



**NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**7th Session**

**Day 4**

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

**HANSARD**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15,  
1995**

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**Speaker: The Hon. Samuel Gargon**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mr. Allooloo, Mr. Antoine, Mr. Ballantyne, Hon. Nellie Cournoyea, Mr. Dent, Hon. Samuel Gargan, Hon. Stephen Kakfwi, Mr. Koe, Mr. Lewis, Mrs. Marie-Jewell, Ms. Mike, Hon. Don Morin, Hon. Richard Nerysoo, Hon. Kelvin Ng, Mr. Ningark, Mr. Patterson, Hon. John Pollard, Mr. Pudlat, Hon. John Todd, Mr. Whitford, Mr. Zoe

**ITEM 1: PRAYER**

---Prayer

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

Members of the Legislative Assembly, I am required to convey the following communication that I received on December 15, 1994 from Madam Speaker Marie-Jewell:

"I would like to inform you and, through you, all Members of the Legislative Assembly of my decision to tender my resignation as Speaker, effective at 5:00 pm today. I have already informed the Management and Services Board of my decision in a meeting held today over the lunch hour.

"As you are aware, an issue of significant importance has arisen affecting my constituency. This issue has placed me in a position where I have been compelled to challenge the fairness of a Cabinet decision and the integrity of a Cabinet Minister in order to fully represent the interests of my constituents and, I suggest, the interests of all citizens of the Northwest Territories.

"I have a great deal of respect for the role of the Speaker, in particular, the strongly-held convention that the Speaker must not only be neutral and impartial, but must be seen to be neutral and impartial. Hence, out of respect for the institution of the Speaker and as a result of my desire to fully represent my constituents, I hereby tender my resignation.

"I would like to say that it has been an honour and a privilege to serve as Speaker. I look forward to continuing to serve the House, even if in a different role." Signed, Jeannie Marie-Jewell, MLA, Speaker.

Accordingly, it is my duty to conduct an election for the Speaker. I would call for a motion to elect a Speaker. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre.

Motion 6-12(7): Election of Speaker, Carried

**MR. LEWIS:**

I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Mr. Gargan, of the electoral district of Deh Cho, take the chair of this House as Speaker.

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

Are there any further motions? Being no further motions, all those in favour of the motion, please indicate. All those opposed? The motion is carried unanimously.

---Carried

---Applause

I, therefore, declare that the honourable Member for Deh Cho, Mr. Gargan, has been elected Speaker of the House. I would request the mover and seconder of the motion to escort the Speaker to the chair.

---Applause

Speaker's Opening Comments

**SPEAKER (Hon. Samuel Gargan):**

Honourable Members, I beg to return my humble acknowledgements to the House for the great honour you have been pleased to confer on me by choosing me to be your Speaker.

If these words sound familiar, they have been said not only here in this House by my predecessors, but also for the last 100 years or so in Canada and for over 700 years in the British House of Commons and many other parliamentary democracies. Perhaps this is an appropriate way for every Speaker to begin because, in my experience, if you start to tinker and tamper with the traditional way of doing things, the lesson you learn is that no matter how you try to modify or improve tradition, it has certain integral values which perhaps you did not at first fully appreciate. I tried to put it into my own words, but it did not come out as well, no matter how I tried to change it. So, perhaps the lesson is that some traditions are more than just simple convention and have other, more important, values attached to them.

Traditions are important in any culture, and nowhere is this truer than in the Northwest Territories. I will do my best to uphold the many procedural and cultural traditions that have been established throughout the years and be respectful of the traditions that all Members bring with them when they are elected to serve the people of the Northwest Territories.

Sometimes the work we do here appears to be a battle for individuals' advantage, but all of us realize, I trust, that what is done here is extremely important work on behalf of all the people of the Northwest Territories; not only for the individual rights but, in addition, as an example to all that change must be brought about through the process of law and order in a proper, democratic way. Thus, every meeting we hold here should be an example to our people.

With the honour you have bestowed upon me by electing me as your Speaker, of course, goes an obligation to do the job to the best of my ability. It goes without saying that I will give it my best effort at all times. I would like to assure all Members that I place the fulfilment of this obligation ahead of every other considerations. Whether it be a question of

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individual or collective politics, personal considerations, friendships or otherwise, this obligation at all times comes first, and I will fulfil this role the best I can. I will not always make everybody happy, however, if I can carry out this role to the best of my ability without losing the respect and the goodwill that you have extended to me at the start, I will feel that I have done a good job.

On a personal note, since this may be the last time I will get a chance to make a personal comment, I would like to thank my wife, Alphonsine, for her understanding and patience as, yet again, I take on a new challenge. I know that her support and that of my children, which I cannot do without, will make the months ahead bearable and pleasurable.

Once again, I respectfully thank you for the honour of being named your Speaker, and now I would suggest we get on with the business before us today. Mahsi cho.

---Applause

Item 2, Ministers' statements. Point of privilege, Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Point Of Privilege

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Congratulations, Mr. Speaker. I wish you well in your new responsibility, but that's not my point of privilege.

Mr. Speaker, I want, today, to express a point of privilege as a Member of this House. Yesterday, when I arrived in Yellowknife at the airport, I was greeted by a sheriff who presented me with a statement of claim filed by Don Morin.

Mr Speaker, the effect of this matter is twofold. First, I feel, as an elected Member, the filing of a lawsuit against me results in my inability to discuss this matter, to express it in plain language. The bottom line is the effect may be to keep me quiet as a result of this sub judice convention.

Mr. Speaker, I fully recognize the rules of this House do not allow for Members to speak with regard to issues which are before the courts, particularly when you review rule 409 section 9 of Beauchesne's which states: "A question cannot deal with a matter that is before a court."

Further, Mr. Speaker, in Beauchesne's, the sub judice convention section 505 states, and I quote:

"Members are expected to refrain from discussing matters that are before the courts or tribunals which are courts of record. The purpose of this sub judice convention is to protect the parties in a case awaiting or undergoing trial and persons who stand to be affected by the outcome of a judicial inquiry. It is a voluntary restraint imposed by the House upon itself in the interest of justice and fair play."

However, section 506, the first part, states: "The sub judice convention has been applied consistently in criminal cases." The second part states: "The precedents in criminal cases are consistent in preventing reference to court cases before a judgment is rendered; however, the convention ceases to apply after the judgment is given ...

Nevertheless, the convention is applied again when an appeal is launched."

More importantly, Mr. Speaker, section 507(1) states: "No settled practice has been developed in relation to civil cases, as the convention has been applied in some cases but not in others." The second part of section 507 indicates, and I quote, "In civil cases the convention does not apply until the matter has reached the trial stage."

Mr. Speaker, according to section 507(2), my case is a civil case and has not, as of yet, reached the trial stage as my notice of claim has only been served on February 14, 1995.

Mr. Speaker, further, the sub judge convention in Beauchesne's section 510 states, and I quote: "The Speaker has pointed out 'that the House has never allowed the sub judge convention to stand in the way of its consideration of a matter vital to the public interest or to the effective operation of the House.'"

The second part of my point of privilege, section 511 states: "The freedom of speech accorded to Members of Parliament is a fundamental right without which they would be hampered in the performance of their duties. The Speaker should interfere with that freedom of speech only in exceptional cases where it is clear that to do otherwise could be harmful to specific individuals."

Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt each elected Member of this Assembly, and any other elected Members of any Assembly of the land, enjoy a fundamental privilege of freedom of speech. Freedom of speech is a cornerstone to our democratic process which we all enjoy as Canadians.

Mr. Speaker, having said that, more importantly my fundamental freedom of speech as an MLA has been threatened and it has been hindered. My point of privilege as an elected Member, I feel, is my fundamental freedom of speech to speak out on behalf of the interests of my constituents which has been impeded upon as a result of the lawsuit filed by Mr. Morin. The possible effect of this lawsuit is that I could be constrained from speaking vigorously as I have in the past on behalf of my constituents of Thebacha on other issues lest I again be faced with another lawsuit.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully request you rule on my point of privilege. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. I have been advised I have two options here to either have a debate on it; or else take your point of privilege under advisement. You do have a number of sections in your point of privilege that would have to be looked at, and I will take that under advisement. Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Item 2, Ministers' statements. Madam Premier.

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ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement 12-12(7): Minister Absent From The House

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise the Members that the Honourable Silas Arngna'naaq will be absent from the House today and tomorrow to attend a Keewatin education conference in Arviat. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Minister's Statement 13-12(7): Budget Address

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon and congratulations. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February 20, 1995, I will deliver the budget address. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Mr. Lewis.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Parliamentary Democracy

**MR. LEWIS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let me be the first, under Members' statements, to congratulate you on your election by your colleagues -- which is very important -- to the very significant job of Speaker of our Legislative Assembly.

You still have to convince many northerners, Mr. Speaker, that parliamentary democracy, which is what we practice here, is one of the great inventions of mankind. It provides a place where people's voices can be heard in very many different ways. If you just look at our order paper, you can see how many ways in which voices can be heard. It seems to me strange that so many northerners have failed to see what an incredible invention parliamentary democracy really was, when we look at its long history and how it has

developed. You've been a Member of this Legislative Assembly for 11 years, Mr. Speaker, and I believe you fully understand and appreciate what an incredible invention it really is. Because, without straying too far from the basic principles of democracy, it remains a very flexible system which can be accommodated to any circumstance in any country in any part of the world.

