every year and you develop every year. No policy in government is carved in stone. It can be changed or altered any year. It is the same as the home ownership programs. They have to be altered. We put in new home ownership programs a year ago. They have to be altered already. That is the consultation process. If you go in, you take some direction from them and make changes accordingly. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Mr. Clerk, I will ask you to stop the clock and the House will have a short recess. We will recognize Mr. Pudlat on our return. Thank you.

---SHORT RECESS

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Baffin South, Mr. Pudlat.

Question 26-12(6): New Rental Scale Provided To Communities

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) I have a question I would like to raise to the Minister of the Housing Corporation. We have a document before us from the Housing Corporation. I was asked by my constituents to raise this question, Madam Speaker. With regard to the document before us, I understand it is an information item. I was informed that this was dealt with earlier and most of the communities are aware of it. Most of the communities that I have spoken to have not heard of this particular document before. I understood that the Minister of the Housing Corporation had said that this was already made available to the communities. Can he let me know as to whether this was actually made aware to the communities? I don't think any of the

Page 21

housing associations have any of this information in front of them. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Morin.

Return To Question 26-12(6): New Rental Scale Provided To Communities

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. This final document, the new rent scale, will be made available to the housing authorities and everyone starting today. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Pudlat.

Supplementary To Question 26-12(6): New Rental Scale Provided To Communities

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Thank you, Madam Speaker. As the Minister mentioned that this is the final document, are the housing association committees going to be getting this opportunity to speak only to the final document and nothing before this? Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question 26-12(6): New Rental Scale Provided To Communities

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. The housing authorities, through the community consultation process, in the past, have had an opportunity to speak to the proposal for a new rent scale. They spoke to the initiatives that were put forward by the Housing Corporation and approved by Cabinet and the Special Committee on Social Housing last spring. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, oral questions. Item 6, written questions. Item 7, petitions. Item 8, reports of standing and special committees. Item 9, tabling of documents. Item 10, notices of motion. The honourable Member for Tu Nedhe, Mr. Morin.

ITEM 10: NOTICES OF MOTION

Motion 1-12(6): Tabled Document 2-12(6) "New Social Housing Rent Scale" To Committee Of The Whole

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I give notice that, on Friday, April 8, 1994, I will move the following motion. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Deh Cho, that Tabled Document 2-12(6), New Social Housing Rent Scale, be moved into committee of the whole for discussion. Madam Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will be seeking unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 10, notices of motion. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Nerysoo.

Motion 2-12(6): Tabled Document 4-12(6) "Heritage Resources, A Legislative Action Paper Proposing New Heritage Legislation For The Northwest Territories" To Standing Committee On Legislation For Review

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I give notice that, on Friday, April 8, 1994, I will move the following motion. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Tu Nedhe, that Tabled Document 4-12(6), Heritage Resources: A Legislative Action Paper Proposing New Heritage Legislation for the Northwest Territories, be referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation for review. At the appropriate time, I will be seeking unanimous consent to deal with my motion today.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 10, notices of motion. The honourable Member for Hay River, Mr. Pollard.

Motion 3-12(6): Tabled Document 3-12(6)  
"Legislative Action Paper - Office Of The Ombudsman" To Standing Committee On Legislation For Review

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I give notice that, on Friday, April 8, 1994, I will move the following motion: I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Tabled Document 3-12(6), Legislative Action Paper: Office of the Ombudsman, be referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation for review. At the appropriate time today, I will seek unanimous consent to deal with the motion. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 10, notices of motion. Item 11, notices of motions for first reading of bills. Madam Premier.

**ITEM 11: NOTICES OF MOTIONS FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS**

Bill 9: An Act To Amend The Charter Communities Act

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Madam Speaker, I give notice that, on Friday, April 8, 1994, I shall move that Bill 9, An Act to Amend the Charter Communities Act, be read for the first time. May I continue?

Bill 10: An Act To Amend The Cities, Towns And Villages Act

Madam Speaker, I give notice that, on Friday, April 8, 1994, I shall move that Bill 10, An Act to Amend the Cities, Towns and Villages Act, be read for the first time.

Bill 11: An Act To Amend The Hamlets Act

Madam Speaker, I give notice that, on Friday, April 8, 1994, I shall move that Bill 11, An Act To Amend The Hamlets Act, be read for the first time.

Bill 12: An Act To Amend The Commissioner's Land Act

Madam Speaker, I give notice that, on Friday, April 8, 1994, I shall move that Bill 12, An Act To Amend The Commissioner's Land Act, be read for the first time.

