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MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Allooloo, Hon. Silas Arngna'naaq, Mr. Ballantyne, Hon. Nellie Cournoyea, Mr. Dent, Hon. Samuel Gargan, Hon. Stephen Kakfwi, 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, Mr. Pudluk, Hon. John Todd, Mr. Whitford, Mr. Zoe

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Samuel Gargan):

Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Good afternoon and I hope you had a good break.

Speaker's Ruling

Today, I would like to make a ruling on a point of order raised by the Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Nerysoo, on March 10, 1995, concerning the tabling of unsigned letters and the use of individuals' names in the House and in documents.

I would like to provide the House with some background on the point of order raised. The point of order raised two points for consideration: one being our practice for the tabling of documents; and, the other being the use of individuals' names in the House, whether it be by direct reference or through reference in other procedures such as the tabling of documents.

The Members will recall that when the point of order was raised, I permitted those Members who wished to provide comments on the point to do so. I would like to thank those Members who spoke and, as I indicated, I thanked the Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Nerysoo, for raising the point of order as the issue of tabling of unsigned documents had come up on March 7, 1995. At that time, I had concerns about it, but it is not the chair's responsibility to raise points of order unless they are an obvious infraction of the rules or of parliamentary precedent.

I carefully considered many authorities while preparing this ruling and found that what has developed as practice in our Legislature does not occur in many other jurisdictions. This is not to say

that our practices are improper but, as with most procedures and practices, they have to be tested and reviewed in light of changing circumstances and when they arise. I feel it is important to start at the beginning and go through the whole aspect of a ruling on a point of order. A point of order, as outlined in Beauchesne's 6th edition, citation 317, states:

"(1) Points of order are questions raised with the view of calling attention to any departure from the Standing Orders or the customary modes of proceeding in debate or in the conduct of legislative business and may be raised at virtually any time by any Member, whether that Member has previously spoken or not.

"(2) A question of order concerns the interpretation to be put upon the rules of procedure and is a matter for the Speaker or, in a committee, for the Chairman to determine."

It could be argued that the point of order raised by the Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Nerysoo, should have been made earlier when the event occurred, and again I quote from Citation 321: "A point of order against procedure must be raised promptly and before the question has passed to a stage at which the objection would be out of place."

I considered this but was guided by Citation 319 which states:

"Any Member is entitled, even bound, to bring to the Speaker's immediate notice any instance of a breach of order. The Member may interrupt and lay the point in question concisely before the Speaker. This should be done as soon as an irregularity is perceived in the proceedings which are engaging the attention of the House. The Speaker's attention must be directed to a breach of order at the proper moment, namely the moment it occurred."

I would suggest that the Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Nerysoo, raised the point of order as soon as practicable after he had an opportunity to review in detail the tabled document in question, that being Tabled Document 56-12(7), tabled by the Member for Thebacha, Mrs. Marie-Jewell, on March 8, 1995. This issue raised by the Member is not an easy one and I suspect required the Member to carefully review the facts and rules prior to drawing the attention of the House to this issue. As indicated, I asked for Members' opinions on the matter which, again, was permissible and confirmed by Beauchesne's Citation 325:

"In all matters of doubt, the Speaker will consider attentively the opinions of Members. Sometimes, instead of expressing an opinion on either side, the Speaker may ask instructions from the House or reserve his decision on the point of discussion, or suggest that the House may, if it thinks proper, dispense with the Standing Order in a particular case. In doubtful cases, the Speaker will be guided largely by circumstances."

I would like to advise the House that the point of order raised by the Member for Mackenzie Delta became quite far-reaching and I was required to address a number of procedural points. I would now like to address the first issue, that of the tabling of documents, and then I will specifically address the issue of the unsigned letter that was tabled as Tabled Document 56-12(7).

The item "tabling of documents" appears on the order paper daily and, until 1991, there was not even a rule that addressed this item. We now have a rule that only addresses the

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permissive nature of allowing a document to be tabled. Rule 43 states, and I quote:

"Under the item, "Tabled Documents," a Member may provide to the House any document which is required to be tabled in the House by any Act or order of the Assembly, or which may be in the public interest. A Member may make a brief factual statement to identify the document."

In the majority of other Canadian jurisdictions, documents are only permitted to be tabled by a Minister. Beauchesne's Citation 431 states: "Standing Order 32 provides a way for Ministers to table documents in the House. It does not impose an obligation on the Minister to do so."

The tabling of documents in other jurisdictions is restricted to documents that fall into the following categories and is outlined in Beauchesne's Citation 435:

"(1) Papers are laid before the House in pursuance of:

- (a) provisions of an Act of Parliament.
- (b) an Order of the House.
- (c) an Address to the Crown.

(d) Standing Orders of the House."

I note that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba does permit Members, other than Ministers, to table documents, but with some restrictions. The Senate of Canada, as recently as 1991, amended their Standing Orders to make reference to the tabling of documents as, like us, they did not have a specific rule regarding the tabling of documents. The Senate rule allows documents to be tabled but they must be presented by the leader of the government in the Senate. They do, however, permit a Senator to table a document as provided for in Rule 29(3) and I quote: "with unanimous consent, any Senator may table a paper relating to the business before the Senate."

It should be noted that the Member for Thebacha, Mrs. Marie-Jewell, did raise concerns regarding certain letters that were tabled by the government on March 2, 1995 as Tabled Document 40-12(7). The Member also noted that the letters were unsigned and that we have no specific rules concerning the tabling of unsigned letters.

Beauchesne's 6th edition again provides us with some guidance in this matter as it relates to the productions of papers:

Citation 444: "There is a general rule that papers should be ordered only on subjects which are of a public or official character."

Citation 445: "The House shall decide after debate, if desired, whether it will order a document to be laid upon the Table."

Citation 446: "In 1973, the government tabled in the House of Commons its view on the general principles governing Notices of Motions for Production of Papers:

1) To enable Members of Parliament to secure factual information about the operations of Government to carry out their parliamentary duties and to make public as much factual information as possible, consistent with effective administration, the protection of the security of the state, rights to privacy and other such matters, government papers, documents and consultant reports should be produced on Notice of Motion for the Production of Papers unless falling within the categories outlined below, in which case an exemption is to be claimed from production."

In addition to the aforementioned citation, there is listed in Beauchesne's Citation 446(2), the criteria that

should be applied in determining if government papers or documents should be exempt from production. There are five specific exemptions that I took into consideration in reviewing this matter.

Citation 446(2) subsections:

"(f) Papers reflecting on the personal competence or character of an individual.

(j) Papers relating to negotiations leading up to a contract until the contract has been executed or the negotiations have been concluded.

(l) Cabinet documents and those documents which include a Privy Council confidence.

(n) Papers that are private or confidential and not of a public or official character.

(o) Internal departmental memoranda."

In undertaking the review of authorities, there are a number of procedures that may be appropriate for consideration by the House as to what should or what should not be permitted to be tabled in this House. For example, there are limitations in the House of Commons when it comes to the correspondence of Ministers of a personal nature, or dealing with constituency or general political matters. This limitation is contained in Beauchesne's Citation 446(3), and I quote:

"Ministers' correspondence of a personal nature, or dealing with constituency or general political matters, should not be identified with government papers and therefore should not be subject to production in the House."

If we were to apply the restrictions provided for in the House of Commons, it would require us to cease the practice of allowing any Member to table a document, and I quote from Citation 495(6):

"A private Member has neither the right nor the obligation to table an official, or any other, document."

Do you understand it so far, Members?

This is used as an illustration that there are restrictions in place in other jurisdictions. There is also specific guidelines regarding consultant studies and whether documents which are requested of the government to be tabled, either by oral or written questions and are, in the opinion of the government, confidential, do not have to be tabled. It should be

noted that up until now there has not been the need to apply similar restrictions to the tabling of documents in our House, as is the case in other Canadian jurisdictions. However, the time has come to address some of these issues and the point of order raised by Mr. Nerysoo affords us the opportunity to address them. As Members are aware, there have been a number of

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items that have been tabled in this House over the years that, of course, would not strictly be considered a document and I refer to such items as fish heads, a piece of sewer pipe and photographs. Like all Members, I would hope that our rules and procedures are flexible enough to permit all Members to fulfil their duties to their constituents and the general public without being unduly impeded. There are times, though, when rules or procedures have to be in place to protect not only the elected officials but to safeguard the basic rights of all individuals, despite their status.

On the question of what documents should or should not be allowed to be tabled, I would like to refer this matter to the Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges with the instruction to develop procedures and guidelines and recommend rule changes if they feel necessary. The standing committee should consider all aspects of the tabling of documents as to the types that would be permissible with the guiding principle that the privilege of tabling documents is to afford Ministers the opportunity to present documents that provide factual information about the operations of government. Any procedures recommended should also recognize the ability of all Members to table documents also to provide factual information to the House in the interests of the public good. I would further request that this matter be considered in a timely fashion by the Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges so that a report is presented to the House as soon as is practicable.

The other question that has arisen is the tabling of letters that are unsigned. There are two incidents that have occurred that have given rise to the concern. The first was raised by the Member for Thebacha, Mrs. Marie-Jewell, on March 7th concerning unsigned letters tabled by the government. The comments on that point are contained on pages 1228 and 1229 of unedited Hansard. The second was raised again by the Member for Thebacha, Mrs. Marie-Jewell, on March 8th with the tabling of an unsigned letter. The

Member, while tabling this unsigned letter, indicated in her tabling statement, and I quote from page 1280 of unedited Hansard:

"Mr. Speaker, since we have no rules on unsigned documents in this House, I'd like to table Tabled Document 56-12(7): it's correspondence that I received as a Member, from a Tu Nedhe constituent regarding improper use of government vehicles and warehouse facilities in the community of Fort Resolution."

The Member for Thebacha, Mrs. Marie-Jewell, went on further to explain in her tabling statement, and I quote again from page 1280 of unedited Hansard:

"Mr. Speaker, this correspondence was received in January and it's not my responsibility to address Tu Nedhe concerns as the elected Member for Thebacha. Therefore, I'd like to table this document so the appropriate individual can address it. At this time, I would also like to table the envelope that this letter was sent in. Thank you."

The point of order raised by the Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. Nerysoo, is threefold; the first point being the practice of allowing unsigned letters to be tabled. The second point is the use of individuals' names and, in this case, in an unsigned letter, and also the general reference to individuals in the House. The third concern expressed was that the unsigned letter tabled by the Member for Thebacha contained certain allegations against a civil servant. I have reviewed many authorities on this issue and there are no direct references to whether it is or is not permissible to table unsigned letters in an Assembly or the House of Commons. It was necessary to refer to other rules that require documents to be tabled. I refer to the practice of presentations of petitions. The rules currently require the following, and I quote from our Rules 42(1), (2) and (5):

"42(1) A petition to the Assembly may be presented by a Member at any time during a sitting of the Assembly by filing it with the Clerk, or in the manner set out in Rule 42(2).

42(2) A Member may present a petition from his or her place in the House under the item "Petitions." The Member shall endorse his or her name on the petition and shall confine the presentation to a statement of the petition, the number of signatures and the material allegations. A Member shall not exceed five minutes in presenting a petition.

42(5) A Member presenting a petition shall be answerable for any impertinent or improper matter that it contains."

I think a link can be made to the requirement for petitions to be signed as well as having to be endorsed by the Member presenting the petition. Further direction in this regard can be found in Beauchesne's Citation 1020: "All petitions must be endorsed on the back of the first page by a Member and be dated." Also Citation 1024 states: "A petition must have original signatures or marks, and the addresses of the petitioners. The signatures must be written on the petition itself and not pasted upon or otherwise transferred to it."

It should be noted that there are alternative methods for presenting petitions. They may be filed by a Member with the Clerk who will report it in accordance with Rule 42(3). Citation 1038 of Beauchesne's 6th edition also provides for the following:

"(1) A Member cannot be compelled to present a petition;"

"(2) The presentation of a petition does not necessarily commit a Member to the views expressed in it."

I use these references to illustrate the obligations on Members as they relate to the presentation of a document, in this case a petition. I am of the opinion that the basic right of the residents of the Northwest Territories to petition their Legislative Assembly is an important process that has to be protected. The Chair feels that the fact that there are rules and procedures that have to be observed indicates the importance placed on protecting the integrity of the petition being presented and that of the Member. These rules are explicit. The text of a petition cannot state implications or allegations and I quote from Beauchesne's Citation 1029 (1), (2) and (3):

"(1) The language of a petition should be respectful, temperate and free from disrespect to the Sovereign or offensive imputation upon the character and conduct of Parliament, the Courts of Justice, or any other tribunal or constituted authority.

"(2) A petition should seek the redress of grievances and should refrain from expressing an opinion with regard to the

House, the Government or the positions taken by Members of the House. Expressions which would be in order from a Member of the House may not be in order when presented as a petition.

(3) A petition should not contain statements which constitute charges of a very strong character against a Minister or senior officials."

The tabling of the unsigned letter by the Member for Thebacha, Mrs. Marie-Jewell, gave rise to the point of order, but I noted that the same concern was expressed concerning unsigned letters that were contained in Tabled Document 40-12(7) which was tabled, at the request of a Member, by the government on March 2, 1995. It should be noted that the Government House Leader, the Honourable John Pollard, indicated on Friday, March 10th, and I quote from page 1416 of unedited Hansard:

"Mr. Speaker, I had made a commitment to table a document today which was an update of the Fort Smith aircraft facility, history of GNWT decisions and communication with Fort Smith, revised.

"Mr. Speaker, in light of the point of order by Mr. Nerysoo today and in light of the fact that you're going to give us a ruling and because there are still some documents that are unsigned in this particular document I was going to put before the House, I will not do it today but await your ruling. Thank you, Mr. Speaker."

One of the most relevant citations that I considered while examining this aspect of my ruling was Citation 498 (1) and (3):

"(1) An unsigned letter should not be read in the House.

"(3) When quoting from a letter in the House, a Member must be willing either to give the name of the author or to take full responsibility for the contents."

Although in the case before us, the unsigned letter was not read in the House, it was tabled and therefore did become part of the public record.

I would also suggest that similar points are made in the Fourth edition of Bourinot's Parliamentary Practice and Procedure in the Dominion of Canada, and I quote from page 336:

"It is not allowable to read any petition referring to debates in the House, and where the language of the document is such as would be unparliamentary, if

spoken in debate, it cannot be read. No language can be orderly in a quotation which would be disorderly if spoken."