If you look at the members of those groups that practice parliamentary democracy, you realize how many countries really are in the group of countries which appreciate this wonderful invention. We seem to take in so many inventions, yet fight so much about this one. I know you will uphold all the good traditions of the parliamentary system, Mr. Speaker. I am sure we will continue to add several wrinkles of our own as we accommodate it to our special needs.

There is still much work to be done to convince northerners that there is little wrong with the system, Mr. Speaker. In the long run, what will matter is the quality of our representatives and the use to which those representatives put this system to make it work. We put our trust in you, Mr. Speaker, and I know it is very well placed. You are known as a straightforward, just man and you will do everything you can to uphold those traditions and do everything you can for the advancement of all our peoples. Thank you.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Member's Statement On Election To Cabinet

**MR. NG:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Firstly, I would like to formally congratulate you, as well, on your election as Speaker of this House. I'm sure you'll do an excellent job.

I would like to also thank my honourable colleague from Natilikmiot, Mr. Ningark, for nominating me for the position of Cabinet Member and thank all other Members of this House who participated in the process of selecting the Cabinet Member. It is a very important process that we go through. I also want to thank the mayor of Cambridge Bay, Mr. Larry Aknavigak; and, of Coppermine, Mr. Donald Havioyak; members of the Kitikmeot Regional Council; Mr. James Eetoolook, the first vice-president

of NTI; my constituents; and, last but not least, my family members who supported me morally in putting forward my name to stand for a Member of Cabinet.

I would also like to thank Mr. Lewis for putting forward his name as a candidate for Speaker, and Mr. Pudluk and Mr. Patterson for putting forward their names for Cabinet Members. It gave us, as I said previously, the freedom to choose. Finally, I would like to thank everybody for the trust that they have placed in me in electing me as a Cabinet Member. I commit to working hard in trying to represent the interests of all residents of the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Member's Statement On Success Of The First CDSC Conference

**MR. KOE:**

Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. I, too, wish to congratulate you in taking the Speaker's chair. Mr. Speaker, from January 18th to 22nd of this year, here in Yellowknife, a historic event in the development of northern government took place. That, of course, was the first constitutional conference for the western Northwest Territories, sponsored by the Constitutional Development Steering Committee.

This conference brought together 150 participants from the 34 communities in the western NWT to consider principles and options for a Constitution, and structure of government for the new western territory following division in 1999; and, to make recommendations on how the western constitutional process should continue. To say that the conference was a success understates the case. It is fair to say that, coming into the conference, there was scepticism in several quarters about the CDSC process, generally, and about the likely success of the conference, in particular. There were fears that it would not be possible to reach consensus, even on broad principles, between aboriginal and

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non-aboriginal people; and, among the aboriginal peoples in the western Arctic, on such fundamental issues as the need for a central government in the new western territory and the relationship between

the development of public government and aboriginal self-government negotiations.

Against that backdrop, the first constitutional conference was, in fact, a resounding success. At the closing plenary session on Sunday morning, January 22nd, many speakers commented on the tremendous sense of goodwill and unity of purpose which they experienced throughout the conference and the willingness of the participants to listen, to share and to continue working together to build structures of government which truly reflect and accommodate all the peoples in our multi-faceted society in the west. The best hopes and expectations for the possible outcomes of the conference were exceeded.

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

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

**MR. KOE:**

Mahsi, my colleagues. On the fundamental question of aboriginal self-government, the strong consensus is that this is not a matter to be negotiated or realized through the CDSC process but, rather, as a separate, parallel process which must proceed concurrently with the CDSC process for the development of public government structures. The conference delivered a strong message for the federal government: that progress is needed on aboriginal self-government negotiations so that these two processes can proceed together. This involves the recognition that there will be aboriginal self-governing institutions, and that these must be recognized and accommodated in a new constitution and structure of government for the west.

The conference, thus, also reached a consensus that four levels of government are necessary: community, aboriginal, regional and central. The community must be the basis for any new structure of government but there is a recognized need for a central government, which is community-driven. With consensus reached on these broad, fundamental principles, the conference also recognized that there is now much work to be done on details and options for a new western constitution and structure of government. In particular, research is needed on options and costs of community and regionally-based government

structures within a central government and more public involvement is required regarding constitutional options, particularly at the community level. A second constitutional conference should be held within the year to discuss these options and details and to give direction for the drafting of a final proposal for ratification by public plebiscite.

The first constitutional conference thus endorsed the CDSC process and gave clear direction for the continuation of that process. As was stated at the closing of the conference, we took several major steps together toward a consensus on developing a new form of government that we all want, but we are not at the end. We are at the crest of a new horizon and can now see our goals and our destination a little more clearly. The challenge now for the CDSC and for the people of the western Northwest Territories is to build on the foundation laid at this first conference, and to maintain the momentum which was developed.

The Constitutional Development Steering Committee will meet this Friday to consider a workplan and budget for 1995-96 to implement the recommendations from the conference. We look forward to the continued support of this Assembly, the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada as we continue this exciting and historic process in the spirit of unity and goodwill demonstrated by the people of the west through the first constitutional conference. Mahsi cho. Qujannamiik.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Member's Statement On The Canadian Flag

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join my colleagues in extending my congratulations to you on your election, and I look forward to an interesting and productive session under your tutelage.

Mr. Speaker, Members will notice a small flag lapel pin on their desks. Over the past few days, I've been reflecting on a piece of Canadian history that won my attention some 30 years ago. On February 15th -- that's today -- 1965, our current, distinctive flag replaced the old Union Jack which was unofficial and

was borrowed from Britain. Since our flag was commissioned, its symbolic red maple leaf has represented this proud country here in Canada and most of the nations of the world. I, like a lot of Canadians, feel a real sense of pride when we see our flag, and the majority of the world's nations recognize and respect the value that it has come to represent.

Mr. Speaker, the coming into being of the flag was not an easy task, and it came in, like many very valuable things, under some pretty difficult conditions. The flag was recommended to the House of Commons by a special committee on the Canadian flag. This 15-Member committee held over 40 meetings; it heard many, many witnesses in camera and it examined some 2,000 new designs in addition to designs that had previously been submitted before the making of the final recommendations.

Mr. Speaker, at the time, I was sort of a budding artist and I had even submitted one. I never knew whatever happened to it, but it didn't look quite like this. It was a red, white and blue motif and it had a buffalo head on it, if I remember, and a star, but it never did go any further than that.

Mr. Speaker, Canadians had debated the merit of their own flag for more than 18 years under three different Prime Ministers with very strong opinions both for and against. The then-Prime Minister, Lester B. Pearson, insisted that the new flag should denote allegiance to Canada rather than have a colonial association, and that stirred a lot of bad feelings.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude.

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**MR. SPEAKER:**

The Member for Yellowknife South is requesting unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Continue, Mr. Whitford.

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, colleagues. There was a raging debate over the proposed flag design rather than the idea of adopting a flag. Some 250 speeches were given in the House of Commons on this topic, and after the suggestion of closure, a vote was taken on December 15, 1964 at 2:00 am in the morning to adopt the current design. It was accepted by a vote of 163 to 78 opposed, and it was

proclaimed into force on February 15, 1965. That was 30 years ago today, Mr. Speaker.

So when you see the Canadian flag -- more than just flapping today because of the breeze -- on February 15th, I would ask you to take a minute to reflect on what our symbol means to you and maybe we can quietly wish it happy birthday.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Member's Statement On Crime In Our Communities

**MR. BALLANTYNE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, would like to congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, on your election, and also to congratulate Mr. Ng on his election as Minister.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I want to talk about respect; about respect for people and about respect for property. That respect is being eroded in every community in the Northwest Territories. It was not long ago that we didn't have to lock our doors in Yellowknife, but that day is long gone. I don't think it's constructive to overstate the problem, and I really think that the problem still is manageable. But I think the time has come for all of us to take the problem very seriously.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Hear, hear.

**MR. BALLANTYNE:**

We have a serious drug and alcohol problem among our youth in Yellowknife and throughout the territories. It appears that we have a gang that controls the drug trade here in Yellowknife. We have an unacceptable level of break and enters in Yellowknife, and an unacceptable level of physical and sexual assaults. I think we all agree this must stop.

Our government and our Minister of Justice have provided some leadership in this area with our stand on zero tolerance to violence, which I think was an important first step. The police here in Yellowknife are doing a tremendous job, but they are undermanned; and the Giant strike for the last year

bled off many police person years so there weren't the resources here on the streets in Yellowknife to deal with crime.

I want to thank the Minister. The Minister has publicly promised that in his budget we'll have some relief here in Yellowknife. But there's more to the solution than just more police. There has to be a community-based solution. I think the community -- in cooperation between the city and the territorial government -- has to look at improving the Crime Stoppers approach; have a look at neighbourhood watch. I've brought the possibility forward to the Minister of some program where the municipalities and the territorial government can jointly provide some clerical support for the police, because it's a lot cheaper to provide clerical support than to have policemen who cost probably \$150,000 a year doing their own clerical work.

I think the time has come where the community needs a logical, coordinated approach.

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

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The Member for Yellowknife North is requesting unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Continue.

**MR. BALLANTYNE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said, the city needs more police on the streets. We need to look at storefront operations in schools where the police are interacting directly with youth. We need, I think, an increased emphasis on our youth justice committees. The courts needs the proper balance between deterrence and rehabilitation. And I think we have to be very clear that some of the offenders really need some strict interpretation of the law. They have to be punished, and I think we have to look for new and more imaginative programs to rehabilitate them.