Page 22

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Item 11, notices of motions for first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Baffin Central, Ms. Mike.

Bill 2: Aboriginal Custom Adoption Recognition Act

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I give notice that, on Friday, April 8, 1994, I shall move that Bill 2, Aboriginal Custom Adoption Recognition Act, be read for the first time. I have another one, Madam Speaker. May I continue?

Bill 3: Guardianship And Trusteeship Act

Madam Speaker, I give notice that, on Friday, April 8, 1994, I shall move that Bill 3, Guardianship and Trusteeship Act, be read for the first time.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 11, notices of motions for first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Nerysoo.

Bill 4: An Act To Amend The Liquor Act

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I give notice that, on Friday, April 8, 1994, I shall move that Bill 4, An Act To Amend The Liquor Act, be read for the first time.



**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 11, notices of motions for first reading of bills. Mr. Nerysoo.

Bill 5: Mine Health And Safety Act

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I give notice that, on Friday, April 8, 1994, I shall move that Bill 5, Mine Health and Safety Act, be read for the first time.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 11, notices of motions for first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Hay River, Mr. Pollard.

Bill 6: Access To Information and Protection Of Privacy Act

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I have two notices of motions. Madam Speaker, I give notice that, on Friday, April 8, 1994, I shall move that Bill 6, Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, be read for the first time.

Bill 8: An Act To Amend The Public Utilities Act

Madam Speaker, I give notice that, on Friday, April 8, 1994, I shall move that Bill 8, An Act To Amend The Public Utilities Act, be read for the first time.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 11, notices of motions for first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Nerysoo.

Bill 7: An Act To Amend The Arctic College Act

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I give notice that, on Friday, April 8, 1994, I shall move that Bill 7, An Act To Amend The Arctic College Act, be read for the first time.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 11, notices of motions for first reading of bills. Item 12, motions. The honourable Member for Tu Nedhe, Mr. Morin.

ITEM 12: MOTIONS

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion on the new social housing rent scale.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with motion 1-12. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed, Mr. Morin.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Motion 1-12(6): Tabled Document 2-12(6) "New Social Housing Rent Scale" To Committee Of The Whole, Carried

WHEREAS, the document, New Social Housing Rent Scale, has been tabled in this House;

AND WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the public for the document to be discussed by the Legislature;

I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Deh Cho, that Tabled Document 2-12(6), New Social Housing Rent Scale, be moved into the committee of the whole for discussion.

Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

The motion is in order. To the motion.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

---Carried

Item 12, motions. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to request my honourable colleagues' unanimous consent to proceed with a motion I gave notice of, regarding referral of the Heritage Resources: A Legislative Action Paper to the standing committee.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with motion 2-12(6). Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Nerysoo.

Page 23

Motion 2-12(6): Tabled Document 4-12(6) "Heritage Resources, A Legislative Action Paper Proposing New Heritage Legislation For The Northwest Territories" To Standing Committee On Legislation, Carried

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Thank you, colleagues.

I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Tu Nedhe, that Tabled Document 4-12(6), Heritage Resources: A Legislative Action Paper, proposing new heritage legislation for the Northwest Territories, be referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation for review.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

---Carried

Item 12, Motions. The honourable Member for Hay River, Mr. Pollard.

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to deal with the motion regarding the Legislative Action Paper, Office of the

Ombudsman, to the Standing Committee on Legislation for review.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with Motion 3-12(6). Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Pollard.

Motion 3-12(6): Tabled Document 3-12(6) "Legislative Action Paper - Office Of The Ombudsman To Standing Committee On Legislation For Review, Carried

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I thank the House. Madam Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Tabled Document 3-12(6): Legislative Action Paper, Office of the Ombudsman, be referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation for review. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

---Carried

Item 12, motions. Item 13, first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Hay River, Mr. Pollard.

ITEM 13: FIRST READING OF BILLS

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I seek consent to deal with first reading of Bill 6, Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Unfortunately, Mr. Pollard, the House does not have a copy of Bill 6. It's not available, therefore, you cannot

proceed with Bill 6. The honourable Member for Hay River, Mr. Pollard.

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Pardon me for the error, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I seek consent to deal with Bill 8, An Act to Amend the Public Utilities Act. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. The honourable Member is seeking consent to proceed with Bill 8. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Pollard.