In my review I was also guided by two rulings of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba on the same point regarding the tabling of unsigned letters. In Mr. Speaker Rocan's ruling of November 14, 1988, he ruled as follows:

"On November 4th, the Honourable Member for St. Johns tabled in this House a document respecting the Free Trade Agreement. Following precedent, I took the admissibility of the document under advisement because it was unsigned, not directed to any specific individual or organization and its origin was in no way identified. Neither the rules of this House, nor the practices of the House of Commons specifically address the question of admissibility of tabled documents as it applies in this case. Reviewing previous Manitoba Speakers' rulings, I noted that Speaker Hanuschak, in a 1970 ruling, stated that "all letters, when read, must be signed and they become part of the documents of the House." In the same ruling, he indicated that it would not be correct to allow the tabling of such a letter (ie. an unsigned letter.) In 1981, Speaker Graham ruled that "an unsigned and unidentified document is an incomplete document and cannot be considered to be properly before the House. Based on these precedents, I must rule that the document, in its present form, is inadmissible and cannot properly become a document of this House."

After reviewing Parliamentary precedent and rulings from other jurisdictions, I have become clearly aware of the requirements and limitations as to the content for petitions and tabled documents including the concern as to the verification of authenticity of letters and any facts contained therein. It is my ruling that it is not an acceptable practice to table unsigned letters in this House, so therefore all letters tabled, whether it be by the government or by ordinary Members, will have to be forthwith directed from a specific individual or organization, dated and signed.

The other issue that has arisen pertains to the content of letters or documents and in particular the identification of individuals in letters or documents and any allegations that may be part of a letter or document. To provide guidance on this particular issue, I once again could not find any direct ruling or procedure that dealt with naming individuals in tabled documents, or to tabled documents that contain allegations or potential defamation of an individual.

As with the requirement for petitions, I had to look at other procedural practices and points that could assist the Chair in providing a ruling on this point. In considering this, I was guided once again by citations from Beauchesne's 6th edition. The two areas of procedure I felt appropriate are covered by the use of oral and written questions. I would like to offer the following citation -- Citation 409(7) -- which refers to oral questions, and I quote:

"In 1975, the Speaker expressed some general principles in order to clarify the regulations and restrict the negative qualifications which traditionally have guided the Question Period:

(7) A question must adhere to the proprieties of the House, in terms of inferences, imputing motives or casting aspersions upon persons within the House or out of it."

A number of points outlined in Citation 428 which refers to written questions may provide further guidance, and I quote:

"A question must not:

- (h) contain inferences.
- (i) contain imputations.
- (n) reflect on or relate to character or conduct of persons other than in a public capacity.
- (q) contain or imply charges of a personal character."

As Members are aware, our own rules also give us guidance in dealing with what is considered appropriate in debate. In reviewing the matter further, I considered the issue of whether

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the general rules of debate that apply to Members in the House should apply to references to those individuals who have traditionally been referred to as protected persons. Beauchesne's offers us some assistance in this regard and I quote to give examples of protected persons. I quote first from Citation 493(1):

"All references to judges and courts of justice of the nature of personal attack and censure have always been considered unparliamentary, and the Speaker has always treated them as breaches of order."

Citation 493(3) goes further by stating:

"The Speaker has traditionally protected from attack a group of individuals commonly referred to as "those of high official station". The extent of this group has never been defined. Over the years it has covered senior public servants, ranking officers of the armed services, diplomatic representatives in Canada, a Minister who was not a Member of either House, and the Prime Minister before he won a seat in the House."

Included in the section on protected persons and under the same citation, it provides the following under subsection (4):

"The Speaker has cautioned Members to exercise great care in making statements about persons who are outside the House and unable to reply."

I further considered citations dealing with the requirement that if a document is read or quoted from by a Minister then it may have to be tabled, and I quote from Beauchesne's Citation 495(1):

"A Minister is not at liberty to read or quote from a despatch or other state paper not before the House without being prepared to lay it on the Table."

There is, however, a limitation on this and I quote from Citation 495(2):

"It has been admitted that a document which has been cited ought to be laid upon the Table of the House, if it can be done without injury to the public interest. The same rule, however, cannot be held to apply to private letters or memoranda."

There is also a long-standing practice that procedures cannot be circumvented in one case by actions that would accomplish something that you cannot do by other means. Once again, I must rely on the procedures for petitions to assist me with this. I also took some time to consider parliamentary privilege as it may or may not apply to the point of order and would like to offer the following from "Parliamentary Privilege in Canada" by Joseph Maingot, Q.C. who states: "that while standing order sets out that: "Members presenting petitions shall be answerable that they do not contain impertinent or improper matter," a petitioner nevertheless could, in a proper case, be held in contempt for delivering to a Member, whether or not it is presented in the House, a petition containing abusive matter notwithstanding that the petitioner would be immune from civil action."

This extract from "Parliamentary Privilege in Canada" of course deals with petitions but in his book, Mr. Maingot goes on to address contempt respecting documents and I would like to provide his comments in that regard which I feel are of assistance:

"Similarly, should any person present documents to a committee of the House of Commons which have been forged, falsified, or fabricated with intent to deceive such committee or the House, or, to be privy to such forging or fraud, this will constitute contempt of Parliament because it is an obvious affront to the House of Commons to present it with such documents. The House of Commons is not only entitled to but demands the utmost respect when material is placed before it for its scrutiny, investigation, or study."

I am of the opinion that a direct relationship can be drawn with our procedures as they pertain to a Member's privilege when a complaint is founded on written words. The most common example of a complaint founded on written or spoken words is based on a newspaper article, editorial or broadcast. When an obviously flagrant case is found to be prima facie by the Speaker, a motion can be introduced to resolve that the article or broadcast was libellous and that its publication is a contempt of the House. This procedure is an indication of the extent to which a Member, or the House collectively, can address allegations or correct wrong information.

As Members are well aware, the privilege of being protected from prosecution for what is said in this House is a fundamental and long-standing right that has been tested and consistently upheld in many court cases. However, as the previous citations and precedents demonstrate, it has also been a long-standing convention that the rights of individuals outside of the Legislature are also protected. The privileges that we have, as Members and as a Legislature, also carry with them great responsibility to ensure that those outside the House are protected. The way in which Members conduct themselves individually and collectively reflects on the institution of the Legislative Assembly.

The chair appreciates the comments of Members who spoke to the point of order which assisted me in preparing this ruling. The respect in which Members hold this institution is clearly evident. In order to uphold and enhance this respect, I will not permit comments, whether written or spoken, in this Legislature that have the tendency to question the personal integrity of others outside the House, or

impute motives to those unable to respond or which have the impact of adversely reflecting on the character of those persons outside of this Legislature. The general principle will be that documents will be governed by the same rules that govern debate.

I apologize to the House for such a lengthy ruling but I felt it was important to address as many of the issues as possible, that arose as a result of the point of order by the Member for Mackenzie Delta. Mr. Nerysoo's point of order was quite far-reaching, and I wish to be satisfied that I did not infringe on the rights of any Members or of the House itself. Thank you.

---Applause

I would also like to advise the House that I have received the following communication from the Commissioner:

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"Dear **MR. SPEAKER**: I wish to advise that I recommend to the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories, the passage of Bill 29, Interim Appropriation Act, April 1 - June 30, 1995, during the Seventh Session of the 12th Legislative Assembly. Yours truly, Helen Maksagak, Commissioner."

---Applause

Mrs. Marie-Jewell, your point of order.

Point Of Order

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to raise a point of order for a remark that the Member for Iqaluit, Mr. Patterson, used on March 10th. Mr. Speaker, I would like to quote the comments made by the Member, Mr. Patterson, which are contained on page 1371 of unedited Hansard, and I quote:

"Mr. Speaker, a Member's privilege to be free from prosecution for defamation or slander for what is said in this House is a very sacred and a very special privilege, given to MLAs speaking in this House alone. It is aimed at the full and free discussion of issues and it is aimed at the pursuit of truth. But, Mr. Speaker, in my view, if Members are allowed to act irresponsibly and table unsigned documents which may be furnished to Members for malicious or political purposes, then this is, in fact, an abuse of the privileges we enjoy as Members. And, it will diminish the reputation of this Assembly."

Mr. Speaker, I regard the use of the word "irresponsibly" as unparliamentary and it implies allegations toward myself. Not only should I request an apology from Mr. Patterson, which I won't...However, I, most importantly, would like to request that you respectfully rule on my point of order. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

I would like to again ask for the Members' advice on this one. I would like to hear what the Members have to say because you have to be able to...The way it is said is what I would like to hear the Members' advice on because in the context that it's said, whether it's unparliamentary or not, is what I would like to...To the point of order, Mr. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I was aware from reading a press report that Mrs. Marie-Jewell was concerned about remarks I made in this debate. Perhaps I can assist better than anybody in quickly resolving this matter.

Mr. Speaker, I thought I made quite a good speech the other day...

---Laughter

...since it was off the cuff and I wasn't really prepared. But the Member has quoted me correctly; if Members are allowed to act irresponsibly and table unsigned documents, then this is in fact an abuse of privilege. I would like to clarify, Mr. Speaker, to the Member and to Members of this House, I didn't say the Member was irresponsible. What I said was that the Member's actions or any Members' actions in tabling an unsigned document would be irresponsible or were irresponsible.

Mr. Speaker, there were nine other Members who spoke -- eight or nine. I've just been scanning the Hansard and I think they all agreed, basically, with that point of view. Just looking at the Hansard, Mr. Morin said, "I don't think that in tabling letters that are unsigned we are showing respect for the public." He didn't say the Member was disrespectful, but perhaps the action of tabling unsigned letters was not showing respect. I think there's a big difference between the act, the process, the rule, the practice, the procedure, and the Member's individual character, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Kakfwi described this practice of tabling unsigned letters as going "beyond what are normal bounds of

decency to which we all try to adhere," page 1374. Again, I think he was talking about what he called here "the business of tabling letters," the practice, not the individual.

Mr. Pudlat, page 1374, said he didn't think it was appropriate.

I think Mr. Todd used the same words, that this kind of behaviour is inappropriate.

Mr. Speaker, if you find my remarks in describing the Member's actions as irresponsible, if you find them to be unparliamentary...I don't know why I was picked on, because you better also censor other Members of this Assembly who made reference to decency, respect, appropriateness.

You invited debate on the point of order, Mr. Speaker, as you've done today. The point of order requested a ruling on the practice of tabling unsigned letters. That's what we were talking about: the practice; we weren't talking about the individual. And I would like to clarify to Mrs. Marie-Jewell, I was not talking about her, I was talking about the practice. Her actions triggered the debate, but the debate was about the practice.

So I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, the Member for Thebacha works very hard, she takes her job very seriously and I respect that, but when I was talking about the actions that she took which triggered the debate and your ruling, I was not calling the Member irresponsible; I was talking about the practice which appeared to be triggered by her actions. And I think there's a big difference here, Mr. Speaker.

So with respect, I think the Member has got it all wrong in taking my comments personally. She shouldn't take it personally. The debate was about the rules and the practice of this House, not about the Member or her character. So I would recommend that you not call my remarks unparliamentary. If you do call my comments unparliamentary in being critical of the actions of tabling an unsigned letter, then I bet eight or nine other people who spoke and said it was inappropriate or didn't show respect for this Assembly or was not an act of decency, then they're all guilty of unparliamentary conduct too. But we weren't talking about Mrs. Marie-Jewell, we were talking about the practice.

So I hope I made myself clear, Mr. Speaker. I didn't intend to attack the Member personally, but I will say again and I think your ruling makes it clear, that those

kinds of actions are -- what words shall I use -- not recommended. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Thebacha did raise a point of order which requires my ruling, Mr. Patterson. I appreciate your comments on it and I don't wish to make any

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rulings now but I would have to say that unsigned documents have come from both sides of the House. Are there any further comments on this? Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I recognize Mr. Patterson has indicated that it's the process that Members had questioned. But, at the same time, when you read all the comments which I did, I recognize some Members felt it "inappropriate." "Inappropriate" is a totally different word, in comparison with parliamentary procedures and determinations of parliamentary language, with "irresponsible." Looking through unedited Hansard, Mr. Speaker, the word "irresponsible" was only used by the honourable Member for Iqaluit.

Mr. Speaker, I also wish to refer to the ruling you made this afternoon, which I thank you for and respect. You indicated that you would not permit comments, whether written or spoken, in the Legislature which have a tendency to question the personal integrity of others outside the House or impute motives to those unable to respond. Unfortunately, I was not in the House on March 10th and I was unable to respond to the comments which were imputed towards myself which I did not appreciate. As I said to the media, and it may be unparliamentary, I found it to be a cowardly act because it was something that was spoken behind my back when I was away.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Shame, shame.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

It is unfortunate that we could not discuss this issue while I was here. However, I recognize that I was not in the House and I did not speak on it. I find that the comment "irresponsible" was imputed towards myself

and that's why I'm trying to determine what is parliamentary and what is not parliamentary. If it is deemed that Members find the comment "cowardly" to be unparliamentary, I apologize for using that word. Mr. Speaker, I would appreciate your review of my point of order. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. I will take that under advisement. I think I was just asking for comments on the point of order, not debate. Mr. Patterson, to the point of order.

MR. PATTERSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will try to confine myself to the point of order, although the Member for Thebacha did not and tried to debate your ruling today. Mr. Speaker, just to look at what I said -- as the Member has suggested I was imputing motives -- and to take Members of the House through this: "Mr. Speaker, in my view, if Members are allowed to act irresponsibly and table unsigned documents..." Now, I think that refers to the act of tabling unsigned documents. It doesn't refer to the Member or an individual, it talks about the act of tabling unsigned documents. So, Mr. Speaker, how the Member is imputing the motive out of those words requires a great deal of imagination. I specifically referred to the action, the practice.

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, the Member has pretty well called me a coward for participating in this debate in her absence. Mr. Speaker, I'm not responsible for the fact that the Member was not here and I'm sure she had very good reason for not being here that day. What happened, Mr. Speaker, was that the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta raised a point of order and I would like to inform Mrs. Marie-Jewell that I had no idea or advance warning that this point of order was going to be raised. I suspect that was the case with most other Members. I had no idea it was going to be raised.

When it was raised and you invited debate, I welcomed the chance to debate because I had been thinking about the matter and I had been discussing the matter with other Members, and was beginning to feel some unease about what was going on. I had also heard media reports about the matter. So, Mr. Speaker, was I to refrain from expressing my opinions because the Member wasn't present? Was it somehow disrespectful to offer opinions because the Member wasn't present? Mr. Speaker, I offered my opinions because you invited debate and I thought,

being a Member of this House for some years, I might have something to offer.

I wasn't afraid to offer my opinions in front of the Member and I'm not afraid to do so today. I stand by the opinions I offered on that day and I'm not afraid to say so in the presence of the Member. So, Mr. Speaker, I'm now concerned that there has been a second allegation added to the Member's point of order which is an act of cowardice. I'm not afraid of the Member, Mr. Speaker, and I'm not afraid of free, full and frank debate. Whether the Member is here or not, I'm not afraid of it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Do we have any further comments? Okay, I would like to thank the Member for Thebacha for raising that point and also for the comments of other Members. I will take this under advisement and make my ruling. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Morin.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement 44-12(7): Counselling Of Tenants On The New Rent Scale

HON. DON MORIN:

Mr. Speaker, before the session break, I made the commitment to Members to provide the number of tenants who have received counselling on the new rent scale. I would like to advise Members that we have requested status reports from the 50 housing organizations across the territories. The information is starting to come in and I want to assure Members that I will report on the rent scale implementation during this session.