I think parents have a responsibility for the behaviour of their children. Too many parents are letting their kids run wild, are not taking any responsibility for their kids, expecting the police and the government to provide all the answers. I think any parent in this city has a very important responsibility to make sure their kids behave in an appropriate way. I think citizens have a responsibility to support the police. You can't always expect the police to do everything for you.

People see suspicious things going on, people are ignoring them, people are not taking enough pride in their community.

I think if the police are to deal with this problem, they need the support of everybody in the community. I think it's all of our responsibility to take back control of our cities and to send a message loud and clear that we will not allow our city to be held ransom by attacks on people or on property. We will stamp out any groups that traffic in drugs. The present situation can be reversed if we work together. There is no way that we can surrender our city to punks, whether they operate alone or in a gang. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Dent.

Member's Statement On Northern Preference

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, would like to congratulate you on your election as Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to talk about northern preference, or rather the lack of northern preference in a recent contract award. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, I received a call from a constituent who is the owner of a drywall and painting company here in Yellowknife. He had bid on the drywall and

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paint contract for the Thebacha College building, presently under construction in Fort Smith. He told me that he had been advised that the contract would be awarded to an Edmonton company, even though his company's bid should have been, with BIP adjustments, considered the lowest.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Shame, shame.

**MR. DENT:**

I called the deputy minister of Public Works and Services, Mr. Bob Doherty, to find out just what was happening with the award of this contract. I was advised by him that the Edmonton company's bid was



\$359,195, while the Yellowknife firm had bid \$361,743. Pointing out that this \$2,500 difference would be more than off-set by the BIP, I asked why the northern firm was not being awarded the contract. Mr. Doherty advised that since the northern company had not included bonding in their price, their bid was considered non-responsive.

Mr. Speaker, I was astounded to find that while the requirement for providing performance bonds had been removed from any Fort Smith contractor who bid on portions of this job, a northern firm from any other community would not be given the same advantage. So, rather than have the work go to a northern company when there was no Fort Smith bidder, the contract will be awarded to an Edmonton firm.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Shame, shame.

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Speaker, I have a really hard time understanding how this government can possibly say they support the development of northern business when for \$2,500 on a \$360,000 contract, they would send the business south. Is Yellowknife no longer considered part of the north? Has this government decided if a Fort Smith contractor doesn't bid on the job, it is better to hire an Alberta firm than a firm from Hay River, Yellowknife or some other northern community? If bonding is not required for Fort Smith companies on this project, why is it required for firms from other northern communities?

Mr. Speaker, I should point out that the northern company in question is not new or inexperienced. They have been working in the Northwest Territories for over 10 years and are currently working on a project for Clark Builders valued at over \$250,000. I do not believe their ability to complete this contract is questioned.

By the way, the northern company's bid...Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member for Yellowknife Frame Lake is seeking unanimous consent. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, honourable Members. Mr. Speaker, the northern company's bid was also priced using materials supplied by another northern firm. So there was an opportunity here to keep all of the money in the north. Mr. Speaker, I think this is a shocking situation. I have written the Minister of Public Works and Services demanding that he look at this incident and take steps to ensure a similar situation does not again. If this government really does support northern business; if this government continues to insist that the business incentive policy is an important economic initiative, then it is inexcusable to give contracts to southern firms rather than northern ones when the difference in price is less than one per cent. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Dent. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Antoine.

Member's Statement On Lawsuit Filed Against Tagaah Ltd.

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. (Translation) I congratulate you on being our Speaker. You have been an ordinary Member for quite a long time and you know what the Legislative Assembly is all about. I know you will make a good Speaker. (Translation ends)

Jeannie Marie-Jewell was a good Speaker for us during her term. She did a very excellent job. I would like to thank her. Mahsi.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to address an issue that has been publicized lately; namely, the fact that the Government of the Northwest Territories, through Economic Development and Tourism, has filed a lawsuit against Tagaah Ltd., a company owned and controlled by myself and my wife; and, against us personally as guarantors of a loan guaranteed by Economic Development and Tourism. We all know MLAs who own businesses during their term.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to make it very clear to this House and to all Members that my business interest, including the fact that I have a loan with Economic Development and Tourism, has always been disclosed in my annual conflict of interest filings.

Further, as I discussed in the press release yesterday, we have been attempting to sell the business to discharge this loan for a considerable period of time. However, this has been delayed due to difficulties relating to the land and placement of the gas station. Once this sale is completed, this situation will be cleared up, hopefully without any further problems.

Mr. Speaker, for the record, I would like to assure Members that I will be refraining from discussing matters pertaining to the Department of Economic Development and Tourism in their role as a lender; I repeat, as a lender.

Additionally, I will be refraining from discussing matters dealing with the Northwest Territories Business Credit Corporation until such time as the lawsuit has been settled. This restraint applies to the House as well as to matters being discussed in the Standing Committee on Finance. This will be very unfortunate, Mr. Speaker, because my constituents are very interested in economic development with oil and gas exploration, mining possibilities, forestry development, tourism and a lot of small business development. I would like to apologize to my constituents for this unfortunate predicament, but this situation is being cleared up at the present time, and hopefully soon I will be participating fully in this House to discuss these issues. Mahsi.

---Applause

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**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Antoine. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Zoe.

Member's Statement On Mandate Of Self-Government Negotiations

**MR. ZOE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let me also congratulate you on your election to the Speaker's chair. I know that you will do an excellent job. Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to briefly express a concern that the Dogrib Treaty 11 Council has brought to my attention. They, along with other aboriginal organizations in the western Arctic, have been invited by the Ministry of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs to attend a briefing -- I believe it is tomorrow -- concerning a draft protocol and mandate for negotiation and implementation of self-government agreements in the

north. It is my understanding that this draft protocol mandate has received Cabinet approval.

Mr. Speaker, while I have not had an opportunity to examine the mandate and protocol, it is my understanding that it will outline the role of the Minister of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs in self-government negotiations between the federal Crown and aboriginal organizations in the western Arctic.

Mr. Speaker, the point I want to make is that it is inappropriate for our government to develop a mandate and protocol, at this point in the game, before we even know what the new federal policy will be on negotiating self-government agreements. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Zoe. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Pudlat.

Member's Statement On Apology To Constituents

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to congratulate you on becoming our Speaker. I am sure you will do a good job. I would also like to thank the past Speaker for doing a great job.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to apologize to my constituents, who I was unable to go to Cape Dorset and Sanikiluaq to visit. I was unable to reach those communities before I got here and I am sorry for that. With this last term in 1995, I thought it might be important for me to go to those communities. So I am truly sorry for not reaching the communities before this session started.

It is not to say that I am doing a bad job. I try my best to do what is expected of me. I always tell them that if they have any concerns, there is a 1-800 number to reach me at. They do know how to reach me. I have informed them that I am truly open for any concerns. With this being the last term, I am truly sorry for not making it into those communities before I came here. This is the reason I wanted to stand up to make my Member's statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Pudlat. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Nerysoo.

## Member's Statement On Gwich'in Youth Conference

### **HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like all other Members, I wish to extend my congratulations to you. I know that you will do a commendable job in assuming the responsibility.

Mr. Speaker, I wanted to rise today to make the Members here aware of a conference that is happening in Fort McPherson. It is a Gwich'in youth conference that has been organized by the Gwich'in youth under the guidance of a young lady by the name of Anita Koe. It is a conference that has received the support of the Gwich'in leadership. The whole conference is to deal with discussions on matters such as drugs and alcohol; education; spiritual and emotional health; and, the Gwich'in language and culture. Included in the discussion, Mr. Speaker, are a number of matters that need to be answered by the Gwich'in leadership. The youth have asked particularly the Gwich'in leadership to indicate to them what they are doing; in other words, to be accountable to the youth. And to also be open to the idea of recommendations and advice that the youth can give to the leadership, so that anything that they do in the future will consider the young as part of the decisions that are being made on a regular basis.

Mr. Speaker, this House, on many occasions, has risen and many Members have risen to speak on the importance of youth and the importance that this government and any other leadership must...In terms of their ability to respond to the needs of our youth. I think the conference is timely in that in our most recent constitutional discussion, we invited young people who indicated that they feel that there is a voice for them, a voice needed in constitutional evolution in the north and I think that it is important that we consider this.

I wanted, Mr. Speaker, to pay particular tribute to the Gwich'in leadership and all of the youths of our communities; more specifically I wanted to recognize Willard Hagen and Robert Alexie Jr. for their continued support and contribution to the conference. I also wanted to recognize a counsellor from the Tetlit Zheh Gwich'in Council in Fort McPherson, a young man by the name of William Koe who has spent a lot of time helping Anita try to organize the conference. But, Mr. Speaker, I know my colleague from Inuvik, Fred Koe, has also provided his support and I wanted to thank him for that. I wanted also to say that I hope that my colleagues will somehow recognize our need

-- at least my need and probably the Premier's need...Mr. Speaker, if I could seek unanimous consent to conclude.

### **MR. SPEAKER:**

The Member for Mackenzie Delta is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Continue, Mr. Nerysoo.

### **HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I was saying, I would hope that my colleagues will indulge maybe in considering the idea -- later on this week -- possibly of my absence from the Assembly so that I might attend this conference. It is not only in my constituency, but it is a conference that is dealing with a number of issues for which I am responsible, but I will only ask my colleagues. Mr. Speaker, one thing that attracted my attention is that the conference is entitled "Dedicated to the Youth of Today and to the Memory of the Youth who have Gone Before". I think that is a good title, particularly since many people have risen in this House about the tragedy of many young

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people who have left us through difficult circumstances. And I do hope that we pay tribute to young that have gone but, even more important, that we lay the groundwork for a better life for young people in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

### **MR. SPEAKER:**

Okay, Mr. Nerysoo. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Patterson.