Bill 8: An Act To Amend The Public Utilities Act

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I thank the House. Madam Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Baffin Central, that Bill 8, An Act to Amend the Public Utilities Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

---Carried

Bill 8 has had first reading. Item 13, first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to seek consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 4, An Act to Amend the Liquor Act.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. The honourable Member is seeking consent to proceed with Bill 4. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Nerysoo.

Bill 4: An Act to Amend the Liquor Act

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker, colleagues. Madam Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Baffin Central, that Bill 4, An Act to Amend the Liquor Act, be read for the first time.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

Page 24

---Carried

Bill 4 has had first reading. Item 13, first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to seek consent from my colleagues to proceed with first reading of Bill 5, Mine Health and Safety Act.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. The honourable Member is seeking consent to proceed with Bill 5. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Nerysoo.

Bill 5: Mine Health And Safety Act

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker, and thank you, colleagues. Madam Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Hay River, that Bill 5, Mine Health and Safety Act, be read for the first time.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

---Carried

Bill 5 has had first reading. Item 13, first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to seek consent from my colleagues to proceed with first reading of Bill 7, An Act to Amend the Arctic College Act.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. The honourable Member is seeking consent to proceed with Bill 7. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Nerysoo.

Bill 7: An Act To Amend The Arctic College Act

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker, and thank you, colleagues. Madam Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Bill 7, An Act to Amend the Arctic College Act, be read for the first time.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

---Carried

Bill 7 has had first reading. Item 13, first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Baffin Central, Ms. Mike.

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like seek consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 2, Aboriginal Custom Adoption Recognition Act.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. The honourable Member is seeking consent to proceed with Bill 2. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Ms. Mike.

Bill 2: Aboriginal Custom Adoption Recognition Act

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, that Bill 2, Aboriginal Custom Adoption Recognition Act, be read for the first time.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

---Carried

Bill 2 has had first reading. Item 13, first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Baffin Central, Ms. Mike.

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like seek unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 3, Guardianship and Trusteeship Act.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. The honourable Member is seeking consent to proceed with Bill 3. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Ms. Mike.

Bill 3: Guardianship And Trusteeship Act

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Hay River, that Bill 3,

Guardianship and Trusteeship Act, be read for the first time.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

---Carried

Bill 3 has had first reading. Item 13, first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Kivallivik, Mr. Arngna'naaq.

**HON. SILAS ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would ask for consent to proceed with Bill 11, An Act to Amend the Hamlets Act.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking consent to proceed with Bill 11. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Arngna'naaq.

Page 25

Bill 11: An Act To Amend The Hamlets Act

**HON. SILAS ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Baffin Central, that Bill 11, An Act to Amend the Hamlets Act, be read for the first time.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

---Carried

Bill 11 has had first reading. Item 13, first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Kivallivik, Mr. Arngna'naaq.

**HON. SILAS ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I seek consent to deal with Bill 9, An Act to Amend the Charter Communities Act.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking consent to proceed with Bill 9. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Arngna'naaq.

Bill 9: An Act To Amend The Charter Communities Act

**HON. SILAS ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker and honourable colleagues. Madam Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Baffin Central, that Bill 9, An Act to Amend the Charter Communities Act, be read for the first time.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

---Carried

Bill 9 has had first reading. Item 13, first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Kivallivik, Mr. Arngna'naaq.

**HON. SILAS ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I seek consent to deal give first reading to Bill 10, An Act to Amend the Cities, Town and Villages Act.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking consent to proceed with Bill 10. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Arngna'naaq.

Bill 10: An Act To Amend The Cities, Towns And Villages Act

**HON. SILAS ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Baffin Central, that Bill 10, An Act to Amend the Cities, Towns and Villages Act be read for the first time.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

---Carried

Bill 10 has had first reading. Item 13, first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Kivallivik, Mr. Arngna'naaq.

**HON. SILAS ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I seek consent to give first reading to Bill 12, An Act to Amend the Commissioner's Land Act.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking consent to proceed with Bill 12. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Arngna'naaq.

Bill 12: An Act To Amend The Commissioner's Land Act

**HON. SILAS ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Baffin Central, that Bill 12, An Act to Amend the Commissioner's Land Act, be read for the first time.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

---Carried

Bill 12 has had first reading. Item 13, first reading of bills. Item 14, second reading of bills. The honourable Member for Hay River, Mr. Pollard.