As I have mentioned to the Members before, implementing a new rent scale is a very big job. The local housing organizations, through their agreements with the Housing Corporation, are taking the lead role in getting the new scale up and running in their communities. There have been some incorrect reports in the media, and some misconceptions that the local housing organizations are not doing a good job. This is far from the truth. I want to correct that impression because the staff of the local housing organizations are doing a great job. They are working very hard to make sure all tenants understand the new rent scale.

From the information received so far, I can say that implementation of the rent scale is fully complete in 10 communities. The majority of communities are

over 85 per cent complete with their implementation. Some people received their notices late and will be seen next month. A few communities are having some problems and Housing

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Corporation staff are working with the staff from the local housing organizations to resolve those problems. I will provide Members with a fuller briefing shortly after the end of March. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Ng.

Minister's Statement 45-12(7): National Biathlon Championships

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the national biathlon championships were held in Canmore, Alberta from March 9 to 12, 1995. I would like to congratulate Cathy Ayalik, Paul Green, Ian Elsy and Mary Beth Miller, our biathlon team, on their strong showing at this competition:

- Cathy Ayalik from Yellowknife captured two silver medals in the 30 plus category for her performance in the 10-kilometre individual race and the 7.5-kilometre sprint.

- Yellowknife's Mary Beth Miller, fresh from her appearance at the Canada Winter Games, finished 14th overall in the junior women's category.

- Hay River's Paul Green placed seventh in the open men's class.

- Yellowknife's Ian Elsy did well for his first competition at this level.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure our Members will join me in congratulating our NWT biathlon member for their fine performance at the national biathlon championships. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Minister's Statement 46-12(7): Zero Tolerance For Violence

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to address the subject that was brought up by the honourable Member for Yellowknife Frame Lake, on behalf of the Ordinary Members' Caucus, last November. In the statement, it was pointed out that declarations of zero tolerance, and the document on violence that was tabled in the last session, are "nice encouraging words, but still only words." He said, "We need to turn those words into action."

Mr. Speaker, I couldn't agree more with the Ordinary Members' Caucus. If we were to stop here, satisfied with expressions of good intent, then clearly this would not be enough. But we have no intention of stopping here and I'd like to talk more about that in a minute. But first I'd like to look at the declarations on family violence themselves, because I don't think that we should take them for granted.

Family violence is not only a problem in our homes and in our communities here in the Northwest Territories. Family violence is a problem across the country and around the world. Yet, to my knowledge, this Assembly is the only one in Canada, and probably beyond, that has taken such a clear public stand against family violence. Over a dozen communities and organizations in the NWT have followed our lead and I hope that more will do so in the coming weeks and months. These kinds of actions keep the issue of family violence front and centre where it belongs.

Mr. Speaker, it was not very long ago that family violence was considered to be an internal family matter, something not of concern outside the immediate family. The justice system certainly treated family violence this way up until about ten years ago. Some people still have trouble realizing that family violence is a crime. Changing social attitudes about violence, or anything else for that matter, is not something that happens overnight. It is a process; a process that starts with one person, one family, one community and spreads from there.

Our attitudes on this subject have changed a lot in the last few years and they will continue to evolve. The declarations are a vital element in the process of building zero tolerance for violence. They are part of the process of change and we must do whatever we can to encourage that change. As an MLA, I have contacted communities in the Sahtu and encouraged them to follow the example of Norman Wells in adopting a declaration of zero tolerance for family

violence and I encourage all Members to do the same with political leaders in the constituencies.

All of us can do more. Declarations of zero tolerance are about providing leadership, role-modelling and sending the right message. If the Members of this Assembly are serious about wanting to send the right message out about violence, and I have no reason to doubt that we are, we are in an excellent position to do so by introducing a requirement that any one of our Members who is convicted of a violent offence will be obliged to resign his or her seat in this Assembly. In my mind, this is a concrete step that we could take collectively, that would send a clear signal that we mean business. I, for one, would be among the first to support such a measure.

---Applause

Certainly, Mr. Speaker, declarations of zero tolerance for violence, although positive steps in themselves are no substitute for actions. Nor are they meant to be. In fact, there are a number of areas where we are moving ahead. The Member for Yellowknife Frame Lake alluded in his statement last November, to significant capital expenditures in the area of corrections. I will have more to say about these expenditures later in this session, but I want to mention now that the purpose of these expenditures is not just to build more buildings to warehouse more offenders. The hope is that, by bringing them closer to the communities, by making appropriate programming available, and by involving community members in running these facilities, we will be more effective in reaching offenders and in changing their behaviours, with the result that there will be less violence.

Another very significant change that is under way is the attempt to deal with the underlying causes of violence. This approach starts with acknowledging that violence, although itself a very serious problem, is also a symptom of other underlying and connected problems. In this, it is similar to alcohol: alcohol abuse is a huge problem in its own right but is also a symptom of something else. This approach that is being pursued by all the departments within the social envelope process, we are

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calling community wellness. Again, more will be said about this later in this Assembly, but it is important to mention it here.

I agree completely with the honourable Members of the Ordinary Members' Caucus that well-supported victims are essential to the effective prosecution of domestic violence offences. I believe the best way of ensuring that victims of violence get the support they deserve, both in the courtroom and in the community, is to do everything we can to erode the belief that beating your wife and abusing your children is somehow excusable. We have to undermine the idea that somehow abused women and children are to blame for the abuse they receive. One way of achieving these goals is to erode the degree of tolerance for violence that still exists in our society, a tolerance that allows the cycle of violence to continue.

Community-based victim service groups provide a much needed service. Volunteers and staff with these groups deserve our recognition and our thanks for the good work that they do.

Declarations of zero tolerance, the modelling of healthy and non-violent behaviour by political leadership, tackling the underlying causes of family violence, supporting projects that build on community wellness; all of these are building blocks toward a society without violence, and they all deserve our support.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate, once again, those municipalities and organizations which have passed resolutions. Once again, I invite the Members of the Legislative Assembly to contact their constituents and urge their municipal councils, band councils and other organizations to adopt the principle of zero tolerance for family violence. It does make a difference. Mahsi.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, Mr. Kakfwi. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Are there any further Ministers' statements? Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Ballantyne.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Summer Employment For Post-Secondary Students

MR. BALLANTYNE:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today I will talk about the government's program for finding summer jobs for senior high school students and post-secondary students. As Members recall, last year this particular program was clouded by controversy and accusations. I don't think anyone in this House wants that to happen again this year.

I note, Mr. Speaker, that the federal government has revamped their whole approach regarding summer student job creation. There was a news bulletin that came out and the federal government has put together a six-point program, which includes: summer career placements; summer youth service Canada, where kids do municipal work across the country; student business loans for young entrepreneurs to get interest-free loans; a native internship program; and, partners at promoting summer employment, and this is a partnership between businesses and the government to hire students and the Canadian Employment Centre.

Mr. Speaker, last year, even though it was a controversial year, the GNWT hired 785 students, which was 117 more students than the year before. This is the best record, I am sure, in the country for both aboriginal and non-aboriginal students for governments finding them jobs. So that we don't have this kind of controversy again, we have to look at some imagination in our approach in the summer that is coming up.

First of all, we should dovetail our program with that of the federal government, taking advantage of the programs they have. I also think a certain number of positions should be reserved for kids who excel in class. For instance, anyone with over an 85 per cent average in their university year or at high school is guaranteed a job with the government.

There are two obvious areas, Mr. Speaker, where we could use summer students. One is in the area of the environment. Members will recall a very successful program that the Metis Nation sponsored last year where a group of students went out for a number of weeks to clean up areas around Great Slave Lake.

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

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Yellowknife North is seeking unanimous consent. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Continue, Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think that program last year...I was down at the send-off for this group of young people, and there was tremendous enthusiasm. A group of young people who went out on the land doing something very, very constructive,

and I think it was a very good example for all of us of what's possible with some imagination.

Another area that I think is a very logical place to put summer students is in community projects. There is a tremendous need all across the Northwest Territories in communities. There are a lot of opportunities for young people to make positive contributions to communities. This also could dovetail in with the youth service Canada program, and some of our kids perhaps could go to southern Canada and some southern Canadian kids could come up to the Northwest Territories.

The concept of encouraging our entrepreneurs is a good one. I think we should again dovetail with the federal program and provide programs to young entrepreneurs. Whether they want to set up a chip wagon in downtown Yellowknife or another business somewhere in the territories, I think it would be a tremendous way to encourage our young entrepreneurs. I think we could improve the career orientation, and the Department of Justice, Department of Finance could be out actively pursuing young students to follow those fields and then to devise a program over a number of years that would help these kids to eventually come back to work here in the north. We've done some of it, I think we could do more.

I think there's a real need for at least a small number of these students to be involved in international exchanges. I think our

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kids should really have some perspective of what's happening out there in the world. Sometimes in the north we're quite insular.

I also think that one area where we haven't really done nearly enough is formal agreements with the private sector, whereby we'll be prepared to work with them to provide jobs for students in the private sector. That means that we'll top off what the private sector is prepared to do. We could get a lot more bang for our buck.

So what I hope -- and when I make this statement I hope that the Minister is listening -- that this will be a summer of no controversy, that we'll build on our record, and we have a tremendous record in this area. We use some imagination and some enthusiasm. We'll harmonize our program with the federal government. I think by doing this, we'll send

out the message that, one, the young people are a major priority with this government. Two, that we'll reward success, and that means kids who are successful in school will be rewarded. We'll encourage partnerships between the GNWT and the federal government, between native and non-native kids, between big communities and small communities.

What I hope to see this summer is that our government will show imagination and some energy and come up with new and innovative approaches, and our students, both native and non-native, will be able to say they're very proud of the fact that no other jurisdiction in the country can offer the same opportunities as those that are found in the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Member's Statement On Community Wellness Conference In Rae-Edzo

MR. ZOE:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we hear a lot in the north about the need for our communities to heal. Last week, in Rae-Edzo, people from across the region gathered to do just that under the program called "Healing Ourselves, Healing Our Community." This week-long program was sponsored by the Dogrib Rae Band and funded through the community wellness program.

Mr. Speaker, there were four key topics discussed during the week: traditional healing; anger management; addiction healing -- gambling and alcohol; and, community healing. People were able to attend different sessions each day. The facilitators, Harvey Tootosis, Russel Willier, Charlie Neyellie, Florence Saskatchewan, Daniel Beaver, Baptise and Eugene Newborn and Charlie Weaselhead, did an excellent job of sharing their information ideas and encouraged the participants to share their experiences.

On the final day of the program, Mr. Speaker, all facilitators and participants gathered together for a final traditional healing session. For many, this session helped the process of personal healing. The staff of the friendship centre need to be congratulated on the successful organization of this program in a

very short period of time. As well, the people of Rae-Edzo should be commended for the community dedication to the need for healing. In recognition of the spirit of the program, there was a reduction in activities related to the problems of communities such as bingos, card games and drinking.

Mr. Speaker, the message coming from this gathering was clear. We want to be healthy in mind, spirit, emotion and body. The participants will carry this message into their everyday lives. The people of the Dogrib region, as individuals and communities, will continue the momentum of this healing process. And, Mr. Speaker, talking to various organizations in that particular community, they encourage this government and also the federal government to continue the type of support that's required at the community level. Mahsi.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Todd.

Member's Statement Paying Tribute To Susan Aglukark

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm very pleased to be able to stand in the House today and pay tribute to a young woman from Keewatin who has taken, in my opinion anyway, the country by storm. I'm, of course, referring to Susan Aglukark. The people in the Keewatin and the Northwest Territories...

---Applause

...have known for a long time how talented this young woman is. It seems that the rest of Canada is now beginning to fully realize the depth of her talent. Last night, Susan was awarded a Juno for the best solo artist award in Canada. At the same time, her album Arctic Rose took the Juno for the best music of aboriginal Canada.

---Applause

Mr. Speaker, the Junos recognize the best of Canada's musical talent. As a double winner, Susan joins a select and talented group that includes artists such as Jann Arden and Celine Dion. What pleases me most, Mr. Speaker, is that aside from the fact that she is very talented, Susan has also been a great model for our youth and a tremendous ambassador for the Northwest Territories. I hope that all the Members will join me in offering congratulations to

Susan on her success, and long may it continue. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Member's Statement On Implementation Of New Rent Scale

MR. PUDLAT:

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand today with regard to the rental scale. Mr. Speaker, the Minister of the Housing Corporation said that they were going to delay some of the introduction of the rental scale, but I know in some of the communities they have not delayed some of the process. Some of the clerks who are responsible for the introduction of the rental scale are having a hard time in dealing with the new rental scale, especially the rental clerks. It has to be recognized that their job is very difficult. But, Mr. Speaker, some of our communities have no idea what is happening and they have a lot of concerns with regard to the

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fact that they do not understand the implication of the rental scale on their livelihood. We were provided with a whole lot of

material that has to be read and I know, myself, that I receive a lot of material to read.

For that reason, Mr. Speaker, they are starting to understand the process now but will require a lot more time to understand it further. During the times we meet here in the House, I have tried to convey the information to our constituencies. I even met with the Housing Corporation official in Iqaluit. He came over to our community and realized that the translated materials were not available regarding the rental scale introduction. It is not only the territorial government that is setting up the process, but Ottawa has also given reasons to start the rental scale changes. We always inherit problems from Ottawa so I think that should be explained to the communities as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Member's Statement On Introduction Of Recall Legislation

MR. LEWIS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The most important work that we do in this House is to really deal with legislation, that is why we're called what we're called and there can be nothing more important than developing laws for the people we represent. Mr. Speaker, during the 11th Assembly, I worked very hard on a bill to do with the environment because the economy and the environment were dominating themes. That bill was passed and has been used and has not been a terrible burden. In fact, it's useful to have such an instrument in place. Also because of our interest in the economy, import replacement and renewable resources, Members supported the idea of a bill which would in fact support some kind of attempt to brew our own product in the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Speaker, the price for private Members to work on such items is very, very dear because, in the first case, all the mining people were mad, all the oil and gas people were mad, all the development-oriented people were mad and that alienated a whole bunch of people because of the particular stance people took. In the case of the brewing bill, you make all the social agencies upset, the people involved with addictions got upset, family-oriented groups got upset and you end up alienating an awful lot of people because of the particular position you take.