Member's Statement On Nunavut Leaders' Summit

### **MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on January 19 and 20, 1995, Nunavut leaders, including Nunavut MLAs, and representatives of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, as well as regional Inuit associations and education leaders, met for two days in Gjoa Haven to discuss education issues in Nunavut. Representatives of key education organizations in Nunavut also attended, including: Department of Education, Culture and Employment; Nunavut Arctic College; Nunavut Implementation Commission; Nunavut divisional boards of education; the GNWT Division Review Committee; and, the DIAND Nunavut

Secretariat. The meeting focused on the need to achieve vital cooperation and communication in planning and delivering education and training in Nunavut and for Nunavut. The meeting achieved agreement on a number of important issues.

I will table the approved resolutions later today. Critical decisions included agreement on an ongoing process for working more closely together. A key recommendation was that the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment should be requested immediately to appoint an assistant deputy minister for Nunavut to provide a focal point for the Nunavut education leaders and their organizations to work together with the department; that a working group of Nunavut education leaders be established to be chaired by the assistant deputy minister for Nunavut; and, further, that the Minister sponsor a further meeting of Nunavut education leaders in Nunavut in April 1995.

Mr. Speaker, I will be asking the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment about his response to these very important recommendations, and other recommendations of Nunavut education leaders on reforms to student financial assistance; gaps in existing programs and services in Nunavut -- particularly including trades and nursing training, for example -- academic programs for high school students including maintaining student residences; and, measures to strengthen Inuit language and culture, later today and throughout this session. I look forward to working with you, Mr. Speaker, and congratulate you on your appointment. Qujannamiik.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Member's Statement On GNWT's Decentralization Strategy

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, my congratulations. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 16, 1992, our Premier announced in this House her Cabinet's new directions. During the Premier's speech, she indicated the government's decentralization plan. Mr. Speaker, seven areas were to be addressed in the decentralization plan, which were to begin April 1, 1993 and end in April 1994.

The first was to decentralize airports and transportation programs to be moved to Fort Simpson, Norman Wells and Baker Lake.

The second was to take advantage of existing infrastructure and support services, the head office and administration of Arctic College would be moved to Iqaluit and Fort Smith.

The third was in recognition of a distinct...For the supply roads for products delivered by the POL division, its headquarters operation would be placed in Rankin Inlet and Fort Simpson.

The fourth was given the availability of the necessary communications and processing facilities and available infrastructure, the health insurance section which will primarily process health billings will be located to Inuvik and Rankin Inlet.

The fifth was a Science Institute headquarters would be moved to its laboratory and research facility in Inuvik, Igloolik and/or Iqaluit.

The sixth was recognizing the predominance of transportation and utility companies in Hay River, the Highway Transport Board and Public Utilities Board will be moved there.

The seventh was in order to capture the economic benefits of government spending, Cabinet is prepared to support the location of an aircraft maintenance facility in Fort Smith for its fleet of water bombers and to develop a training component in conjunction with Arctic College.

Mr. Speaker, the Premier herself stated the decentralization would take place starting April 1, 1993 and end April 1994. Mr. Speaker, to my knowledge, practically all of the decentralization has been completed and I commend the government. Except for the last one which is to support the location of an aircraft maintenance facility in Fort Smith. My constituents are waiting patiently for some movement of construction of this facility.

I want the public to know that I resigned as Speaker because of recognizing that the creation of an aircraft maintenance facility, which Cabinet Support, was being placed on the back burner of the government's agenda. I am obligated, as an elected Member, to ensure the commitment of this government that has been made is fulfilled, and I honestly believe that the focus has shifted from what was told to this House on June 16, 1992.

I must stress the importance of my...

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mrs. Marie-Jewell, your time is up.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Speaker, I ask for unanimous consent to continue my Member's statement. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, honourable Members. Mr. Speaker, as I stated, I must stress the importance of my purpose as an elected Member to ensure that the issues of my constituents are addressed in this House, taking into account, of course, that they

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are addressed in the most appropriate manner which is best for all residents of the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Members for their support while I was Speaker. I feel I have made every effort to serve this House to ensure that the dignity of the House was upheld. I have confidence that you will do the same. Thank you.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Item 3, Members' statements. As there are no further Members' statements, I would like to recognize the new Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, Helen Maksagak, who is in the gallery.

---Applause

Item 4, returns to oral questions. Mr. Todd.

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

Further Return to Question 7-12(7): PUB Hearings On Power Rates

**HON. JOHN TODD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My congratulations on your election. I have several returns to oral questions. One was asked by Mr. Antoine on November 14th with respect to public utilities hearings on power rates. The honourable Member for Nahendeh asked when the Public Utilities Board would reach a decision on phase II of the Northwest Territories Power Corporation's general rate application.

As a result of regional hearings held in Inuvik and in Iqaluit in January, and the need to develop further information on this application, the deadline for reply argument has been set back until March 17th. As a result, the board does not expect to be in a position to render a decision earlier than April 30, 1995.

I have two other replies, Mr. Speaker.

Return To Question 1-12(7): Commercial Harvest Of Southampton Island Caribou

I have a return to question asked by Mr. Arvaluk on November 14, 1994 regarding commercial harvest of caribou on Southampton Caribou.

On November 14th, the Member for Aivilik asked the Premier why the commercial hunt on Southampton Island was being done in the spring rather than in the fall. The commercial harvest of caribou on Southampton Island, organized by the departments of Economic Development and Tourism and Renewable Resources, will be conducted this spring between March 10th and April 24th. It was decided to schedule the harvest in the spring rather than the fall for economic reasons.

To successfully conduct an operation of this magnitude, strict logistical coordination of up to 50 personnel and equipment is required. In spring, there are more daylight hours, the weather is generally better and there are more days available to conduct harvest operations. Better weather and longer days increase the odds for the hunt to be successful.

I have a third return, Mr. Speaker.

Return To Question 20-12(7): Status Of Study On Egg Quotas For Hay River Reserve

I have a return to question asked by Mr. Gargan on November 15, 1994 regarding the study on egg quotas for the Hay River Reserve.

The Government of the Northwest Territories has been actively pursuing entry into the national supply

management systems. Membership in these systems would include the application of production quotas.

In July 1994, the government was successful in securing from federal/provincial Ministers of Agriculture their support and agreement to proceed with negotiating access to the supply management regimes by dealing directly with the National Farm Products Marketing Council, as opposed to the separate agencies and their respective signatories.

The National Farm Products Council is the supervising agency for all supply management systems in Canada and reports directly to the federal Minister of Agriculture.

The federal/provincial Ministers directed the marketing council to prepare a report for a December meeting of Ministers of Agriculture on the means by which the Northwest Territories would gain access to the systems, what legislative requirements would have to be enacted and other conditions which would have to be met. The National Farm Products Marketing Council and the department jointly tabled a report with Ministers in December.

The report offered that the Northwest Territories required the following minimum conditions be met:

- access must result in full and unequivocal signatory status; that means everybody has to sign off on it;
- access must be accompanied by a distinct allocation for each commodity; and,
- access must involve the entire geographical area of the Northwest Territories -- in other words, eggs for Hay River and eggs for Iqaluit -- and not be limited to a specific area or region.

The report provided that in order to offer access and meet the requirements of the Northwest Territories, the Ministers of Agriculture would have to agree to amend the proclamation for supply management. Ministers unanimously agreed to this requirement.

On the matter of a distinct entry level for quotas, Ministers agreed that work should continue between the department, council and provinces, with a report due in March, 1995. All things considered, a resolution to this long-outstanding issue appears imminent. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Nerysoo.

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ITEM 5: RECOGNITION OF VISITORS IN THE GALLERY

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I might introduce the father of our esteemed Law Clerk, Mr. Gerry MacPherson in our gallery. For those who do not know, Mr. MacPherson taught in Inuvik from 1961 to 1970 and in Iqaluit from 1970 to 1983.

---Applause

And, quickly, Mr. Speaker, if I might introduce the students of the Yellowknife teacher education program and their instructor.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. Ms. Mike.

**MS. MIKE:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize the mayor for Clyde River, Mr. James Qillaq; mayor of Broughton Island, Loasia Audlakiak; and also the mayor of Pangnirtung, Manasa Evic. Thank you.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to recognize Mr. Gerry MacPherson, a former constituent of mine. He's got a reputation, in addition to being Sheila MacPherson's father, as being a very able math teacher; and, I believe -- and Mr. Nerysoo didn't mention it -- he takes credit for being Mr. Nerysoo's teacher in mathematics, as well as Mr. Koe's.

---Laughter

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take the opportunity to recognize our acting chief of the Fort Smith native band, Mr. Fred Daniels. Welcome to the Assembly.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Patterson.