ITEM 14: SECOND READING OF BILLS

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Madam Speaker, I seek consent to deal with second reading of Bill 8, An Act to Amend the Public Utilities Act.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

Bill 8: An Act To Amend The Public Utilities Act

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Baffin Central, that Bill 8, An Act to Amend the Public Utilities Act, be read for the second time. Madam Speaker, this bill amends the Public Utilities Act by giving the Public Utilities Board the power to recover a portion of its actual operating costs from each utility. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Your motion is in order. To the principle of the bill.

Page 26

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

---Carried

Bill 8 has had second reading. Item 14, second reading of bills. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I seek consent to proceed with the second reading of Bill 4, An Act to Amend the Liquor Act.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

Bill 4: An Act To Amend The Liquor Act

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker and colleagues. Madam Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Baffin Central, that Bill 4, An Act to Amend the Liquor Act, be read for the second time. Madam Speaker, in general, this bill will widen the scope of the local option system for liquor control set out in the Liquor Act. It will permit more effective enforcement of several provisions of the act. The bill will also give the Liquor Licensing Board more control over its proceedings. More specifically, this bill will allow a community in which a brew pub licence, cocktail licence or dining room licence is enforced to hold a plebiscite to determine whether a liquor restriction or prohibition should be established in the community that would not apply to the sale of liquor for consumption in licences premises. This bill will also enable the Minister, at the request of a community, to prohibit, by order, the consumption, possession, purchase, sale or transportation of liquor in a community in which a special occasion is to occur. It will also make the sale or supply of liquor to persons under the age of 19 years, a strict liability offence and permit the Liquor Licensing Board to make orders governing its proceedings including orders for cost.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Your motion is in order. To the principle of the bill.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

---Carried

Bill 4 has had second reading. Item 14, second reading of bills. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I seek consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 5, Mine Health and Safety Act.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking consent. Are there any nays?

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Nay.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

The Speaker has heard one nay. You need two nays to disallow consent. Proceed, Mr. Nerysoo.

Bill 5: Mine Health And Safety Act

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker and colleagues. Madam Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Hay River, that Bill 5, Mine Health and Safety Act, be read for the second time. Madam Speaker, this bill replaces the existing Mining Safety Act with a simpler act that emphasizes the duties and responsibilities of persons engaged in mining, including owners, corporate directors, mine managers, supervisors and workers to ensure occupational health and safety. The bill provides for the establishment of occupational health and safety committees for mines and sets out the responsibility of the committees to conduct work site inspections and to participate in inspections conducted by inspectors. The bill requires mine employees to refuse work that could endanger the health and safety of any person. Mine owners may not discipline or discriminate against employees for actions taken in

compliance with this act. The bill sets out the powers of inspectors to inspect or search a mine and the duties of persons at a mine to cooperate with the inspection or a search. An inspector may order immediate remedial action to correct deficiencies at a mine and require the stoppage of work until the remedial action is taken. A decision of an inspector may be appealed to the chief inspector with a further appeal to the Supreme Court. The bill also provides for the appointment of a chief inspector and inspectors, sets out the penalties for offences under the act and regulations and provides for the enactment of regulations respecting mine occupational health and safety. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

---Carried

Bill 5 has had second reading. Item 14, second reading of bills. The honourable Member for Baffin Central, Ms. Mike.

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to seek unanimous consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 2.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Ms. Mike, you don't require unanimous consent. You require consent to proceed with Bill 2. Ms. Mike.

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Madam Speaker, I seek consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 2.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. The honourable Member is seeking consent to deal with Bill 2. Are there any nays?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Nay.

Page 27

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

The Speaker has heard two nays. Therefore, Bill 2 cannot be dealt with. Item 14, second reading of bills. The honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to seek consent to proceed with Bill 7, An Act to Amend the Arctic College Act.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. The honourable Member is seeking consent to proceed with Bill 7. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed, Mr. Nerysoo.

Bill 7: An Act To Amend The Arctic College Act

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I thank my colleagues for consent. Madam Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Bill 7, An Act to Amend the Arctic College Act, be read for the second time.

Madam Speaker, this bill amends the Arctic College Act to remove references to Arctic College and to allow the creation of more than one college. The amendment also repeals the Science Institute of the Northwest Territories Act and gives the board of a college the power to establish a science advisory council and the power to delegate the functions previously held by the Science Institute of the Northwest Territories.

The bill also removes references to the vice-president and to specific student associations. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. The honourable Member for Iqaluit, Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to briefly speak in support of the principle of this bill. I believe that it was the Standing Committee on Agencies,



Boards and Commissions that first recommended the logic of splitting the Arctic College in order to prepare for Nunavut. The government responded soon thereafter with its recommendation, which I believe was discussed with the reshaping northern government group, that the college should form itself into two parts.