The last group, apparently, according to my sources in the community, which I could upset would be politicians. Everybody else has been upset so, therefore, following from Mr. Kakfwi's earlier statement about the need to do things with teeth and not to just have fine words, I will be proceeding with a bill where we can begin at the top and say we are people who are accountable. "Accountability" is the key word in this 12th Assembly and I will be proceeding with a bill on recall that will, in fact, have teeth. We'll be able to do the things in exactly the way that Mr. Kakfwi suggested we do when we have serious problems to deal with. I know I'll get incredible support from all the Members of this House to do that.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Hear, hear.

MR. LEWIS:

Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Member's Statement On Arctic College Environmental Programs Evaluation Report

MR. PATTERSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on May 12, 1994, a report was prepared by Avery Cooper Consulting on the Arctic College environmental programs evaluation report. I believe the consultant was engaged by the Arctic College board of governors to do a formal evaluation.

Mr. Speaker, I'm mystified by some of the recommendations in this report. It was undertaken and completed when it was well-known that two colleges would be established in Nunavut and the western Arctic. Mr. Speaker, there are at present two environmental programs offered: in the Thebacha campus, the renewable resource technology program; and Nunatta campus, the environmental technology program. I believe there are plans under way to offer an environmental technology program in the Inuvik region.

Mr. Speaker, the environmental technology program in Arctic College is evolving to meet the specific needs of implementing the Nunavut land claim and managing Inuit lands and resources, which I understand is the main motive behind the proposed Inuvik program for the claims in those regions. This is, therefore, not the time to try to make the program similar. With the establishment of the new college and the implementation of the Nunavut land claim, this is the time to allow the environmental technology program in the Nunavut college to evolve and grow, not to be confined. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Member's Statement On Congratulating 1995 Apprenticeship Class Graduates

MR. WHITFORD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll be brief. Today I would like to rise to congratulate the 1995 graduating class of apprenticeship that received awards on the weekend here in

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Yellowknife at a little get together put on by the apprenticeship board.

This is an annual event, Mr. Speaker, that recognizes the hard work that the apprentices do in their respective trades and a good number of them receive special recognition for top marks and other such things they strive for in their respective occupations. There were people from the automotive industry, both mechanics and auto body repairmen, there were flooring technicians, cooks, welders and plumbers; all people who we can't do without in our daily living. It was good to see that there were a good number of northerners who received special recognition that evening for their hard work and dedication. It's paying off.

I was particularly interested in the guest speaker, the human resource officer from BHP who was there to outline what young people should be looking at in the diamond industry if it ever gets under way here in the territories. There are going to be a good number of jobs there, some highly skilled, others in the technical and other areas that require some lead time training that we must, as a government and population where a lot of expertise comes from the south, encourage people to get involved in, should and when it comes.

It reminds me of the days when the Mackenzie Valley was being talked about and an organization called Nortran went about recruiting and training people in the territories in anticipation that there would be a number of jobs coming out of the pipeline. Although it never did come about, the skills the people learned were put to good use in later years.

So, to the apprentices and to the apprenticeship board, congratulations.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Member's Statement On Funding For Pelly Bay School Gymnasium

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, some time ago, through the Kitikmeot board of education and at a meeting with the Premier of this government, hamlet representatives and myself, we talked about the hamlet request for infrastructure money to build a gymnasium attachment to the school. I believe the Minister of Education is aware of the request. Also, some time ago, the Kitikmeot board of education requested funding to build a gymnasium attachment to the Pelly Bay School.

Mr. Speaker, for about five years we seem to have been unable to find funding for this very important project. Mr. Speaker, I'm told that infrastructure money that was given to the territories from the federal government has lapsed over the past year. I'm wondering if there is perhaps some funding left over that was to be allocated to communities but communities did not use. I wonder if money is still available and, at the appropriate time, I will be asking the Minister. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Member's Statement On Rural And Remote Program

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, prior to breaking, I questioned the Minister of Housing about the rural and remote program. This program was 75 per cent CMHC funded and 25 per cent NWT Housing Corporation funded. The payment schedules include that 25 per cent of rental income are deemed mortgage payments.

Mr. Speaker, over the break in my constituency I did some work on the rural and remote program and found out how many of my constituents are affected. It was discovered that I have 10 constituents who have taken advantage of the rural and remote program. However, what concerns me is that one is a senior citizen and one is disabled. Many have paid a mortgage for a number of years, Mr. Speaker. For example, one constituent purchased a unit for approximately \$62,000 and after 11 years still owes \$54,365. Even if they paid out the mortgage, the amount would be \$52,499 and that's after paying

\$675 a month, totalling \$8,061 a year, of which \$6,200 is applied to interest.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to urge this government to address the rural and remote program that they were once involved in. I know the Minister stated that it would cost \$3 million to purchase all these rural and remote program units in the Northwest Territories and I recognize this is a lot of money in the tight fiscal environment we're in today. However, if we don't, Mr. Speaker, we are creating inequities in our system. On the one hand, the senior citizen units being used by seniors, which are considered public units, are rent free as of April 1st -- and I know some seniors welcome this while many seniors have said they feel very uncomfortable living rent free but I believe they deserve it -- but on the other hand, where seniors are clients of the rural and remote program, paying 25 per cent of their pension towards their mortgage causes great hardship.

Therefore, I would urge this government to address the rural and remote program, which was initially intended to be a good program but has since been deleted by CMHC, probably because of the hardships it does cause. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Item 3, Members' statements. Are there any further Members' statements? We'll take a 15-minute break.

---SHORT RECESS

MR. SPEAKER:

We're on item 4, returns to oral questions. Mr. Todd.

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

Further Return To Question 237-12(7): Information On Staking Claims

HON. JOHN TODD:

Mr. Speaker, a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Ningark on March 3, 1994, with respect to information on staking claims.

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Staking mineral claims is a straightforward process that anyone, not just mining companies, can do. The

DIAND mining recorder's office has detailed instructions and information about staking claims that outlines, for example, the maximum size allowed for a single claim, or the type of information needed to be marked on claim posts.

Any person over the age of 18, with a \$5 prospecting licence, can stake a mineral claim. Claiming an area for minerals is a matter of:

(1) Finding out whether the mineral rights are available for staking;

(2) Going out on the land and marking the claim or claims with stone markers or marks on trees and claim posts; and,

(3) sending in a form and a map of the claim to the DIAND mining recorder's office, so that they can record the claim.

I have instructed my staff to send a summary of the specific details to the Member's office.

The Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources is in the process of hiring an individual who will provide direct assistance and advice at the community level on local geology, prospecting and exploration potential in their area.

Further Return To Question 286-12(7): Lower WCB Rates For Administrative Staff In Construction And Taxi Businesses

Mr. Speaker, a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Koe on March 9th with respect to WCB rates.

This matter was referred to the board of directors for consideration at their March board meeting.

Employers are classified by the type of industry and the classification is intended to reflect the total activities and output of the particular industry.

Administrative support services form an integral segment of each industrial classification. The GNWT -- subclass 81 -- is a good example of how diverse an employer's operations can be: for example, we have clerks, heavy equipment operators, inspectors, et cetera.

The board's classification methodology conforms with all other WCB's across Canada, and there is no basis for the board to consider changing this methodology at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Further Return To Question 303-12(7): Communities Selected For EDO Teams

Another question asked by Mr. Koe on March 10th with respect to communities selected for EDO teams.

The regional superintendent committees in Nunavut and the west are discussing deployment options among themselves and with the deputy minister. Some of the factors that have to be considered before selecting the locations are the specific nature of work requirements in each area and potential demand for services. The needs that have to be met vary across the north and have an impact on how the resources are deployed.

The base communities for the itinerant EDOs have not yet been selected. However, it is my intention that they operate from outside the capital and from locations close to the people they serve.

The plan is to have these teams based in a location which will make it possible for them to efficiently carry out their mandate. The primary objective of the teams is to service smaller communities but they will also respond to other opportunities as they arise, Mr. Speaker.

We are working towards having the base communities for these positions selected and the positions filled by June 30, 1995.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 177-12(7): Student Achievement Rates Across NWT

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Lewis on February 27th with regard to student achievement rates.

Last spring, NWT students participated in the reading and writing assessment conducted as part of the Canada-wide student achievement indicators program.

Over 75 per cent of 13 year olds and over 60 per cent of 16 year olds in the NWT achieved acceptable or higher levels of results in the writing assessment. Overall, these writing results were about 15 per cent below Canadian student outcomes. Half of the

students who took part in the reading assessment achieved an acceptable level. However, most of the students are achieving below the national percentage of 72 per cent in reading.

A second assessment in reading and writing will take place again in about three years. This year our students will be participating in a science assessment as part of the Canada student achievement indicators program.

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MR. SPEAKER:

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

Return To Question 114-12(7): Consultation Process Re Proposed Hangar Facilities In Fort Smith

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

Mr. Speaker, I have a return to an oral question asked by Mrs. Marie-Jewell on February 20th regarding consultation process for the proposed hangar facility in Fort Smith.

Mr. Speaker, throughout the review of the forest fire management program which was carried out in 1993, there was extensive consultation with many interested parties, including community consultations, northern businesses, federal and most provincial jurisdictions, and internal departments, including Renewable Resources, Public Works and Services, Economic Development and Tourism, Financial Management Board Secretariat and Finance. This process was significant in identifying the extent of northern content in the provision of these services, and the potential for reducing the leakage to the south. A complete list of consultations will be tabled later today.

That study was followed by continued interdepartmental considerations by Renewable Resources, Public Works and Services, Economic Development and Tourism and Financial Management Board Secretariat, leading to the decision by the Financial Management Board in June of 1994 to negotiate a comprehensive contract with the Dene-Metis of Fort Smith for the provision and operation of air tanker services.

The Member made mention of two letters. The letter of April 14, 1994 from Dene-Metis Holdings to the committee of deputy ministers was replied to by the deputy minister of Renewable Resources on April

28th. Dene-Metis Holdings sent a fax to the Minister of Public Works and Services on July 11, 1994. The deputy minister of Public Works and Services replied with a letter on July 21, 1994 and the Minister replied on September 7, 1994.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of the Northwest Territories did not issue any press releases stating that the NWT Metis National Assembly would be given the project.

Beginning in November 1994, a consultant was retained to assist in consulting with Transport Canada as the owners of the CL-215s, with Canadair, manufacturer of the CL-215s, with representatives of the insurance industry and other jurisdictions having forest firefighting experience. The consulting role was to address such specialized issues as the impact on maintenance schedules, certification and insurance. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Item 4, returns to oral questions.

Further Return To Question 254-12(7): GNWT Policy On General Contractors Paying Subcontractors

HON. DON MORIN:

Mr. Speaker, I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Koe on March 7, 1995; GNWT policy on general contractors paying subcontractors.

It is important to realize that the statutory declaration is only one means to protect subcontractors. Other means are equally important, such as bonding or contract security, holdbacks and the GNWT's right to withhold disputed amounts for the general contractor or even to pay the subcontractor directly.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Further Return To Question 160-12(7): Assessments Of FAS/FAE

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a reply to an oral question which was asked by Mr. Dent on February 24th regarding the assessment of FAS/FAE.

The national population health survey and national longitudinal survey of children were combined and carried out with approximately 1,500 households across the NWT over the past few months. Several survey questions related to the use and amounts of alcohol consumption during pregnancy. This information will provide an indication of the number of children who are at risk for FAS/FAE in the Northwest Territories. Although it will not provide us with the incidence of FAS/FAE, the survey will allow us to determine if further research into this area is necessary. In addition, those children identified as "at risk" through the survey will be followed up in subsequent surveys for assessment of developmental and behavioural problems. This has the potential to provide valuable information on the nature and severity of the problems faced by these children.

As part of the national survey, it will also give us a sense of how our situation compares to the other provinces. I expect the survey report this summer and I will provide a copy to all the Members.

Further Return To Question 170-12(7): Provision Of Speech Therapy To Students

Mr. Speaker, I have a further reply if I may continue. A return to an oral question also asked by Mr. Dent on February 27th regarding the provision of speech therapy to students. Mr. Speaker, Stanton Hospital has two speech pathologists providing services to Yellowknife catchment area, the Kitikmeot and the Inuvik regions. Because of this huge workload, Stanton has had no choice but to limit services in Yellowknife to preschool children. This situation is not workable in the long term and the hospital board has been looking for ways to increase the staffing. It has been possible, Mr. Speaker, through a combination of increased efficiencies and the repatriation of services currently provided in the south, to identify additional resources to resolve this problem. As a

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result, the hospital will add three speech pathologists to its organization over the next year.

These additional resources will clear up the backlog for both preschool and school-age children. Mr. Speaker, the team will also assess the continuing need for speech pathology services in cooperation with Yellowknife schools. This technical support will help the schools to develop more effective teaching strategies by differentiating between students whose speech difficulties relate to a medical problem as

opposed to those who are having difficulty for other reasons, such as learning English as a second language.

Further Return To Question 258-12(7): Status Of Financial Assistance For GLO Wages

Mr. Speaker, I have a further reply to an oral question. It is an oral question asked by Mr. Allooos on March 7th regarding the government liaison officer acceptance of revised job offers.

Mr. Speaker, between February 13 and 15, 1995, nine GLOs in the Baffin region were offered new half-time positions by the Department of Personnel and asked to confirm their acceptance of the offer within five business days.

Following issue of the revised job offers:

- The Arctic Bay GLO position has been reassessed and, as that position also serves the community of Nanisivik, it has been returned to a full-time position for the fiscal year 1995-96. The part-time job offer has been rescinded, and the incumbent has been advised that her services will be maintained on a full-time basis at this time.

- Mr. Speaker, the Department of Health and Social Services has agreed to provide funding for part-time positions for the delivery of income support in the communities of Pond Inlet, Igloodik and Pangnirtung. The incumbent Pond Inlet, Igloodik and Pangnirtung GLOs have been offered, and have accepted, amended, full-time job offers which will include responsibilities for the delivery of services for both the Department of Executive and Department of Health and Social Services.

- The remaining Baffin GLOs have not accepted the half-time positions offered. The government is now proceeding with notifications of lay-off, but incumbent GLOs can still accept the half-time position offered until such time as the notification of lay-off is received.

Incumbent GLOs who wish to proceed with lay-off will be given priority status on other employment competitions within the GNWT for a period of one year following their date of lay-off.

Return To Question 264-12(7): Transfer Of Responsibility For Staff Housing To NWT HC

Mr. Speaker, I have one further reply. It is a return to an oral question asked by Mrs. Marie-Jewell on March 7th, regarding the transfer of responsibility for staff

housing to the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, as part of the long-term staff housing strategy, the responsibilities for the various components of the program will be transferred from the Department of Personnel and from the Department of Public Works and Services to the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation and to the Financial Management Board Secretariat beginning on April 1, 1995.

On that date, the present headquarters responsibilities of the Department of Personnel for the administration of staff housing will be transferred to the Housing Corporation. Personnel responsibilities for staff housing policy will be transferred to the Financial Management Board Secretariat.

A timetable for the transfer of the remaining property management functions to the Housing Corporation, and for the consolidation of staff housing maintenance functions, is being prepared and will be tabled in the Assembly during the next session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Are there any further returns? Item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Lewis.