**ITEM 6: ORAL QUESTIONS**

Question 49-12(7): ADM Responsible For Nunavut Education Matters

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment if he is committed to appointing a new ADM for his department, responsible for providing a focal point, so Nunavut education leaders can work cooperatively with his department, as recommended at the Gjoa Haven Nunavut leaders' conference. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 49-12(7): ADM Responsible For Nunavut Education Matters

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would just like to indicate to the honourable Member that I have received the recommendations that the leadership has made and we are also in the process of developing implementation plans. I will seriously consider the advice that has been given to me by the Inuit leadership conference.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 49-12(7): ADM Responsible For Nunavut Education Matters

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Mr. Speaker, as the Minister knows, I believe, the resolutions of the Nunavut education leaders also called for the Minister to sponsor the next meeting of Nunavut education leaders in April 1995, and take the appropriate lead role in planning education and training for Nunavut.

I would like to ask the Minister, is he prepared to sponsor and have his department take the lead role in chairing and planning this important next meeting? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 49-12(7): ADM Responsible For Nunavut Education Matters

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to say to the honourable Member that we are trying to be as positive and constructive as we can about our approach to the advice that has been given by the Inuit leadership and the leadership of Nunavut. But, I do wish to make the honourable Member aware that the Special Joint Committee on Division also has given us some direction as to the approach we should take in this matter. We are going to make sure we accommodate the appropriate educational leadership, but it should be in the context of our overall implementation plans.

That may mean that we will make some appropriate adjustments to the recommendations that have been made, but it will be with the view that we take the leadership role that the honourable Member and other Inuit leaders have suggested.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 49-12(7): ADM Responsible For Nunavut Education Matters

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the Minister's answer, but I'm not sure it is clear. His colleague, Mr. Todd,

sponsored -- or helped sponsor with Nunavut Tunngavik -- an important conference to plan economic development in Nunavut, which was a great success. Now the education leaders have asked the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment to build on the success of the meeting in Gjoa Haven -- in large measure, due to the active participation of his

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officials -- and sponsor and take the lead role in chairing the next meeting. I know the department is working on an internal transition plan for division, in response to the committee's recommendation.

My question is about this conference. Is the Minister prepared to sponsor and take the lead role in this important next meeting, planned for April 1995 in Nunavut? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 49-12(7): ADM Responsible For Nunavut Education Matters

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The problem the honourable Member must recognize is that there are a number of conferences which I have been called upon to host; including a conference, for instance, of the Nunavut Implementation Training Commission, which made the recommendation that we host a conference in May almost three or four months ago. The problem is, there is a logistical question as to how we address the issues that should be dealt with on any conference agenda.

In light of that, I think we need to ensure that if any conference is hosted -- and I don't see it as a major problem -- the issues of timing and agendas have to be dealt with. They can be dealt with in conjunction with the appropriate organizations involved.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Mr. Patterson, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question 49-12(7): ADM Responsible For Nunavut Education Matters

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I know the Nunavut Implementation Training Committee endorsed the notion of holding the next Nunavut education planning conference in April, 1995. I'm sure all Nunavut leaders support one conference where all organizations would get together in one room and discuss the important matter of training and education in Nunavut.

I guess I would like to ask the Minister if he agrees it is appropriate that the Northwest Territories Department of Education, Culture and Employment play a lead role in planning training and education relating to Nunavut over the next three years? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 49-12(7): ADM Responsible For Nunavut Education Matters

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I do support that. I've indicated that even in this House, as it applies to other regions as well. My concern with the suggestion of the conference is logistical. The fact is there is a need for us to plan the issues that need to be discussed. For instance, this Assembly may be sitting at that time. The problem with that is all Members of Nunavut would like to continue to play a significant and, I think, constructive role that they have played so far.

Those are some of the so-called immediate logistical questions that we have to deal with. The other ones are location and agenda issues. That is the kind of stuff that, for me, need to be dealt with. I think it would be just as confusing to the honourable Member as it would be for me. The other thing is, the role and involvement of the department in this conference.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Zoe.

Question 50-12(7): Role Of GNWT In Self-Government Negotiations

**MR. ZOE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be directed to the Minister responsible for Intergovernmental and



Aboriginal Affairs. My question to the Minister is, what does he see as the role of the Government of the Northwest Territories in self-government negotiations between aboriginal groups in the western Arctic and the federal Crown? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question 50-12(7): Role Of GNWT In Self-Government Negotiations

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The negotiations for self-government in the Northwest Territories will surely entail elements now held by this government. That is, there are certain programs and services that this government is mandated and funded to carry out, and part of the self-government discussion is going to include how programs and services for aboriginal people will be taken, perhaps, from this government into the realm of the self-government institutions that aboriginal people will set up.

So, it is the view of this government, as well as the federal government, that it is important to ensure an orderly process for negotiations and transition -- if it should come to that -- of the delivery of programs and services and that this government should be fully involved in self-government negotiations. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Kakfwi. Supplementary, Mr. Zoe.

Supplementary To Question 50-12(7): Role Of GNWT In Self-Government Negotiations

**MR. ZOE:**

Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the same Minister, what involvement has the federal government had in the development of the Minister of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs' mandate and protocol respecting the involvement of our government in self-government negotiations between aboriginal groups and ourselves? Was there any involvement when the mandate was developed and approved by Cabinet? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return To Question 50-12(7): Role Of GNWT In Self-Government Negotiations

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, the federal government had no direct involvement in the development of our protocol

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or the policy of this government's involvement in self-government negotiations. But they have, I think, been consistent in their position in other self-government negotiations across this country that if there is a government which exercises jurisdiction in the areas which are going to be the subject of negotiations, the respective government is expected to be part of the negotiations. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 6, oral questions. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Question 51-12(7): Status Of Aircraft Maintenance Facility In Fort Smith

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Premier. As I stated in my Member's statement this afternoon, the government had announced in June 1992 plans to support the location of an aircraft maintenance facility in Fort Smith. Taking into account, Mr. Speaker, the Premier's commitment to this House that this was to be completed by the end of April 1994, and there is no construction or movement to construct as of yet, can the Premier advise this House when the aircraft maintenance facility will be built in Fort Smith? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

Return To Question 51-12(7): Status Of Aircraft Maintenance Facility In Fort Smith

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, the negotiations on the facility in Fort Smith are being dealt with by the Dene/Metis in Fort Smith and the government on the structure. I don't have the time lines here, but I believe that the

government is expecting a proposal on a facility in Fort Smith very shortly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Madam Premier. Mrs. Marie-Jewell, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question 51-12(7): Status Of Aircraft Maintenance Facility In Fort Smith

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Recognizing last week the government has awarded the contract to Buffalo Airways to operate and maintain their fleet of CL-215s in the hangar; apparently, however, publicly it has been stated that Buffalo Airways might use the aircraft maintenance facility when it becomes available, can the Premier assure this House and the constituents of Fort Smith that Buffalo Airways' contract will use the hangar when it becomes available? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Madam Premier.

Further Return To Question 51-12(7): Status Of Aircraft Maintenance Facility In Fort Smith

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it was part of the proposal call that the facility would be used. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Supplementary To Question 51-12(7): Status Of Aircraft Maintenance Facility In Fort Smith

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Premier if she would provide to this House the chronological order of events with regard to negotiations as to where the hangar is within the middle of negotiations as of this date. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

Further Return To Question 51-12(7): Status Of Aircraft Maintenance Facility In Fort Smith

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I will talk to Dene/Metis Holdings and will try to prepare a chronology of where the particular proposal is and when it's to be concluded, and what stage the operation is at. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Final supplementary, Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Supplementary To Question 51-12(7): Status Of Aircraft Maintenance Facility In Fort Smith

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My final supplementary is will the Premier commit to providing this chronological list of events within the next two weeks? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

Further Return To Question 51-12(7): Status Of Aircraft Maintenance Facility In Fort Smith

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, yes.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Whitford.

Question 52-12(7): Status Of Vacancies On Liquor Board

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have a question I would like to direct to the Minister responsible for the Liquor Board. Some time ago, I had the information that the Liquor Board had a few vacancies and those vacancies were needing to be filled, given the number of vacancies and the amount of work that the Liquor Board had to undertake. In its mandate, it was critical that these positions be filled as soon as possible. The Minister asked for nominations. I -- and others, I'm sure -- submitted nominations. I would like to ask the Minister what is the status of the vacancies on the Liquor Board.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 52-12(7): Status Of Vacancies On Liquor Board

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just to indicate that I have made the recommendations to first, retain those board members who are already on the board; and the recommendations are that Mrs. Crane, I believe, and Mr. Strang from Yellowknife, be appointed to the board, along with Mrs. Mary Rose Casaway of

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Lutsel K'e. Those are the recommendations that I'm making.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 6, oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Whitford.

Supplementary To Question 52-12(7): Status Of Vacancies On Liquor Board

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Minister for the reply. There has been some concern expressed on the make-up of the Liquor Board, and I would like to ask the Minister what balance of women to men are on the Liquor Board.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 52-12(7): Status Of Vacancies On Liquor Board

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't know the balance. All I know is that, from the last two appointments that I've made, I've made appointments of two women and two men. But I will report back to the honourable Member.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Pudlat.

Question 53-12(7): Status Of GLO Cutbacks

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Premier. At this time, I am

undergoing some difficulty about our government liaison officers. I understand that there will be some cutbacks that will result in GLOs being laid off. I understand that this is to take effect on the 21st of this month. I just got this notice today, and it seems that I should have been told about these changes concerning government employees. I understand the money that they're making will be cut, and I just found this out today. I'm not sure what the situation really is, but it really took us by surprise. I'm just wondering, how long were you aware of these cutbacks and the lay-offs that are supposed to occur? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Madam Premier.