Madam Speaker, I believe that training and preparation of Nunavut residents for jobs associated with the implementation of the land claim and the new Nunavut government is going to be a critical undertaking. I would even go so far as to say that Nunavut and the land claim will succeed as we succeed in training northern residents to take on these new jobs. I believe that, if we are forced to hire southern people to take on these new responsibilities, then much of the reasons for the land claim and the establishment of Nunavut will have been frustrated. So, Madam Speaker, I see this move proposed in this bill as a very helpful step towards focusing on those challenges of meeting the human resource requirements for the establishment of Nunavut and the successful implementation of the land claim. I am confident that we can do it.

I know there is perhaps some hesitation on the part of some Members about the changes that are proposed for the NWT Science Institute. I had the privilege of being a Minister responsible for the Science Institute for some four years and I know that other Members of this House, including the present Minister of Education and the Premier also had that role. I think, Madam Speaker, that we all wanted the Science Institute to succeed in its objects. There were some very capable people who were appointed to the board of the Science Institute and hired as staff for the Science Institute. In these comments, I do not, in any way, wish to take away from the contributions those people have made.

However, Madam Speaker, I think, if we reflect back on the work of the Science Institute over the years, the primary function of the Science Institute, which was to provide advice to this Legislature on matters of science and research and development in the Northwest Territories, actually was very rarely exercised. In my time in this Assembly, since 1979, I can only recall two occasions on which the Legislature actually petitioned the Science Institute to give advice.

One of those matters was the matter of uranium mining in the Northwest Territories. The Science Institute did provide us with some advice, but actually,

it was the Assembly itself, in an epic eight-day session in Hay River, with many witnesses, that actually tackled the issue and determined the pros and cons of uranium mining. I think that we got help from the Science Institute, but I don't think they actually ended up giving us specific advice on that matter.

The other matter that I recall, in which there was a request made to the Science Institute, was the matter of finding more modern technology for tanning moose hides. There may have been other matters, Madam Speaker, but those are the only two that I can recall where the Science Institute was asked to pursue its objects of giving advice to the Legislative Assembly on science matters.

There were annual dinners and meetings with the MLAs and the Science Institute, of which useful exchanges took place over supper, but I feel that that primary function was never actually realized. That is not to say that the Science Institute didn't do a great deal of tremendous good work, but I think we have to be honest with ourselves and recognize that that science advisor function and that reporting relationship and exchange relationship with the Legislative Assembly never was actualized or realized.

There are good things the Science Institute did. We now have an excellent system for licensing, scientific research and for giving feedback to communities and MLAs about the nature of that scientific research. Initiatives like science fairs, support of the science fairs, science camps, promoting northern students involved in archaeology, all have been promoted very effectively by the Science Institute. But, in my view, those are more education-related activities or perhaps activities that are more related to the Department of Renewable Resources. I am not sure that those worthwhile activities, in themselves, any longer justify the Science Institute being a stand alone, quasi-independent body.

So, Madam Speaker, I think it is time, especially in these more difficult financial times, to look at rationalizing the science advisory function within a government department. I think this is the trend that we may learn is being pursued in other jurisdictions. I believe that Arctic College will still have the capacity to attract third-party funding and to provide

independent advice to the government and to the Legislature on research and development matters.

So, Madam Speaker, in principle, I think it's the way to go. I just want to say in closing, Madam Speaker, that as far as the division of the college is concerned, my understanding is that the board of the Arctic College and the administration are planning on a July 1 target date for implementation of those changes. There have been financial arrangements made, offices leased and staff hired, based on that expectation. So, I think, if I may suggest, that it is urgent that the legislation be carefully considered by this House, but hopefully soon adopted by this Legislature, so the very challenging job of training our human resource requirements in Nunavut, in particular -- and I know there are corresponding needs in the west associated with land claims, and the constitutional and political evolution that will take place there -- may get up and running as soon as possible.

Madam Speaker, I have never spoken at such length...

---Laughter

...to the principle of a bill in my short time in this Legislature. I'm quite sure this is the longest speech I've ever made...

---Laughter

...on the principle of a bill. I thank the honourable Members for their indulgence in permitting this unusual behaviour on my part. Thank you.