ITEM 5: RECOGNITION OF VISITORS IN THE GALLERY

MR. LEWIS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like you to recognize Mr. Tom Eagle who is in the gallery opposite me. He is a distinguished elder from the city of Yellowknife and the executive director of the Tree of Peace Friendship Centre.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

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

MR. PATTERSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize Mr. Ben McDonald of the Union of Northern Workers.

---Applause

He is back in the gallery. I would like to thank Mr. Whitford and Mr. Ningark for drawing his presence to my attention. And I would like to say that he was here Friday, March 10th, but I did not recognize him which I regret, that was irresponsible of me not to have done so. Thank you.

---Applause.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. Are there any further recognitions? Item 6, oral questions. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

ITEM 6: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 313-12(7): Status Of Recommendations For Fire Management Review

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Renewable Resources. Prior to the break, the Minister had given me 14 volumes of the fire management review which his department had commissioned quite some time ago. Mr. Speaker, this review cost the department \$392,000. The review had some 27 recommendations. I would like to ask the Minister if he knows

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how many recommendations were accepted from this particular review. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Minister for Renewable Resources, Silas Arngna'naaq.

HON. SILAS ARNGNA'NAAQ:

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

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Question 314-12(7): Inclusion Of GLOs In Workforce Adjustment Program

MR. ALLOOLOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Premier a question with regard to the response that

she gave me regarding GLO acceptance. I would like to thank the Minister for seeing that the bigger communities in Baffin need their GLO positions to be full time. I would like to ask the Minister of those nine positions the government is allowing to be full-time, what happens to the rest of the GLOs? If they are let go, are they are allowed to be participants of the workforce adjustment program? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Madam Premier.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

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

MR. SPEAKER:

Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Ningark.

Question 315-12(7): Funding For Pelly Bay School Gymnasium

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, following my Member's statement I made earlier today, my question is directed to the honourable Minister for Education, Culture and Employment, as he is responsible for the infrastructure money that is given to the territories for distribution across the board. Mr. Minister, Pelly Bay has been requesting, in the past, funding in the neighbourhood of \$1.2 million to build a gymnasium attachment -- that seems like a lot of money; I am reading the amount from a note which was given to me and it's very sloppy handwriting -- for the school. The person who wrote me this note is wondering if there is money left over in the program after communities who requested funding were given their money. Is there any money left over from the old year? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Minister of Education, Culture and Employment, Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 315-12(7): Funding For Pelly Bay School Gymnasium

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will just indicate, Mr. Speaker, that some of the communities have not completed their applications for the resources that

have been allocated to each community. To date, 26 projects have been approved, valued at approximately \$2 million, and it is the intent of these projects to create 142 short-term and long-term jobs. An additional 36 proposals have been received by the management committee and will be going forward for approval shortly. In this particular year, I believe, the matching dollars are approximately \$6 million.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Mr. Ningark.

Supplementary To Question 315-12(7): Funding For Pelly Bay School Gymnasium

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my supplementary to the same Minister is, if in fact there is some money left over, surely the community of Pelly Bay that has requested funding for a very useful purpose should be able to get money that is no longer used by other communities. My supplementary to the Minister is, what is the status of the Pelly Bay request for funding under the infrastructure program? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 315-12(7): Funding For Pelly Bay School Gymnasium

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All I can say, Mr. Speaker, is that the allocation that was made to Pelly Bay does not match the request for \$1.2 or \$1.4 million. What is clear is that there is probably a need for the region, the community and the divisional board of education to rethink how they are going to fund a project of that magnitude.

There are a number of options we are looking at, but none of which includes the use of carry over dollars because, while the funding may not be totally allocated this year for the infrastructure program, we have an agreement with the federal government that we will carry those dollars over for the next three years. In fact, we're in the process now of negotiating a potential agreement of making the infrastructure program available for up to five years if we don't spend the resources. In that time, we might have the appropriate applications completed.

The one thing that is not clear to me is, even though we're considering extending the project period for five years, if that includes additional resources then we need to have a discussion with the federal government about that matter. It may mean more dollars or it may just mean use of the same amount of dollars over a longer period.

MR. SPEAKER:

Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Allooloo.

Question 316-12(7): Status Of Official Languages Directive

MR. ALLOOLOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Premier. On April 6, 1994, I asked the Premier about a progress report on the official languages directive given to employees and she promised me she would attempt to complete the directive by the end of that session. I have not seen the report or directive for employees. I wonder if the progress report on the official languages directive is now complete. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Madam Premier.

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Return To Question 316-12(7): Status Of Official Languages Directive

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

Mr. Speaker, on the basis of the previous funding, we had the directive almost completed. What we're doing now with the present language agreement and the limitation of resources is we're adapting it to recognize that fact and it should be available very soon. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Question 317-12(7): Status Of Consultant Hired After Forest Fire Management Review

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Premier. Mr. Speaker, in the Premier's reply to oral

questions today, she indicated that a consultant was retained to assist in consulting with Transport Canada's owners of the CL-215. I would like, just for clarification, to ask the Premier was this consultant in addition to the expenditure the Department of Renewable Resources made on another consultant? Is this a new consultant who was retained in November of 1994 after the forest fire management review had taken place? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Madam Premier.

Return To Question 317-12(7): Status Of Consultant Hired After Forest Fire Management Review

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

Mr. Speaker, yes.

MR. SPEAKER:

Supplementary, Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Supplementary To Question 317-12(7): Status Of Consultant Hired After Forest Fire Management Review

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Premier whether or not she would be able to provide us with a copy of the terms of reference for this consultant and advise us who the consultant was? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Madam Premier.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

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. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Premier. Mr. Speaker, I was very pleased to hear that, through negotiations between the Executive and Health and Social Services, full-time jobs have been restored, as I understand, in four communities in

Baffin Island for GLOs who are now going to take on duties delivering social assistance, I believe. This is great news, Mr. Speaker, but I would just like to ask the Premier why it was necessary to put these people through the hell of getting notice that their jobs were being cut in half and all the anxiety that entails -- five days to reply and all of that -- when, as I think Members of the House said at the time, there was a possible solution at hand?

Why did the government do it backwards? Why didn't they negotiate the new jobs rather than giving lay-off notices and then negotiating the new jobs? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

I would like to ask the Member for Iqaluit to rephrase his question and I would also like to ask Members to watch the kind of language they use in this House.

---Applause

Mr. Patterson.

Question 318-12(7): Concerns Re GNWT's Handling Of GLO Positions

MR. PATTERSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No disrespect was intended. I guess I would like to ask the Premier, very simply, why was it necessary to put the employees through the ordeal of having their jobs cut in half and to give them notices, when there was a solution that could have been worked out, as has been done in these four communities already? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Madam Premier.

Return To Question 318-12(7): Concerns Re GNWT's Handling Of GLO Positions

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

Mr. Speaker, during the last few months when we were going through the role and work that the GLOs were doing, the regions were well aware that some of the GLOs were carrying out, in fact, work on behalf of Social Services and perhaps other areas and not necessarily a job for the executive directorship. It's not something that was splashed upon the GLOs and they were not aware. Maybe there was an unbelieving state of mind but, at the same time, it was

requested to see what these positions were doing and what type of workload there was. At the time of lay-off, we did not receive an alternative to what partial employment they could have in whatever department they were doing in carrying out some of this work. We were not able to determine in time to meet the schedule of lay-off to say exactly what it is that we could have offered up for the half-time position that they would be missing out of their daily job function. That is why the lay-off notices were given, because the answers to the questions, particularly from the Baffin, were not forthcoming. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 318-12(7): Concerns Re GNWT's Handling Of GLO Positions

MR. PATTERSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to ask a supplementary. Who's responsibility was it to prepare alternative plans, such as have now been developed, prior to the time of lay-off? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Madam Premier.

Further Return To Question 318-12(7): Concerns Re GNWT's Handling Of GLO Positions

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

Mr. Speaker, given that the GLO offices were in direct relationship to the Executive, it should

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have been the regional director working in relationship with the respective department. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 318-12(7): Concerns Re GNWT's Handling Of GLO Positions

MR. PATTERSON:

Mr. Speaker, I'm sure the Premier doesn't want to make the regional directors responsible for her office. Since she's in charge of the Executive, I'd like to ask

the Premier wasn't it your responsibility as Premier to have ensured that alternative plans were in place prior to a lay-off notice having been given and if the alternate plans weren't in place, to direct that the lay-off notices should not be given?

MR. SPEAKER:

Madam Premier.

Further Return To Question 318-12(7): Concerns Re GNWT's Handling Of GLO Positions

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

Mr. Speaker, the Premier did attempt to get the procedures in place prior to notification of lay-off, working in conjunction with a person who works with my office known as a regional director. Also, given notice that we should be trying to coordinate, if necessary, the function so that they would be full-time functions. As a result, this did not happen and the procedures fell in place. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Final supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 318-12(7): Concerns Re GNWT's Handling Of GLO Positions

MR. PATTERSON:

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask the Premier why should the employees suffer if the Department of the Executive couldn't get its act together to develop an alternative plan by a certain deadline? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Madam Premier.

Further Return To Question 318-12(7): Concerns Re GNWT's Handling Of GLO Positions

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

Mr. Speaker, it was not our intent for employees to suffer. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Question 319-12(7): Status Of NWT HC As Of April 1, 1995

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Premier. In her reply for transfer of responsibility of staff housing to the NWT Housing Corporation, the Premier indicated as of April 1st all staff housing will be transferred over to the Housing Corporation. I'd like to ask the Premier, the Housing Corporation, as we have been advised in this House, is a corporation even though they don't have a body of directors. In some replies, it's referred to as an "agency." Taking on the responsibilities of providing staff housing as of April 1st, I'm wondering whether or not the corporation is going to remain with its stature as a corporation, as it appears to be looking like a department, taking on these type of departmental responsibilities. Can the Premier identify for this House, what the corporation will be after April 1st? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Madam Premier.

Return To Question 319-12(7): Status Of NWT HC As Of April 1, 1995

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

Mr. Speaker, on April 1st, the Housing Corporation will be the Housing Corporation in its present form. However, it's recognized that we'll have to look at it as a different entity very soon because it is taking over some staff housing as well as some of the other housing. On April 1st, it won't change but hopefully after that we can get our implementation plans together to see what type of a structure would best serve the needs of an umbrella department to look after the two types of housing. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Supplementary, Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Supplementary To Question 319-12(7): Status Of NWT HC As Of April 1, 1995

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to ask the Premier what type of implementation plans are now being developed. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Madam Premier.

Further Return To Question 319-12(7): Status Of NWT HC As Of April 1, 1995

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

Mr. Speaker, these are just plans to facilitate the transfer of the staff housing to the Housing Corporation.

MR. SPEAKER:

Supplementary, Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Supplementary To Question 319-12(7): Status Of NWT HC As Of April 1, 1995

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you. I'd like to ask the Premier, is it possible that one of the options or plans, with regard to the process of transferring the units, may be identified as a departmental plan? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Madam Premier.

Further Return To Question 319-12(7): Status Of NWT HC As Of April 1, 1995

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

Mr. Speaker, it's a possibility but if I sit down and leave it at that I'm sure the Member will bring up the second issue of how does that fit in to the relationship with the federal government and financing of public housing. We would have to carefully pursue that so that we would not jeopardize that funding. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

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Question 320-12(7): Selection Of Consultants Used By ECE

MR. PATTERSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment. Mr. Speaker, I've noticed two major studies impacting at least my constituency recently: the evaluation of the Arctic College environmental programs and the residence study and I believe another major study undertaken by the department has been done by

Avery Cooper Consulting. I'd like to ask the Minister, is this the only consultant the department uses?
Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of Education, Culture and Employment,
Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 320-12(7): Selection Of
Consultants Used By ECE

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Mr. Speaker, no. The basis on which the reports are done are based on proposal calls and, generally speaking, we favour northern companies and do business with all northern companies. As such, there is no particular preference but they are coming in with the appropriate proposals within the dollars that have been assigned to those particular contracts.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 320-12(7): Selection Of
Consultants Used By ECE

MR. PATTERSON:

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask the Minister, has this consultant been getting most of the work from the Department of Education lately? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 320-12(7): Selection Of
Consultants Used By ECE

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Mr. Speaker, I don't know the details. I'll certainly take the question as notice and maybe I'll give him all the contractors throughout the north that do business with the department.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Question 321-12(7): Cooperation Between GNWT
And Federal Summer Student Programs

MR. BALLANTYNE:

Thank you. My question, Mr. Speaker, is to the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment. Mr. Speaker, our Member of Parliament, the Honourable Ethel Blondin-Andrew, has done a very good job in pushing the students' summer job action as part of our federal government's approach, and it's one area in the federal government that has got fairly significant increases in these times of extreme budgetary cuts. My question to the Minister is, how will our summer student program dovetail with the federal program.

MR. SPEAKER:

Minister of Education, Culture and Employment, Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 321-12(7): Cooperation Between
GNWT And Federal Summer Student Programs

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Mr. Speaker, while I'm responsible for students, the whole issue of summer employment rests with the Minister responsible for Personnel.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Mr. Ballantyne, would you direct your question...

Question 322-12(7): Cooperation Between GNWT
And Federal Summer Student Programs

MR. BALLANTYNE:

I suppose I could repeat the question again. If I could ask my question to the Minister who is responsible; I'm not sure if that's the Minister of Finance or the Premier, but I'm sure they will know if they're responsible. Mr. Speaker, my question to the Minister is how will the federal government's students' summer job action dovetail with the GNWT summer student program.

MR. SPEAKER:

Madam Premier.

Return To Question 322-12(7): Cooperation Between
GNWT And Federal Summer Student Programs

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the question. What I did a couple of weeks ago was ask the deputy minister to look at all the federal programs that are

available and what we have to offer. We will be working with the Minister of Education to see how many and how much of these varied programs we could coordinate into a package for the students. As well, I had asked that we have a listing of the students who would be wanting summer employment. I believe a letter has gone out to see how many students there will be and where they come from and what types of studies they're taking. So Mr. Nerysoo and myself will be looking at how we can coordinate all those programs. I can't tell you exactly the specific program you're talking about, how that would dovetail; but my understanding is that there are approximately three or four that could be made available along with the initiatives we take ourselves as a government. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Supplementary, Mr. Ballantyne.

Supplementary To Question 322-12(7): Cooperation Between GNWT And Federal Summer Student Programs

MR. BALLANTYNE:

I thank the Premier for that response. Another question to the Premier is the federal government has seen the value in a partnership between the public sector and the private sector to create jobs for students. My question to the Premier is would the Premier consider setting up a program in partnership with the private sector to see if we can find jobs for students in the private sector.

MR. SPEAKER:

Madam Minister.