Return To Question 53-12(7): Status Of GLO Cutbacks

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, in the budget preparation and the instructional review of what various government personnel do, it has been brought to the Standing Committee on Finance where we indicated that this was the general direction that we were going in. The appropriate notification was given because we do have to give advance notice. None of the changes are going to take place until April 1st. It's a notice of the intent to cut the government liaison officers' work and payment to half time. I know that some of the Members have had some difficulties, and what I've suggested is that if they are doing work other than the liaison officer work that is required, which is not determined to be full time, the regional director and Personnel should work with the community to see what else the GLO is doing; and, the respective departments should make sure that if the position or the person has been doing significant work in fields other than work as a liaison officer, we will be dealing with that between now and April. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Mr. Pudlat.

Supplementary To Question 53-12(7): Status Of GLO Cutbacks

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time, Mr. Speaker, on the 21st of this month, there is an agreement that will take effect. How much time were

they given? Many of these employees have been working for a long time -- some for many years -- and this will cause a lot of problems for those people employed. There was some sort of agreement. Were they given adequate notice that the agreements were taking place soon? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

Further Return To Question 53-12(7): Status Of GLO Cutbacks

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, the reason that the notices went out was to give them adequate notice to respond. Like I said, the notices have gone out and the actual change in status would not take place until April 1st. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Madam Premier. Item 6, oral questions. Ms. Mike.

Question 54-12(7): Notification Of GLO Lay-offs

**MS. MIKE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To further elaborate on Mr. Pudlat's question to the Premier, I would like to ask the Premier what she considers is appropriate time in giving notice to these GLOs. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

Return To Question 54-12(7): Notification Of GLO Lay-offs

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, guided by the notice requirements, the notice went out now, and no changes will take place in the status of the employees until April 1st. I am guided by the guidelines laid out on notice procedures. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Ms. Mike.

Supplementary To Question 54-12(7): Notification Of GLO Lay-offs

**MS. MIKE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to the Premier. Yesterday, I received a call from one of the communities in my riding from the GLO; she informed me that she had five days to respond and if she didn't she was going to be laid off. What I understand now is that she has until April 1st. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, the intent is that the positions of government liaison officers will go to half time.

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We would like an indication, as soon as possible, if those particular employees would want to continue in those half-time positions. They have been given a certain number of days; I have asked whether it was five days and I haven't got the answer so I will have to come back to the Member on that particular question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The Premier is taking this as notice, thank you. Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Patterson.

Question 55-12(7): Delivery Of Social Assistance By ECE

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment a question and I think this relates to the role of the GLOs in the communities. I understand the responsibility for delivering social assistance after April 1, 1995 will be transferred from Health and Social Services to the Minister's department. I would like to ask the Minister, if I am correct about this timing, how will social assistance be delivered in the communities after April 1, 1995 through his department? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 55-12(7): Delivery Of Social Assistance By ECE

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Mr. Speaker, that whole matter is presently under discussion. What we have reached agreement on is the principle of the transfer and the details are now being brought forward through Cabinet; so, until such time as I am certain and have received the approval, I cannot say for certain what the process will be.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 55-12(7): Delivery Of Social Assistance By ECE

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am aware that there was a trial attempt last year in Baffin involving GLOs -- government liaison officers -- in, I believe, Hall Beach and Lake Harbour, to deliver social assistance instead of the social workers. I would like to ask the Minister, recognizing that the details are not yet finalized, is one of the options that the Minister and his department are looking at for delivering social assistance in the new fiscal year, having government liaison officers, field service officers or executive service officers, as they are variously called in the Nunavut communities, deliver social assistance for his department? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 55-12(7): Delivery Of Social Assistance By ECE

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you. That is certainly one of the considerations in the discussions that we are now having between the departments.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 55-12(7): Delivery Of Social Assistance By ECE

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, if having the GLOs deliver social assistance instead of social workers in communities is one of the options being

considered by the department, I would like to ask the Minister wouldn't it make more sense -- rather than giving GLOs a lay-off notice that their position will be cut in half April 1st -- to finalize the new plan for delivering social assistance, which may top-up their job back to a full-time position, before decisions are made about cutting back these community resources? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 55-12(7): Delivery Of Social Assistance By ECE

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That responsibility of cutting GLOs is not within my department. All that I can say to the honourable Member is that we do have a concern about the matter of social assistance delivery. And part of the discussion document that we are preparing will point out some of the issues of concern that we have but other than that, in my view, we still need to ensure that we the capacity to deliver and once that decision is made, we can deal with the appropriate manpower that is required for the delivery of the program.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 55-12(7): Delivery Of Social Assistance By ECE

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I do appreciate that the GLOs are funded by, and are the responsibility of, the Department of the Executive through the Premier, but I would like to ask the Minister of ECE if his department is likely to be relying on GLOs, at least in some communities, to deliver social assistance in the new fiscal year. Is the Minister prepared to discuss this possibility with the Premier, so that these important community employees in the Nunavut region are not laid off or discouraged from working for the GNWT and can be saved to deliver SA, if that is the option chosen by Cabinet, shortly. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 55-12(7): Delivery Of Social Assistance By ECE

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The responsibility for the GLOs, I am going to repeat, is not my responsibility. What I am responsible for now is to make sure that we have the capacity to deliver SA in the communities. If that includes the recommendation to be brought forward of ensuring that the GLOs need to be retained for that particular purpose, that is the recommendation that we are going to be making. But until that time comes forward, I am not certain if that's the recommendation that we are going to make. We

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have to review all of the appropriate personnel in the communities and make sure that we deliver the program appropriately, and at no loss to services to the community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Patterson.

Question 56-12(7): Construction Of Infrastructure For Nunavut Government

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I may, a new question. My question is to the Honourable John Pollard, in his new capacity of Minister of Public Works and Services. I would like to congratulate him on this important responsibility that he has taken on. My question has to do with constructing the infrastructure for the new Nunavut government. I know the Minister is aware of the strong recommendation of Nunavut leaders, the Special Joint Committee on Division that so that the BIP can be enforced, the Government of the Northwest Territories should take responsibility for constructing infrastructure for the Nunavut government; and, not the federal government. I would like to ask the Minister, although I know he is new on the job, has he had an opportunity to discuss this important issue with the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Pollard.

Return To Question 56-12(7): Construction Of Infrastructure For Nunavut Government

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Minister of DPW hasn't had the opportunity to speak to Mr. Irwin on this particular matter, but the Minister of Finance did on Monday of this week, Mr. Speaker. Just shortly before going to Ottawa, I was reminded by Mr. Dent about this important issue. I raised it with Mr. Irwin and he is prepared to sit down and discuss this issue with us. I told him that if he was making that commitment to me, I would probably make it public; so, be aware, Mr. Irwin, that you aren't just saying these words to me in the room. He said he understood that and I have every reason to believe that some time after April, when federal DPW is due to report back to DIAND, Mr. Irwin will be willing to sit down and discuss this issue with us. I should say, Mr. Speaker, the federal government is concerned about the business incentive policy. It is concerned about it costing them more money to do it through our delivery. My response to that was unless you sit down and negotiate with us, find out what we are offering and how we can be more efficient as a delivery arm, you won't know. Mr. Irwin agreed. So there will be discussions some time after April, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 56-12(7): Construction Of Infrastructure For Nunavut Government

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think this is good news. Just to get this clear, I would like to ask the Minister again, is it now the position of the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs that he is now willing to consider, or at least to discuss, the possibility of giving the Government of the Northwest Territories responsibility for constructing Nunavut infrastructure? Is that what these next discussions in April, or later, will be about? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Pollard.

Further Return To Question 56-12(7): Construction Of Infrastructure For Nunavut Government

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it should be pointed out that the federal Cabinet decision paper -- and I believe there is a Treasury Board ruling -- indicates that the delivery arm for the client department, being DIAND, would be the federal Department of Public Works. That is clearly on record. Mr. Irwin has said he is willing to sit down with us, listen to our case and discuss with us the possibility of him changing his mind, depending on what we say to him, with regard to us delivering those particular services in the Northwest Territories; primarily in Nunavut, of course. Mr. Speaker, I would point out that it fits in well with the overlap and duplication that Mr. Masse is looking at. I think there is a case to be made with him that in this particular instance, we could probably do the work in a timely fashion and we probably have more experience than the federal DPW. When you take this whole thing, not just the BIP, but if you look at what we can do for Nunavut and our expertise that we have in the communities, we can probably make a convincing case to Mr. Irwin. I believe that Mr. Irwin means well and that he understands exactly what we were discussing. I think he will have an open mind when we have further talks with him after April. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 6, oral questions. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Question 57-12(7): Method Used In Awarding Tenders

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister of DPW a question with regard to the construction of the academic building in Fort Smith. Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the tender documents for the academic buildings are being developed by Clarke Bowler and not DPW; however, DPW has the final say in awarding the contracts. Mr. Speaker, the last tender was combined, after it initially went out as a single tender. So, in fact, there were two tenders for the same project.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Pollard.

Return To Question 57-12(7): Method Used In Awarding Tenders

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Yes, Mr. Speaker. I will table that information in the House. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

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Supplementary To Question 57-12(7): Method Used In Awarding Tenders

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In addition to that, the academic building is being constructed through a project management agreement with Clarke Bowler. I would like to ask the Minister if he would provide to this House a copy of that project management agreement, which DPW has with Clarke Bowler. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Pollard.