---Laughter

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. To the principle of the bill. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I will be as brief as Mr. Patterson, Madam Speaker, in addressing this issue of the principle of this bill. What has bothered me already today, Madam Speaker, is that it is the first day of a new session and it is also the last day of a long work-load that has gone on since January. It bothered me a little bit while I listened to how quickly we agreed to the principle of bills we've never even seen before today.

This one is different because we're familiar with it, but already we've agreed to the second reading of bills we're not even familiar with. I suspect it is because we are tired and, on a day like today, we're probably not giving 100 per cent to everything we're doing. I know the government is going to get its way...

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Mr. Lewis, may I remind you to speak to the principle of the bill. Thank you.

**MR. LEWIS:**

The principle is that the government is going to get its way on this issue, which is the principle of this bill I'm going to question. The politics behind this is one of our own committees of this Assembly recommended that we have two colleges, in recognition of the fact that over the next five or six years there's going to have to be an awful lot of training done, and maybe the needs of the east and the west are going to be somewhat different, and there should be two sets of administration to guide them in the appropriate directions.

However, as a policy issue, the government also decided to do something else, which has nothing to do with this college system at all. It was do with a decision to decentralize the Science Institute. Our committees had never looked at that. It was never an issue of debate. But, now we're being put in a very awkward position of having to support a bill which supports the idea of dividing the college and at the same time repeals another bill which created the Science Institute in the first place, which was designed to serve another purpose.

That was, to provide overall advice to our Legislature, especially in an age of increasing political decisions, to have something with a degree of objectivity. I went there many times, as a legislator, to find out stuff and what is going on, so I didn't just read the political newspapers, but found out what scientists were saying about different things.

I agree with Mr. Patterson that we have probably not made as much use of the Science Institute as we could have over the years, but there have been landmark cases where controversies have been very well recognized and appreciated by Members who really wanted to know the truth. The concern that I have with the principle of this bill is that we're putting ourselves in the very difficult spot of having to agree with one part of it, which has to do with dividing the

system into two colleges -- which we all seem to be onside about and we all agree with -- while I am put in the difficult position of having to oppose something that matters so much, especially to the people of Nunavut.

The price I pay is that we lose the independent, scientific objectivity of an institute that ten years ago was considered to be absolutely essential as our political system evolved and developed and we needed to have at least some place where we could get information that was unsullied by political interference. That will now be lost.

All we will have is an advisory council. They've already met, just a couple of weeks ago, and already, the feeling is, what's the point? The science bit is going to be part of another department and it is going to be directly under a Minister who's responsible for the education system and the focus has completely changed. It is not the same as it was before.

I wanted to have this on the record today, Madam Speaker, as an issue of principle, because the principle has been lost. The principle is no longer creating two colleges. The principle has been confused somewhat because now, an added objective is to get rid of something, to back up a policy decision this government made and didn't know how to go through with. They worked on different scenarios and now they've found a clever way of doing it, which is to attach it to another bill, to make it very difficult for someone like me to vote against it. However, I shall be voting against it, now that people know why. Thank you.

---Applause

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. To the principle of the bill.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

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

Page 29

---Carried

Bill 7 has had second reading. Item 14, second reading of bills. Bills 4, 5, 7 and 8 have all had second reading and, accordingly, the bills will now be referred to committee. Thank you. Item 15, Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

ITEM 15: ORDERS OF THE DAY

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

Madam Speaker, there will be a meeting of the Western Caucus immediately after adjournment this afternoon, followed by a meeting of the Reshaping Northern Government Working Group. Meetings for tomorrow morning at 9:30 of the Chairs' Liaison Committee, at 10:30 of the Ordinary Members' Caucus, at 12:00 noon of the Nunavut Caucus. Orders of the day for Thursday, April 7, 1994.

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
  - Bill 2, Aboriginal Custom Adoption Recognition Act
  - Bill 3, Guardianship and Trusteeship Act

- Bill 9, An Act to Amend the Charter  
Communities Act

- Bill 10, An Act to Amend the Cities, Towns  
and Villages

Act

- Bill 11, An Act to Amend the Hamlets Act

- Bill 12, An Act to Amend the  
Commissioner's Land Act

18. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of  
Bills and Other Matters

- Tabled Document 2-12(6), New Social  
Housing Rent

Scale

19. Report of Committee of the Whole

20. Third Reading of Bills

21. Orders of the Day

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

Thank you. This House stands adjourned until  
Thursday, April 7, 1994, at 1:30 pm.

**--ADJOURNMENT**