Further Return To Question 322-12(7): Cooperation Between GNWT And Federal Summer Student Programs

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

The Minister of Education had indicated that is one area where we should try to bring in the

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public sector where it's applicable, particularly in the larger areas where there are more opportunities to do so. So the short answer is yes.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Ballantyne.

Supplementary To Question 322-12(7): Cooperation Between GNWT And Federal Summer Student Programs

MR. BALLANTYNE:

I thank the Minister and I'll be looking forward to hearing from either the Premier or the Minister of Education on this subject. My supplementary question to the Premier is that two other areas, I think, provide very good opportunity for summer students: one is the area of the environment, and I used the example in my Member's statement about the Metis program in Great Slave Lake; and the other one is projects in communities. Will the Premier look at establishing programs which can place students either in work with the environment or doing projects in communities? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Madam Premier.

Further Return To Question 322-12(7): Cooperation Between GNWT And Federal Summer Student Programs

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

Mr. Speaker, yes, those areas are of importance to some of the students and we'll do our very best to make sure that there will be a number of opportunities available in the area. I don't know about creating a separate program, but we can probably utilize the programs that are already in place to make sure that the component of youth working with older people takes on some life and some excitement for them. I certainly appreciate anyone who can offer suggestions. I don't know how many students we've had replies from in relationship to what their aspirations are and what they would wish to do. But certainly in that area, I think it's important and we'll take that into consideration. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Final supplementary, Mr. Ballantyne.

Supplementary To Question 322-12(7): Cooperation Between GNWT And Federal Summer Student Programs

MR. BALLANTYNE:

Final supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I have to thank the Premier for that response. Mr. Speaker, I see a lot of positive things that can come out of kids in small communities coming to big communities to do summer jobs, kids from big communities going to smaller communities, aboriginal kids and non-aboriginal kids working together in partnership, young people working with elders, working for bands or hamlet councils. I'm happy to hear that the two Ministers will be looking at that. My last supplementary to the Premier...There's another aspect of this that I think is very important, it gives some of our kids the opportunity to work in other places in the country. I think that's a tremendous opportunity for our kids to get out there, to look at what's happening and bring those ideas back to the Northwest Territories. Would the Premier look at, whether it's through existing programs or other approaches, ways of getting some of our kids in programs in other places in the country? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Madam Premier.

Further Return To Question 322-12(7): Cooperation Between GNWT And Federal Summer Student Programs

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

Mr. Speaker, I know that in the past there have been a number of youth programs that have offered that opportunity, particularly the beaver program. I believe the youth had quite an experience. So we will endeavour to find out what is going on in those programs and see if we can tap into them, otherwise to see what other specific areas we can do ourselves. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Question 323-12(7): Transfer Of Sir John Franklin And Akaitcho Hall

MR. LEWIS:

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment. For many years, Sir John Franklin and Akaitcho Hall provided buildings for important government programs. Since there have been major changes, I would like to ask the Minister what's the

status of the transfer of those buildings for other uses?

MR. SPEAKER:

Minister of Education, Culture and Employment, Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 323-12(7): Transfer Of Sir John Franklin And Akaitcho Hall

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the question, I think it's an important one. I want to say that in the matter of Akaitcho Hall, we're reviewing now the potential use for that particular building. We had an initial request that was made by Arctic College. There's a review that is taking place with the potential additional use by school board district No. 1 with potential expansion of programming. The other component that is now being considered is the whole issue of child care space for students in that particular area.

There will be maintenance and protection of the Northern Arts and Cultural Centre. There was an adamant request on the part of Members of this Assembly that that facility be protected. That will be the case, the question is the whole issue of management. Once that happens, we will have resolved the issue. So that's where we're at in terms of the overall transfer of responsibility.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Lewis.

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Supplementary To Question 323-12(7): Transfer Of Sir John Franklin And Akaitcho Hall

MR. LEWIS:

I would like to thank the Minister for the answer, but I would like to find out whether, in fact, there has been any consultant company engaged to examine the Akaitcho Hall residence, which could slow down the process, unless it's going to be completed by a certain date.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 323-12(7): Transfer Of Sir John Franklin And Akaitcho Hall

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The review in the case of Akaitcho Hall is being done internally with our departments, Arctic College, and District No. 1. The whole matter of Sir John Franklin is being dealt internally with the school board, the Department of Education, Culture and Employment and the Department of Public Works. Those are the groups that are involved.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Lewis.

Supplementary To Question 323-12(7): Transfer Of Sir John Franklin And Akaitcho Hall

MR. LEWIS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister, because the new school year rushes on to us fairly quickly, whether he expects to have the positions on the future authority to these buildings resolved before the new school year begins?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 323-12(7): Transfer Of Sir John Franklin And Akaitcho Hall

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, it was hoped to resolve the whole matter before April 1st. We're basically at the last stages of resolving some of the concerns the board has. I indicated to our colleague, Mr. Dent, during the last session that we would resolve the matter of personnel before the 28th of February. I want to indicate to you that we resolved both situations on the 15th and we're now trying to resolve the infrastructure and improvement responsibilities; in other words, the matter of renovations and the associated plans. That includes the matter of staff responsibility. As the honourable Member will note, the issue of staffing is in the hands of school board No. 1 for the upcoming school year. They're taking on some of the responsibility already.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Final supplementary, Mr. Lewis.

Supplementary To Question 323-12(7): Transfer Of Sir John Franklin And Akaitcho Hall

MR. LEWIS:

Thank you. In light of the Minister's response to potential use of Akaitcho Hall and the fact that the school board, District No. 1, may want to look at space for child care, lunch rooms or other programs under that jurisdiction, is it still possible, then, that that building could be turned over to Yellowknife School District No. 1? That's my question.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 323-12(7): Transfer Of Sir John Franklin And Akaitcho Hall

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Until I get an internal assessment, I'm not clear whether or not that building will be turned over or whether there will be a combination of uses because, as the honourable Member knows, the Arctic College programming in this community has expanded significantly. There aren't necessarily more programs, but more people accessing the programs. So, in that sense, we have to reassess where we're going to deliver the programs from and the kinds of services we're going to be offering to the students. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Zoe.

Question 324-12(7): Plan Of Action Re Mackenzie Regional Health Board

MR. ZOE:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Health and Social Services. Mr. Speaker, since 1987 when we devolved health services to our government, the Mackenzie Regional Health Board was not yet in existence. The issue has been raised on a number of occasions by myself on this side of the House and that corner of the House. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister what is the plan of action the department is taking with regard to resolving this issue which has been brought to the attention of the Department of Health? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms. Cournoyea.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

Mr. Speaker, I'm not quite up to date on where we are on that particular issue, so I'll take that question as notice.

MR. SPEAKER:

The question has been taken as notice. Item 6, oral questions. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Question 325-12(7): Tabling Of Fire Suppression Review

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I was going to ask the Minister of Renewable Resources a question, but maybe I'll direct it to the Premier. Mr. Speaker, with regard to the fire suppression review that was conducted and completed last year, I would like to ask the Minister, after spending \$392,000 for this review, why wasn't this review tabled? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Madam Premier.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

Mr. Speaker, I'll pass the message on to the Minister and have him answer that question. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

I'm not too sure whether that was taken as notice. Madam Premier.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

Yes, it was taken as notice.

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MR. SPEAKER:

The question was taken as notice. Item 6, Mr. Patterson.

Question 326-12(7): New Names For College East And College West

MR. PATTERSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment, since I believe he's presenting the estimates of his department in committee of the whole today, do we finally have new names for the two new Arctic Colleges in the Northwest Territories, other than College East and College West? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Minister of Education, Culture and Employment, Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 326-12(7): New Names For College East And College West

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Mr. Speaker, as much as I would like to accommodate the honourable Member, no. But, I can advise the honourable Member that, hopefully by the end of this week or early next week, we'll have that matter resolved.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 326-12(7): New Names For College East And College West

MR. PATTERSON:

I would like to ask the Minister, has he considered naming the colleges after former Ministers of Education in the Northwest Territories?

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 326-12(7): New Names For College East And College West

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll certainly take that as good advice and make that an additional recommendation for my Cabinet colleagues.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Item 6, oral questions. Do we have any further oral questions? Item 7, written questions. Item 8, returns to written questions. Mr. Clerk.

ITEM 8: RETURNS TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Return To Written Question 7-12(7): Firefighting Aircraft Project Offered To Fort Smith Dene-Metis Holdings

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):

Mr. Speaker, Return to Written Question 7-12(7), asked by Mrs. Marie-Jewell and replied to by the Premier concerning the firefighting aircraft project offered to Fort Smith Dene-Metis Holdings.

1. The criteria for offering the entire project to Dene-Metis Holdings Limited were:

(1) to achieve economic viability for the Fort Smith tanker base,

(2) not to exceed current costs, and

(3) to maximize northern content.

2. The decision to enter negotiations with DMHL was carried out in accordance with the government contract regulations.

3. & 4. DMHL's human and fiscal resources were not evaluated before the Cabinet decision to enter into negotiations.

Return To Written Question 11-12(7): Participation Of Dene-Metis Holdings In The Request For Proposal Of Airtanker Services

Return to Written Question 11-12(7), asked by Mrs. Marie-Jewell and replied to by the Premier concerning the participation of Dene-Metis Holdings in the request for proposal of airtanker services.

The Minister replied to the Dene-Metis request by his letter dated October 26, 1994. The decision to terminate the negotiations with Dene-Metis Holdings Ltd. on the contract for the provision of airtanker services was not made unilaterally by the Minister of Public Works and Services but was made by Cabinet on December 7, 1994.

In its decision of December 7, 1994, Cabinet directed that proposals would be accepted only from northern air operators, defined in the decision as a company approved under the business incentive policy as a

northern business, and has operated fixed-wing aircraft in the NWT for more than one year. In the case of a joint venture, both partners must meet this requirement, as will subcontractors.

As the Dene-Metis Holdings Ltd. did not meet this criteria, it was excluded from submitting a proposal. They could however, participate through a northern air operator, for example, by investing in a qualified company.

Return To Written Question 12-12(7): Ministerial Travel

Return to Written Question 12-12(7), asked by Mr. Pudluk and replied to by the Premier concerning ministerial travel.

I have circulated today, a report on ministerial travel. The following information is contained in the report:

- dates of travel during the period December 1, 1993 to March 1, 1995;

- travel destinations;

- purpose of travel.

Also included with the report is a listing of ministerial travel plans for the period March 2, 1995 to August 31, 1995.

Return To Written Question 13-12(7): Employment Status Of Government Liaison Officers In The Baffin Region

Return to Written Question 13-12(7), asked by Ms. Mike and replied to by the Minister of Personnel concerning employment status of government liaison officers in the Baffin region.

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1. Notices of lay-off were given this month to GLOs in the Baffin region to accept or reject new half-time positions. What has been the response of GLOs to these lay-off notices and new job offers?

Answer: Between February 13 and 15, 1995, nine GLOs in the Baffin region were offered new half-time positions by the Department of Personnel. The GLOs were asked to confirm their acceptance of the offer within five business days. They were also advised that if they did not accept the offer, a recommendation would be put forward to the chairman of the Financial

Management Board to provide them with notification of lay-off.

Following issue of the revised job offers:

- The Arctic Bay GLO position has been assessed and, as that position also serves the community of Nanisivik, it has been returned to a full-time position for the fiscal year 1995/96. The part-time job offer has been rescinded and the incumbent has been advised that her services will be maintained on a full-time basis at this time.

- The Department of Health and Social Services has agreed to provide funding for part-time positions for the delivery of certain social services functions in the communities of Pond Inlet, Igloodik and Pangnirtung. The incumbent Pond Inlet, Igloodik and Pangnirtung GLOs have been offered, and have accepted, amended, full-time job offers which include responsibilities for the delivery of services for both the Department of the Executive and Department of Health and Social Services.

- The remaining Baffin GLOs have not accepted the half-time positions offered. The government is now proceeding with notifications of lay-off, but incumbent GLOs can still accept the half-time position offered until such time as the notification of lay-off is received.

2. Will GLOs who refuse to accept the new half-time job offer be offered the benefit of the workforce adjustment policy?

Answer: GLOs who receive lay-off notices will be provided all entitlements under the lay-off provisions of the UNW collective agreement, including severance pay and priority status on competitions within the GNWT for a period of one year following their lay-off. The question of whether further benefits would be available under the workforce adjustment program has not yet been resolved. The Financial Management Board Secretariat and the Union of Northern Workers are pursuing these discussions.

3. Has the government undertaken a study of the daily work requirements of GLOs in the Baffin region? What were the results of that study?

Answer: A review of the daily work requirements of the GLOs in the Baffin region has been completed. As a result of this review, it was determined that the Arctic Bay GLO position should remain full-time as it also serves the community of Nanisivik.

4. What departments of the Government of the Northwest Territories have GLOs in Baffin communities been serving?

Answer: At present, the GLOs conduct business in varying degrees on behalf of a number of departments and government agencies. In the case of the Department of Health and Social Services, it has been determined that the need for delivery of certain social services functions in Pond Inlet, Igloodik and Pangnirtung is sufficient for that department to commit to funding part-time positions for the GLOs in each of these communities.

The Department of Executive has been involved in discussions with other interested parties to determine how services will be provided once the GLOs become half-time. For example, the Hamlet of Cape Dorset may be interested in taking over the half-time GLO position in that community. If the hamlet assumes responsibility for the half-time position, it might be combined with other responsibilities for one full-time position.

5. Are there any plans to have GLOs in the Baffin region deliver social services for the Department of Education, Culture and Employment in the coming fiscal year?

Answer: The Department of Executive is engaged in discussions with the various departments to determine how services will be provided in future. It has been determined that the delivery of social assistance does entail a significant amount of time; however, no decisions have been made as to whether or not this will include the services of the GLOs.

Return To Written Question 17-12(7): Status Of Reform Of The Medical Profession Act

Return to Written Question 17-12(7), asked by Mr. Patterson and replied to by the Minister of Health and Social Services concerning the status of reform of the Medical Profession Act.

As part of the process to reform the Medical Profession Act, a steering committee of physicians from the NWT Medical Association and members of the Department of Health and Social Services was struck in February 1994 to:

- allow for consultation on issues surrounding the development of the new act; and,
- develop a legislative proposal.

This steering committee has been meeting regularly. It worked closely with the NWT Medical Association and the Dene Cultural Institute to put on a four-day traditional health practices workshop for physicians, in February 1995. The workshop, facilitated by the Dene Cultural Institute, enabled traditional healers to provide knowledge about traditional health practices to participants.

As part of the process of developing the new act, presentations were made by the Minister of Health and Social Services and the President of the NWT Medical Association during the review of the medical registration committee by the Standing Committee on Agencies, Boards and Commissions in April 1994.

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The legislative proposal for the new act is currently being considered by Cabinet. Drafting of the Medical Profession Act will be completed early in the term of the 13th Legislative Assembly.