Further Return To Question 57-12(7): Method Used In Awarding Tenders

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Mr. Speaker, I am certainly prepared to table that document, but I must look to see if there are any rules or regulations that prevent me, because of confidentiality, from tabling it. If there are none, I will table it in the House.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Supplementary To Question 57-12(7): Method Used In Awarding Tenders

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In addition to that, I would like to ask the Minister of DPW if he can provide to this House the budget allocation for the academic building in a breakdown, as opposed to the allotted amount that was approved in the capital budget. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Pollard.

Further Return To Question 57-12(7): Method Used In Awarding Tenders

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Member knows, the budget number flows from the capital estimates that were placed before this House. I will certainly come back with that number and what has been allocated, what has been spent and where it has been spent since the House approved that number. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Patterson.

Question 58-12(7): Status Of Study Re Student Residences

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment. The Minister will know that Members of this House are quite interested in the review that is being done of student residences in Baffin, Keewatin and Inuvik regions. I would like to ask the Minister what the status of that review is, which is being conducted by Avery, Cooper and Company? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 58-12(7): Status Of Study Re Student Residences

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The report is not complete. In fact, Mr. Speaker, letters have been sent to a number of Members, so that the consultants can have discussions on their advice on addressing the direction of accommodation services for students. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 58-12(7): Status Of Study Re Student Residences

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I believe the Minister had committed earlier in this session that no decisions would be made about the future of the residences until this study had been completed and all the various options considered by the Minister. Is that still the case; that no decisions will be made affecting these residences until the study is concluded?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 58-12(7): Status Of Study Re Student Residences

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No final determinations have been made. There has been a formula identification in our budget, so that we have certainty of the amount of financial resources we are going to allocate to each board. It still requires a number of discussions to take place: First, the completion of the report; secondly, the options of use of the buildings if the decision is made to close them. If they remain open, what are the options, costs and responsibilities of the boards? Based on the direction of this Assembly, the recommendation is that we move to high school programming in the communities. Based on that, we have to make some decisions that respect that direction, but also ensure that we aren't in any way relinquishing or reducing the quality of programming that we are offering to those students who go to community high school programs.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 58-12(7): Status Of Study Re Student Residences

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the Minister's confirmation of his commitment that no decisions have been made or will be made on the future of these residences, but I must ask the Minister if it's true that the new formula that will be in place for funding the student residences in the regions substantially reduces the amounts available for funding student residences to the extent that the boards are concluding that they will, in effect, be forced to lay off Inuit staff and substantially downsize,



if not close, these residences due to this funding formula change. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

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Further Return To Question 58-12(7): Status Of Study Re Student Residences

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That may be the case in certain instances, but I do want to say to the honourable Member, the boards were advised approximately 18 to 20 months ago that we would be moving to ensure the development of community high school programs, which allowed them to recognize that part of the planning process, included this reduction of services in the regions. The fact is, the advance notice was given. The problem is that some of the boards do not wish to relinquish any of the resources that are available. If they're not prepared to do that, they're not prepared to look at any other options. The possibilities are there for the colleges to be part of the buildings; the possibilities are there that there would be reduced accommodations available, rather than having the larger centres, that it be smaller centres; that's the kind of stuff that we have to look at. The problem is that the boards -- and I know that the director of the Baffin Divisional Board of Education is being quite adamant and difficult about trying to look at the options available to her and, as such, is not prepared to consider any options.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 6, oral questions. Final supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 58-12(7): Status Of Study Re Student Residences

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Mr. Speaker, the Minister has agreed that the effect of the new formula that has been imposed on the boards for the coming year is, in fact, that funding is less than adequate to support the existing level of services, having in the same breath assured this House, that no decisions will be made until the study is complete and all options have been considered. I would like to ask the Minister, since he committed that no decisions will be taken -- which I assume to mean that there will be

no drastic changes in the operation of these residences -- to Members of this Assembly this past fall, isn't the responsible course for him to take to preserve the existing level of funding to those student residences, to not cause disruption and anxiety and possible lay-off of staff until, as he said this fall, the study is complete, all options can be considered in consultation with the boards of education and Members of this Assembly? Isn't that the responsible approach to take, rather than saying nothing will be done but cutting the funds through the back door? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 58-12(7): Status Of Study Re Student Residences

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The responsible thing is for me to make it very clear and be honest to my colleagues in this Assembly, and to those who are responsible for managing educational programs, about the financial situation that we're in. We cannot continue to offer the kinds of resources that are presently available. The fact is that in one particular residence, there are 19 staff members and 15 students. Now I don't know how in the world the honourable Member can rise in this House and say that there should be more staff members than there are students. I would have thought that the honourable Member would be encouraging me to invest more money in the students and to appropriately identify those resources for other programs that will encourage better programming for students, and that's what we're trying to do. In the process itself -- and the honourable Member may say that there's a reduction in the commitment; and, yes, but it has to do with how we invest the resources. We're taking it away from pure infrastructure, pure staffing to that of investing in the students themselves. The question is how do we do it. That is the question that needs to be answered. Our intention is that if there's a need for us to maintain some of the residences, we will do it; but it will not be at the kinds of expenditures that we're presently making on staffing because we have to spend the money on the students.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Pudlat.

Question 59-12(7): Status Of Increase In Rental Rates

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of the Housing Corporation. Mr. Speaker, notices of rental increases were given to households in the NWT. With the drastic increases coming, my question is, with a lot of the benefits taken away from our people and with the power bills increasing, are you still looking into the possibility of more home ownership in the NWT? There were also some letters of notification for some residents to have to leave their household because they simply made too much money. They will continue to increase for three years. How much is the percentage of the rent increase for the NWT residents? We, as MLAs, vote on these types of bills and acts that come before us, but I would like to know, Mr. Speaker, what percentage the rental increase will be. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Morin.

Return To Question 59-12(7): Status Of Increase In Rental Rates

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The new rent scale, in some cases, some of your constituents' rents will decrease. There will be a spread in the rent scale from 6.4 per cent to a maximum of 30 per cent. That includes power, fuel, water and sewer, so that no tenant in social housing would pay more than 30 per cent of the rent.

Yes, the Member is correct that tenants are also encouraged to get into home ownership, especially if they have a higher income and they can afford operation and maintenance of a home owner unit. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Morin. Item 6, oral questions. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Question 60-12(7): Special Leave Criteria For Civil Servants

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Personnel. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Personnel if she could provide to this House a copy of the special leave criteria used for civil servants. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

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Return To Question 60-12(7): Special Leave Criteria For Civil Servants

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, yes, I can.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 6, oral questions. Mrs. Marie-Jewell, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question 60-12(7): Special Leave Criteria For Civil Servants

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has been brought to my attention by one of my constituents that three constituents had applied for special leave, and two were approved and one was denied, all for the same purpose. I would like to ask the Minister of Personnel if it would be possible to review this special request, considering that there seem to be some inconsistencies, particularly on the approval and denial of these particular special leave requests. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier. Mr. Pollard.

Further Return To Question 60-12(7): Special Leave Criteria For Civil Servants

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, that falls under the Financial Management Board Secretariat. If I can get further details from the Member, I would be glad to look into the situation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Mr. Pollard, are you taking this as notice, then?

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Mr. Speaker, if I were to take it as notice, I would have to report back to the House. In these kinds of instances, with personnel involved, I usually deal with the Member directly. If that is acceptable, that is the way I would suggest, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Pollard. Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Patterson.

Question 61-12(7): Involvement Of Divisional Boards In Nunavut Education Planning Committee

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment about his commitment to work with divisional boards of education in Nunavut, in planning education in Nunavut. I'm aware that on January 6, 1995, Mr. Nerysoo wrote the chairperson of the Nunavut Education Planning Committee, Mr. Joe Attagutaluk to express concerns about the focus of the Nunavut Education Planning Committee and to inform that group that his representatives would no longer sit as members of that education planning committee. I would like to ask the Minister why that action was taken. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Mr. Nerysoo.

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

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

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. The question has been taken as notice. Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Antoine.

Question 62-12(7): Federal Gun Control Legislation

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister of Justice a question today with regard to the federal

Minister of Justice, Allan Rock who introduced gun control legislation yesterday in the House of Commons. I would like to ask the Minister if the concerns that were raised by Members of this House and members of the public in the north have been recognized and accepted in the new legislation proposed by the federal Justice Minister. Mahsi.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question 62-12(7): Federal Gun Control Legislation

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The legislation proposed by the federal Minister of Justice with regard to firearms legislation is presently being reviewed by our officials in the Department of Justice, and we will be preparing a statement in response to the question asked by the Member at the earliest date perhaps by tomorrow. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Patterson.

Question 63-12(7): Delivery Of Social Assistance By GLOs

**MR. PATTERSON:**

My question is for the Premier, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Premier, since we've heard from the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment that it may be possible that one of the options he is considering being forwarded -- and I presume soon -- to Cabinet, is that the so-called GLOs in communities might take on the responsibility for the Department of Education for delivering social assistance after April 1st. I would like to ask the Premier -- who, I understand, is giving lay-off notices to the GLOs this week that their positions will be cut in half on April 1st -- if she has discussed the possibilities of these additional duties being assumed by government liaison officers with the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

Return To Question 63-12(7): Delivery Of Social Assistance By GLOs

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, as the Member is aware, the initiative to change over won't be occurring until April 1st. The procedure of lay-off notices is a procedure we followed. In a number of communities the shared responsibility already takes place between the GLO and the Department of Social Services. The department pays for a percentage of their salary, according to the work they do, which is half time.