Return To Written Question 18-12(7): Future Of Federal Fishing Vessel Insurance Program

Return to Written Question 18-12(7), asked by Mr. Patterson and replied to by the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, concerning the future of federal fishing vessel insurance program.

The fishing vessel insurance plan will be gradually phased out over the coming fiscal year. The original plan was to cease issuing policies as of April 1, 1995. It is our understanding that the insurance scheme was extended one (1) year because the Department of Fisheries and Oceans is exploring the possibility of another body, the harvester's council, assuming some role in fishing vessel insurance.

Insurance coverage under the plan has been purchased by owners of ten vessels in the Northwest Territories. The owners of these vessels will have to make alternate arrangements by April 1, 1996. Staff will closely monitor this situation and determine the impact on the commercial fishery in the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Item 8, returns to written questions. 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 13, 16 And 19

MR. WHITFORD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I wish to report to the Assembly that the Standing Committee on Legislation has reviewed bills 13, 16 and 19, and wish to report that bills 16 and 19 are now ready for committee of the whole and further, Mr. Speaker, that Bill 13 is ready for committee of the whole as amended and reprinted.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Item 12, reports of committees on the review of bills. Item 13, tabling of documents. Mr. Lewis.

ITEM 13: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. LEWIS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Tabled Document 62-12(7), a letter dated March 15, 1995 from the Scott Polar Research Institute at the University of Cambridge signed by Mr. Mills who is the head librarian.

The purpose of the letter is to indicate that we do have a world-class library in Yellowknife which is visited by people from all over the world and it is very important. I would like to table that letter, Mr. Speaker.

I have another letter, Mr. Speaker, if I could. The second letter, Tabled Document 63-12(7), Mr. Speaker, is from the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C. It is addressed to me, dated March 24th, signed by Dr. Margaret Dittmore, who is the head librarian. Again, it indicates that this is a fine-grain collection of library materials and they are used by the institute to keep up its own acquisitions so that it can be guided by the way it develops its own library in Washington, D.C. I expect more letters over the next few days. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Item 13, tabling of documents. Ms. Cournoyea.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:

Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the following document, Tabled Document 64-12(7) is a response to the First Report of the Special Joint Committee on Division, Committee Report 1-12(7) tabled November 16, 1994.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Item 13, tabling of documents. Mr. Morin.

HON. DON MORIN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following document, Tabled Document 65-12(7), Annual Report of the NWT Housing Corporation for the period April 1, 1993 to March 31, 1994.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Item 13, tabling of documents. Pursuant to section 83(3), part three of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, I wish to table Tabled Document 66-12(7), the report of the Commission of Inquiry with respect to the alleged contraventions of the provisions of part three of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act brought by Jeannie Marie-Jewell against the Honourable Don Morin.

Item 13, tabling of documents. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):

Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 67-12(7), in accordance with Rule 42(10), a response to Petition No. 2-12(7), which was presented by Mr. Ningark and responded to by the Minister responsible for the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Item 13, tabling of documents. Item 14, notices of motions. Item 15, notices of motions for first reading of bills. Mr. Pollard.

ITEM 15: NOTICES OF MOTIONS FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

Bill 29: Interim Appropriation Act, April 1 - June 30, 1995

HON. JOHN POLLARD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, March 29, 1995, I shall move that

Bill 29, Interim Appropriation Act, April 1 - June 30, 1995, be read for the first time.

I have another one, Mr. Speaker, if I may.

MR. SPEAKER:

Continue.

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Bill 28: An Act To Amend The Legislative Assembly And Executive Council Act

HON. JOHN POLLARD:

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, March 29, 1995, I shall move that Bill 28, An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, be read for the first time.

I have a third one, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Continue.

Bill 30: Deficit Elimination Act

HON. JOHN POLLARD:

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, March 29, 1995, I shall move that Bill 30, Deficit Elimination Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Item 15, notices of motions for first reading of bills. Item 16, motions. Item 17, first reading of bills. Mr. Pollard.

HON. JOHN POLLARD:

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to deal with first reading of Bill 29, Interim Appropriation Act, April 1 - June 30, 1995. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member is seeking unanimous consent. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed, Mr. Pollard.

ITEM 17: FIRST READING OF BILLS

Bill 29: Interim Appropriation Act, April 1 - June 30, 1995

HON. JOHN POLLARD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Members of the House. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nahendeh, that Bill 29, Interim Appropriation Act, April 1 - June 30, 1995, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

AN HON. MEMBER:

Question.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

---Carried

Bill 29 has had first reading.

Item 17, first reading of bills. Item 18, second reading of bills. Mr. Pollard.

ITEM 18: SECOND READING OF BILLS

Bill 29: Interim Appropriation Act, April 1 - June 30, 1995

HON. JOHN POLLARD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Bill 29, Interim Appropriation Act, April 1 - June 30, 1995, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill authorizes the Government of the Northwest Territories to make interim appropriations for operations and maintenance for the period of April 1st to June 30, 1995. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

AN HON. MEMBER:

Question.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

---Carried

Bill 29 has had second reading and accordingly the bill stands referred to committee of the whole.

Item 18, second reading of bills. Item 19, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Bill 1, Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1995-96; Bill 21, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1994-95; Committee Report 2-12(7), Report on the Legislative Action Paper on the Office of Ombudsman for the Northwest Territories; Committee Report 3-12(7), Report on the Review of the Legislative Action Paper Proposing New Heritage Legislation for the Northwest Territories; Committee Report 4-12(7), Report on the Review of the 1995-96 Main Estimates; and, Bill 29, Interim Appropriation Act, April 1 - June 30, 1995, with Mr. Whitford in the Chair.

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Good afternoon, Members. The committee will now come to order. What is the wish of the committee? The chair recognizes the Member for Yellowknife Frame Lake, Mr. Dent.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Dent):

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I would like to recommend the committee continue consideration of Bill 1 and Committee Report 4-12(7), specifically to continue consideration of the budget of the Department of Education, Culture and Employment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Dent. Does the committee agree?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 1: Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1995-96

Committee Report 4-12(7): Report On The Review Of The 1995-96 Main Estimates

Department Of Education, Culture And Employment

Thank you. When we left off we were dealing with Education, Culture and Employment on page 15-11. Would the Minister like to take the witness chair and will you be requesting witnesses?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Thank you. Yes, Mr. Chairman.

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CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Let the record indicate that the Minister would like to bring in witnesses.

Good afternoon, Mr. Minister. Would you introduce your witnesses to the committee, please.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Mr. Chairman, on my left is Mr. Hal Gerein, deputy minister; on my right, Mr. Paul Devitt who is director of finance and administration.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Good afternoon, gentlemen, and I thank you for coming to assist us. When we left off prior to the break, I believe there were some questions being asked to the Minister. I think Mr. Dent had the floor at the time and the clock struck 6:00. General comments. Mr. Dent.

General Comments

MR. DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the Minister had just offered to make a report called "Improving Children and Youth Services in Your Community" in draft form available to all Members as we concluded the day that we were last considering his department. I don't believe that that has been distributed yet to Members so I would like to ask the Minister if we could be assured that that will be distributed to Members as soon as possible.

I had also asked him if either of the Yellowknife school boards were involved in the project. Unfortunately, the chair, at that moment, closed off debate so I wasn't able to get an answer. I was wondering if the Minister could respond to the question now.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Dent. Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will repeat the answer. All boards have been involved in the redrafting and redesigning of that document that we're going to make available to all Members. I apologize for the document not being available, but it will be made available to the honourable Members.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. General comments. Mr. Dent.

MR. DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Specifically, could the Minister tell me...My question was in response to the definitive objective which says that there would be a pilot of a comprehensive student support model. The Minister has indicated that this is something that is planned to be offered in every school district in the north, but for clarity, I just wanted to know, does the Minister believe that every school district will, in fact, be involved in these pilot projects or are we looking at perhaps only one or two school districts that will be able to actually offer the pilot projects this year.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Dent. Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can indicate to the honourable Member that we are quite certain of more than half. In other words, we probably will get four or five out of the seven. It's the recommendation, so far from the boards, that they're all interested; the issue is what is the basis and the framework by which they're going to introduce the integrated services. We needed to develop, as the honourable Member will be aware, a framework by which we would provide those services. Unfortunately -- again I apologize to the honourable Member -- the document that I had committed to provide will be the basis by which we will offer that collection of services in the school and will be the framework by which we provide those services.

I also want to say that the boards are also involved in the actual design of that particular document so that

we don't offer services from headquarters, rather than what the communities might want in their particular situation.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Mr. Dent.

MR. DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I could ask another question relating to the definitive objectives. Under culture and careers, one of the definitive objectives is to complete the review of the student financial assistance program and begin to implement the changes resulting from that review. Mr. Chairman, I realize that we're under considerable pressure fiscally with all programs, and because of increased utilization there's been a real run on the bank on student grants and loans. I think all Members would agree that it's an important area in which we have to maintain support for students if we want to have any hope of a homegrown workforce in the future.

So I'm a little bit concerned about an objective which says that after the review the changes will be implemented. I'm just wondering about what sort of consultation process we're looking at here. Will there be a reporting mechanism; for instance, will the Minister come back to the House perhaps in the June session to advise the Members what the results have been of the review; and, will Members have a chance to comment on the planned changes that would result from the review?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Dent. Minister Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to say that we're now in the stages of dealing with the whole issue of the consultant who will be doing the review. It's not our intention at this particular juncture to address immediately the recommendations of that particular report until the fall session. In other words, we need some indication in the fall as to the direction we will go. It's our view that while there may be some changes, and we're now looking at some, it's not our intention to have any major changes this upcoming fall. But if there are any major changes in 1996-97, it will give us a whole year to plan some of the changes so the students are aware of those changes that are coming. So it's not immediate changes, but there are some changes that could take place and improve the

way in which we allow for some students to access some of the programs.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. Mr. Dent.

MR. DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm glad to hear the Minister's response. I think that's the proper way to handle any

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suggestion of a major change in the student financial assistance program.

One final question in the definitive objectives, still under culture and careers, that is on the coordination of the Canada/NWT infrastructure program. I've seen a number of announcements on decisions for this funding to be allocated throughout the territories, but there haven't been that many for, in particular, tax-based municipalities; specifically, I haven't seen any for Yellowknife. I'm just wondering, is there any of this funding which will be allocated in the near future in Yellowknife.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Dent. Minister Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Thanks. Just to indicate to the honourable Member that there was an allocation to the tax-based municipalities, including Yellowknife. We're not certain right now about the status of the application. What is clear for us is that there will be a carry over of those resources. As I indicated earlier, we're looking at a potential carry over of the infrastructure program. And at the least, there are some discussions that are going on for a period of five years.

But the program that we're presently involved in is a three-year program, and the dollars that have been assigned are available for application. I have not yet seen any requests for the resources, but I believe there are still 36 applications that have come in that have now been approved and will be going forward to the management committee for their review in the very near future. But I don't know the specifics.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. General comments. The chair recognizes the Member for Yellowknife North, Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just some general comments about Education. I think that this department has a lot of things they can be proud of. Obviously, in some areas of education there is still a long way to go. We still have to graduate a lot more kids out of high school. We still have to stop a lot of kids from quitting school. But there have been some very significant improvements over the past number of years. I think the department is heading in the right direction. I think that we should give some accolades when they are warranted.

In the Standing Committee on Finance report, we talked about the importance of excellence from the top to the bottom of the education system, starting from the Minister of Education right through to every student. Everybody has to have the concept of excellence on their mind. We can ask no less than the very best for our students and former students. I see the work that the department has done in the new Education Act. I think they have done a very good job and I'm happy to hear that we're going to be debating the Education Act in June. Hopefully, we'll be able to get it passed. The department put many, many hours in consultations with communities and with educators and with everybody involved in education to put together this draft act.

I'm sure there will be some changes but I think the product going into the process is a very good product. I think, too, when we hear about and read about -- and we who are parents experience some of the problems in our schools -- problems with violence, problems with drugs, problems with alcohol, that we should put them into some kind of a national context because the problems are being experienced everywhere across the country, it's not just here in the Northwest Territories. They have a lot to do with changing society values, the breakdown of the family, and potentially, the influence of the mass media on kids. In fact, if we measure our bad experience with bad experiences across the country, we still come out quite good comparatively, I think.

In fact, I act from time to time as a monitor on the playgrounds at my kids' schools and some things happen there but it really is nothing to be alarmed about. I'd say, compared to friends of mine who have kids going to school down south, in Toronto for

instance, where they walk through metal detectors, and where searches of lockers produce firearms and weapons of all sorts, I think that we have a lot to be thankful for here in the Northwest Territories.

Another area that we, in the Standing Committee on Finance, and I, personally, find important is to continue our standardized testing. Whenever test results come out, there is a tendency among some sectors in the education system to start to squeal and attribute blame. The fact is, I think it's really the only way we can compare apples and apples, the only way we can compare our progress, or lack thereof, with national standards. Although it's painful, if we always look at the experience as a positive learning experience and not one that after the results come out, become punitive and start blaming people. If we can learn from them and everybody looks at them for what they are, just another tool, I think it's very important that we continue to use them.

It was interesting that probably one of the -- at least at this point -- more successful attempts at education reform is taking place in Ontario. All the political parties have essentially endorsed it and I think most of the teachers' unions have endorsed it and that is one of the new principles they are coming with in Ontario. I expect to see some fairly significant changes in the Ontario education system over the next few years. I was a product of that system and at one time it was considered to be the best education system in the country, back in the late 50's and early 60's. People can remember the grand education experiments of the 60's where it was decided that individual student rights were more important than achieving any kind of standardized excellence. The students were given very wide discretion as to the subjects that they might feel like taking. If, in a given year, you didn't really feel like taking mathematics, well, that was okay because you really didn't have to take mathematics. The jury seems to be in now and most experts consider those experiments failures. The Ontario system and the Canadian standard right across the country fell pretty significantly during those periods.

We have the sad state now that a lot of kids are approaching university age and they are essentially functionally illiterate. A lot of kids don't have a lot of the basic skills in math and science that you need. I think it's very important and from what I see, the department is trying, with the Education Act, to get back to basics. We have to prepare our kids for a very complex, competitive society. We have to prepare our kids for a life which may take them

beyond the community where they were born. It may take them beyond the boundaries of the

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Northwest Territories. In fact, it may take them beyond the boundaries of the country. The world's getting smaller and I don't think any of us, if we want our kids to take advantage of opportunities, can limit them to spending their lives in a community or in a region. It's going to depend. I'd say that kids now, when they get out of university, will have to be very diverse, they have to be very mobile, they have to be prepared to move anywhere in the world, they have to be prepared to learn at a frantic rate.