Since the lay-off notices have been given out, there have been two communities that have come forward and suggested that the GLO had been doing significant work for Social Services, and we are concluding an agreement where Social Services will be paying for that half-time position at that time. That decision has been made already. We will be dealing with each of the other GLO positions once we've

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we've evaluated what work they're doing and what the requirements are. As we speak, these arrangements are being looked into and we are attempting to accommodate those needs. The initiative is to make sure that the departments which need those people to work are the departments that are paying those people to work.

So, Mr. Speaker, these initiatives are presently taking place. I know that in the Baffin there seems to be a slowness in trying to address where some of the GLOs are expending their work, but I fully intend to deal with that, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 63-12(7): Delivery Of Social Assistance By GLOs

**MR. PATTERSON:**

I think this is very encouraging, what the Premier has said, Mr. Speaker. I guess I would like to ask her, in light of this, when the GLOs were told earlier this week in the Baffin that their jobs were being cut in half and they had five days to decide whether they were going to accept a reduced position, if there was some indication given to the GLOs by the government that there might be the possibility of that job coming back as a full time position on the horizon. Were they told hang in there, we need you, you are experienced, valuable Inuit staff and we may be able to top it up

again soon with other duties such as an enhanced role in delivering social assistance?

Was that assurance or possible hope given to the GLOs when they were hit with this notice out of the blue earlier this week? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

Further Return To Question 63-12(7): Delivery Of Social Assistance By GLOs

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I know in other regions that the problem doesn't seem to be as acute. I would have to take a look at what is happening in the Baffin as to why some of these possibilities were not given to the individuals who hold the GLO positions. My understanding is that even though the notice was given, the probability of the Executive offices needing a full-time person for the workload of the Executive office was not certain and there would probably be some changes.

However, as the Member is aware, most people don't take it seriously until such initiatives take place. I will make sure that the job functions are looked at and, where possible, these individuals are evaluated according to some of the services they have been providing in addition to the Executive office functions. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Time for oral questions has lapsed. Item 7, written questions. Mr. Patterson.

ITEM 7: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Written Question 4-12(7): Nursing Training

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With your indulgence, I have a few. They are all for the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment.

1. How many students are enrolled in the nursing training program now being offered by the Arctic College in conjunction with the Department of Health and Social Services and the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital?

2. How many of the students presently enrolled in this program are from the Nunavut regions of the Baffin, Keewatin and the Kitikmeot?

3. Are there any plans in place to provide opportunities for residents of Nunavut to obtain nursing training in Nunavut?

And, if I may, Mr. Speaker, on a different issue, but also to the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment:

Written Question 5-12(7): Arctic College Base Funding

1. How many person years and what level of base funding is now in place in Arctic College East and Arctic College West for trades training?

2. How many person years and what level of base funding is now in place in Arctic College East and Arctic College West for environmental technology training?

3. How many person years and what level of base funding is now in place in Arctic College East and Arctic College West for student support services?

4. How many person years and what level of base funding is now in place in Arctic College East and Arctic College West for heavy equipment operator training and driver education training?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Item 7, written questions. Item 8, returns to written questions. Mr. Clerk.

**ITEM 8: RETURNS TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

Return To Written Question 1-12(7): Southampton Island Caribou Herd

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

Mr. Speaker, Return to Written Question 1-12(7), asked by Mr. Arvaluk and responded to by the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, concerning Southampton Island caribou herd.

On November 14th, the Member for Aivilik asked the Premier if the Southampton herd would be reduced enough in the spring to deal with the conservation requirements for good herd management. The

Department of Renewable Resources has advanced a plan for management of the Southampton caribou herd that would call for the harvesting of 4,500 animals per year, of which 1,000 would be for local

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subsistence over the next several years. The departments of Economic Development and Tourism and Renewable Resources are organizing a spring commercial hunt which will certainly alleviate some of the pressure being exerted by the herd.

Current plans call for 2,000 animals to be taken for commercial purposes this spring, commencing March 10th and continuing through to April 24th. Once the logistical challenges of an operation of this magnitude have been addressed, it is quite possible that some future harvest activities will be conducted in the fall, from early November through to the beginning of December, when there is sufficient snow cover.

The Department of Renewable Resources will be conducting herd surveys this summer, and information gained from these surveys will be used to further evaluate the necessary harvest numbers.

Return To Written Question 2-12(7): Distribution Of Caribou Meat From Southampton Herd

Return to Written Question 2-12(7), asked by Mr. Arvaluk to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, concerning the distribution of caribou meat from Southampton herd.

On November 14th the Member for Aivilik asked the Premier if she would commit government departments to finding a way to get caribou meat from the Southampton herd reduction to those people and institutions who can use it.

The Southampton Island hunt is being undertaken as a developmental commercial hunt. The product will be harvested to federal standards and will be sold into the marketplace in southern Canada.

Return To Written Question 3-12(7): Costs Of Operation Of Ice Road

Return to Written Question 3-12(7), asked by Mr. Pudluk to the Minister of Transportation, concerning the cost of the Inuvik/ Tuktoyaktuk winter ice road.

On Monday, November 14, 1994, the Member for High Arctic submitted a written question to the Minister of Transportation inquiring about the annual

cost of operating the Inuvik/Tuktoyaktuk winter ice road.

1. For the 1994-95 winter road season, the Department of Transportation expects the operation of the Inuvik/Tuktoyaktuk ice road will cost \$360,000.

2. Two highway transfer agreements with the federal government in 1984 and 1990 devolved responsibility for the existing territorial highway system to the territorial government. The residual responsibility for the construction of new roads in the Northwest Territories still remains with the federal government.

For the time being, there are no firm plans to extend an all-weather road from Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 9, replies to opening address. Item 10, petitions. Item 11, reports of standing and special committees. Item 12, reports of committees on the review of bills. Mr. Whitford.

**ITEM 12: REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON THE REVIEW OF BILLS**

Report On Bills 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14 And 15

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I wish to report to the Assembly that the Standing Committee on Legislation has reviewed bills 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15 and wish to report that bills 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14 and 15 are now ready for committee of the whole and, further, Mr. Speaker, that bills 6, 9, and 10 are now ready for committee of the whole, as amended and reprinted. Mr. Speaker, I am also requesting unanimous consent to have these bills ordered into committee of the whole for tomorrow.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. The Member is seeking unanimous consent. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Pursuant to rule 70(5) and on the order of the Assembly, bills 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15 are ordered into committee of the whole for tomorrow.

Item 13, tabling of documents.

Mr. Patterson.

**ITEM 13: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS**

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 12-12(7), the resolutions from the Nunavut education leaders' conference in Gjoa Haven. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Item 13, tabling of documents. Item 14, notices of motion. Mr. Patterson.

**ITEM 14: NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

Motion 7-12(7): Appointment To Fill Vacancy On Executive Council, Cabinet

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Friday, February 17, 1995, I will move the following motion:

I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Natilikmiot, that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories that Mr. Ng, the Member for Kitikmeot, be appointed to the Executive Council Cabinet.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I should inform Members that I will be seeking unanimous consent to deal with that motion today. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 14, notices of motion. Item 15, notices of motions for first reading of bills. Item 16, motions. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

I would like to seek unanimous consent, Mr. Speaker, to proceed with my motion to fill the vacancy on the Executive Council. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to deal with his motion today. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Patterson.

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**ITEM 16: MOTIONS**

Motion 7-12(7): Appointment To Fill Vacancy On Executive Council, Cabinet, Carried

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you. I'm sure the former Speaker wants me to read the motion before the question is called, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS section 55(1) of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act requires that there shall be an Executive Council of the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS, a vacancy exists on the Executive Council due to the resignation of Ms. Mike, the Member for Baffin Central;

AND WHEREAS, it is desirable to fill this vacancy;

AND WHEREAS, Members of the Executive Council are appointed by the Commissioner on the recommendation of this Assembly;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Natilikmiot, that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories that Mr. Kelvin Ng, the Member for Kitikmeot, be appointed to the Executive Council, Cabinet.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

---Carried

Item 16, motions. Item 17, first reading of bills. Item 18, second reading of bills. Item 19, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters. Item 20, report of committee of the whole. Item 21, third reading of bills. Item 22, orders of the day. Mr. Clerk.

ITEM 22: ORDERS OF THE DAY

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

Mr. Speaker, there is a meeting this afternoon at 4:15 pm of the Special Joint Committee on Division. There are meetings tomorrow at 9:00 am of the Standing Committee on Finance, at 10:30 am of the Ordinary Members' Caucus and 12:00 pm of the full Caucus.

Orders of the day for Thursday, February 16, 1995.

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motion
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters:
  - Bill 2, An Act to Amend the Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Act
  - Bill 3, An Act to Amend the Judicature Act
  - Bill 4, An Act to Amend the Limitation of Actions Act
  - Bill 5, An Act to Amend the Maintenance Act

- Bill 6, An Act to Amend the Petroleum Products Tax Act

- Bill 7, An Act to Amend the Co-operative Associations Act

- Bill 8, An Act to Amend the Dental Mechanics Act

- Bill 9, An Act to Amend the Legal Profession Act

- Bill 10, An Act to Amend the Liquor Act

- Bill 11, An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act

- Bill 12, An Act to Amend the Judicature Act, No. 2

- Bill 14, Miscellaneous Statutes Amending Act, 1994

- Bill 15, An Act to Amend the Elections Act

20. Report of Committee of the Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills

22. Orders of the Day

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. This House stands adjourned until 1:30 pm, Thursday, February 16th.

**---ADJOURNMENT**