I think that what we have to do here is to put politics aside and put regionalism aside put insular thinking aside and prepare our kids, give them the best tools we can to survive in an increasingly difficult and competitive world. I think we're starting on that path here in the territories. I think we should support the department with what they are doing but I think all of us have to be very diligent to ensure that we stay very firmly on that path and that we don't lose sight of what education is all about. An education system is not there to satisfy the politicians, it's not there to satisfy the civil servants, it's not there just to satisfy the public at large. It has one major function and that is to prepare our kids for a successful life once they get into the workforce and prepare them to be productive, successful adults who can raise their families and have their jobs and make a valuable contribution to society. I think we have to remember the emphasis and the focus should always be on the students and not get carried away with all the political factors that always surround education.

I think the Minister and the staff are on the right track. It takes a lot of courage to do it because, as any of us who have been in politics for a while know, every person has their own theories about education and all of us who are parents also have a very healthily selfish feeling about the education system and it's a highly personal approach. Those of us with kids really judge the education system by the impact it has on our kids. It's a difficult thing to do for a Minister or for senior civil servants, to keep that focus and not be swayed by the emotion that surrounds changes to education by vested interests in the system.

If I could, I would like to say a few things about teachers. Oft times in this modern age, other than complimentary things are said about teachers. People talk about how teachers have long holidays,

they are very well paid, et cetera, et cetera. For a moment, I'll just talk about my own experience as a parent here in the Yellowknife school system. I've had kids at Mildred Hall, Sissons and St. Joe's, both the public and Catholic systems, and I've been highly impressed by the skills and motivation of all the teachers who have taught our kids. It's a very tough job being a teacher in the 1990s. The kids are extremely demanding and it's very difficult because the mass media has really done something to the attention span of students. To maintain their interest and attention takes a lot of skill.

The world is so competitive, the pressure on teachers to produce kids who can do well year after year is immense. They are also looking after special needs kids now in their inclusive classes; they are looking after kids who have certain emotional problems; and, they are trying to deal with a lot of the social problems of society that many parents have abdicated responsibility for. So I think, generally, teachers in the Northwest Territories are doing very, very well. I think they've been quite responsible in the last round of negotiations. They've recognized the problem that the government has in the future, financially and I think they were very reasonable with the agreement they reached.

I don't think we should feel bad about the fact that we pay teachers well. There's probably no other group in society, besides the actual parents of children, who have such a profound impact on kids in their growth and evolution. I think all of us owe a debt of gratitude to the teachers that we have. I think, generally, they're doing a very good job. I think we have an excellent education system here in Yellowknife. I also think credit goes to the two school boards and the philosophy of former and present Ministers of Education of turning over more control to local people and schools is critical. I think that's the single most important element that has made the education system in Yellowknife work so well; the fact that you have parents and the community directly involved.

I like the way the system has evolved here in Yellowknife where there is a partnership between the boards, the parent advisory committees, the administration of schools and the teachers. I know all the schools where my kids have gone have welcomed parents. We can go into classes and have been involved in a lot of different ways over the years. I feel very comfortable, as a parent, going into the schools where my kids are going to school and talking to the teachers and to the principals.

Again, my point is, although there are always ways we can improve the system, let's keep it in perspective. We have a pretty darn good system of education here in the Northwest Territories. Let's come up with constructive ways to build it and ways to improve it, but in our zeal to make it better, let's not trash the important ingredients that make the system work: the administrators in the department, the teachers and the school boards across the Northwest Territories.

On that aspect of this department, for now I'll close. If I could, Mr. Chairman, I would like to talk a little bit about the employment component of the department. I think the whole area of employment, welfare reform, finding new and innovative ways to get people back into the workforce in a constructive way, to maximize job opportunities, to deal with more innovative ways of people more meaningfully sharing in society at a time when governments have less and less money is an incredible challenge and it's a challenge that's bedeviled governments for the last decade. We're not the first government or the only government that's tried to deal with these issues.

How do you maximize employment opportunities in the mining, oil and gas, hydro power sectors? How do we ensure that the community infrastructure programs that we fund are timed in such a way that we maximize both employment opportunities and economic benefits? People for years have been trying to get people out of the welfare sector not just here, but there are third and fourth generation welfare families in the United States. Some of the best minds in North America and elsewhere have tried to come to grips with the reality that a far-too-high percentage of our population is out of the employment mainstream. In fact, for many of them, for a number of reasons -- some psychological, physical, emotional or educational -- don't really feel they can get back into it. How do you deal with that and still maintain some measure of compassion for

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people who, for legitimate reasons, no longer fit into the mainstream?

There are different ways to do it. There's the Margaret Thatcher British model or the Ronald Reagan American model where you essentially trash them. You withdraw support, stop paying for lunches for poor kids, stop programs in the ghettos. That has a lot of popular support and I'm personally, as everyone knows here, pretty much a fiscal

conservative. But that, in the long term doesn't solve your problem. What's happening in the United States and in large parts of the United Kingdom is that you set up a permanent underclass of people who are, in fact, destabilizing your society.

If you look at the major cities of the United States and increased drug use, generations are now being destroyed by crack and crime, and violence is increasing at a horrendous rate. That all, at least partially, can be linked back to the issues we're trying to deal with. How do you get people to become, again, a productive part of society? The answer is not more policemen and more jails. When we took the trip to South Africa learning about diamonds we went to Johannesburg and it's a city under seige. It's no longer the political climate, it's a very violent city with one of the highest crime rates in the world.

Anyone who has a dealership for barbed wire is a very rich man because every single house has got barbed wire around it and there are alarms, dogs and guns. But they're now dealing with a problem; it's a problem Nelson Mandela is trying to deal with. How do you get people back to work and part of society?

I think here in the Northwest Territories we're on the right track because we're not following either a left or right ideology. It is what makes sense, what is a practical combination of the two. Obviously, we are going to have greater and greater fiscal problems until we get independent sources of money. On the other hand, it hasn't worked everywhere else just to throw people out into the cold. So, what we're trying to do is find the balance and I commend the department for their initiatives.

One observation, for whatever it's worth, is that in other places where income support reform and welfare reform -- whatever you want to call it -- have been implemented, historically what's happened is they overcomplicate it. Almost everywhere else -- and remember when we did the Beatty report -- we had some people who did some work for us who had done some work in Manitoba on this idea. They say that it's such a complex field that any time you make a change here, there's a ripple effect through the whole system everywhere you look and unless you're very careful, at the end of the day your recommendations are so complex and so bureaucratic that they're functionally useless to you. I think it's especially true here in the Northwest Territories where we need procedures and processes that are as simple as possible, and as clean cut as possible. You can put together incredible point systems and processes

moving people from the permanently unemployed to the semi-permanently unemployed, and there's a certain number of points they could move. You could make it that only the civil servants who actually are consultants who put it together could ever really understand it.

Again, when it doubt, make it simple. Just make the whole thing simple. All the experts in the world can have it so confusing that it will be totally irrelevant to you. So I say to the department continue what you're doing. If we can find ways to get people off the unemployment rolls back into society, I think it's great, I think it's very, very important that we do exactly that. If we take it back to education, the more kids we get through school, the more kids that have that education. Again, education is a wonderful tool to a productive life.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to give a few general thoughts about the direction the department is taking, some ideas I have and I might have some specific comments or questions when we get into the details. With that, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. General comments. Mr. Minister, was there anything in there that you wish to respond to?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

If I might say one thing, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the honourable Member for the constructive comments. I also want to say despite the fact that we may have some differences sometimes even with the Standing Committee on Finance in terms of the approach, I want to say to the Standing Committee on Finance over the past several years how much we've appreciated some of the advice that has been given. We may not always agree, but the fact is that the general direction we want to take is generally the same. We all believe that the basis for where we go and the success of our system will prove in the result of those students who graduate in the end are as successful, as the honourable Member has mentioned, in participating in a productive job or a productive part of the community.

I also want to say to the honourable Member, I think he pointed out a couple of very important things. We have been successful. That fact is that we've turned some of the systems in the north, even in the last

government, around to a point now where people can be more positive about the potential of our young people. You go from 79 per cent in 1981 to over 85 per cent of students who are now attending school more regularly. Even in that small percentage, it means large numbers. You have situations where students are staying in school longer, the participation of students in high school has increased from about 40 per cent to 75 per cent. That's a pretty significant number and it's all because of the support that has been given over the past several years by this Assembly and by previous assemblies. So you're starting to see results of the priority that has been given to education.

I also want to say that the college enrolments in our adult student population have increased to over 1,500 full-time students and over 8,000 part-time students. If you look at those numbers, you start to see some of the successes that are resulting from the support that has been given by this Assembly.

The other point is that there are more aboriginal teachers now than there have ever been. The strategy of reaching 50 per cent, I believe, has been reached. I want to say to the Members, for instance in the case of Yellowknife, the Members of the Assembly for Yellowknife who were supportive of the teacher education program here in Yellowknife...We would not

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have been successful in terms of getting that around and turning the views of the city around without the support of Members of this Assembly. And we see the success of it, those students are staying in the program. I think that's the same situation in the Baffin, the Keewatin, the North Slave, the Kitikmeot and the Mackenzie Delta/Beaufort area. So you're starting to see situations where you're seeing very positive results.

I just want to say that the points that the honourable Member has raised, the numbers are starting to show that these turn-arounds are starting to happen and they're positive. The honourable Member also mentioned that not all these changes are immediate, but I think the more we maintain the positive of ensuring that our system provides for excellence for our students; in other words, quality of program, quality of service, I think that will result in more and more graduates and more successful students. So I just wanted to say thank you to the honourable Member for his comments.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. General comments. The chair recognizes the Member for North Slave, Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a brief comment to follow up on what my colleague from Yellowknife is saying. With regard to the TEP program, the Minister alluded to that a little earlier. My understanding is that the students who are in this program are having some concerns with regard to the credits they're receiving. I understand that there's a problem or a concern raised by the university not accepting their credits. I'm not too sure if the interpretation is being interpreted correctly by Arctic College or the department itself. Mr. Chairman, I would like the Minister to comment on the concern that has been raised in my area. I know there are a lot of students in the TEP program who have a similar concern with regard to their credits.

I agree with the Minister when he says that for the last number of years, we have been improving with regard to getting our own teachers qualified. Mr. Chairman, I'm really glad because we do have, particularly in my region, a number of aboriginal teachers, and I hope we'll continue to do so in the future.

Another point I would like to touch on, Mr. Chairman, is with regard to the divisional board of education for the Dogrib region. I know that they've been communicating with the department over the last few months with regard to the relocation of their office. Firstly, the board has decided that it would be in the best interests of the residents of the region that they be housed in an independent location, particularly where we have a large group of people within a community. For instance, they're currently housed at the Chief Jimmy Bruneau School in one of the residential wings. They decided to do that a number of years ago so they could be more cost-effective. They've been housed there for a number of years now, but since we've been adding grades and since it has become a regional high school they require additional space at the school. I understand that the board wants to relocate so that they can use the space they are currently using for other purposes. There was a suggestion made to the Minister that they should be moving to the complex in Rae. I know that the corporation in Rae is currently in the planning stage of providing additional office space for the local residents and I understand that the government has also approaches, particularly the Department of

Health and Social Services, because we understand that a number of positions will be moving to Rae from that particular department. I think it will be timely if we can coordinate between those two departments and we could address this situation now so that when we get into the planning for our capital for next year this issue could be resolved.

Mr. Chairman, another issue that I would like to raise is with regard to the regional industrial strategy that my region has been pursuing over a number of years. As the Minister may recall, on a number of occasions I raised, particularly with this department, the point that my group will be knocking on your door to seek information and would like your cooperation, et cetera. Not only your particular department, but other government departments also. We were also looking at getting the federal agencies involved, particularly the Canada Employment Centre, those types of agencies so that we can come up with a strategy for the region. I know that my group has been trying to coordinate with these various groups to put together terms of reference so that they can go ahead with their own strategy. But on top of that, another problem that we're encountering is that the department itself is doing some sort of similar study and that concerns us a lot. What we want to do, Mr. Chairman, is specifically gear this to the North Slave region so that we know the type of skilled people we have in the region, their education levels, and hoping that we can also get the mining industry involved so we know if a mine, for instance, if the diamond mine goes ahead, the type of requirements they would need so that we know if we can fulfil those types of jobs and so forth.

We embarked on this issue about three years ago and it's been moving along very slowly, Mr. Chairman. I'm a little bit disappointed. But on top of that, besides the department undertaking their own study, now we also have Renewable Resources with another study going on that is also related to what my region wants to do and also what the Department of Education wants to do. It's causing us some concern, Mr. Chairman. If I could get the Minister to touch on some of the items that I've talked about I would appreciate it so that my constituents who are listening will know exactly where the department is going. Mahsi.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Zoe. Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The last point first, with regard to the regional industrial strategy. Just so that it's clear, it's certainly not our intention to duplicate studies. I think one of the problems is that there's no need for us to be going after the same information twice. I can advise the honourable Member that it's certainly not our intention to compete for information nor is it our intention to spend more money on the same information. I believe that we were doing a joint project under the industrial adjustment strategy and we were dealing primarily with sectoral information. If there's any specific problems then we need to be advised of the concerns, specifically the concern that the region might have because, as I said, it's not our intention to duplicate the information.

On the matter of the renewable resources, I not aware of any reports that are being done. If it's a North Slave issue, we'll ensure that we're not competing for information or spending

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money for duplicate information. We'll, through our department and certainly through our deputy minister, intervene and ensure that there's not competition for the same information.

On the matter of the relocation, we've had discussions with the director. The important element of moving the offices has to be that we have to recognize the financial situation that we're in and ensure that it's cost-effective if there are any moves to be made. There are certainly no additional resources that are going to be available. There will be more resources available for programming, but certainly not necessarily for administration. We'll work with the board to see if that is a cost-effective move on their part and we'll try to be of assistance to them but it will not be, as I said, with the view of costing the department and the board more money.

The other point I wanted to make on the TEP program, I think all the regions are concerned, particularly in the west. In the McGill situation in the Nunavut area, with the Nunavut students, we don't have a problem in this particular situation. Our problem seems to be with the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, and we have to rethink our relationship and the way in which we do our business with the university so that it ensures that the program that we're offering is consistent. In other words, that our criteria for students is higher than for students in Saskatchewan. The fact is, at least last year, the requirements for our students were

supposedly higher. In other words, it was not the original arrangement that was reached with the University of Saskatchewan. In that sense we were not happy with that. We have similar concerns. We'll maintain our continuing relationship with the University of Saskatchewan as long as there is recognition for the program that we're offering which is supposedly similar and consistent, and that we ensure that we protect the credits that our students should be receiving as part of that particular program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE:

One more comment, Mr. Chairman, that I would like to make is with regard to cultural programs. Mr. Chairman, I know that various agencies within my region have been trying to pursue cultural activities, particularly on the land. I know that the tribal council is one group, the friendship centre and those types of agencies within the community. Even the local bands that I have in my riding would like to pursue these types of cultural activities. I realize that because of the financial situation that we're in, the cultural component is not that rich in the existing budget. Nevertheless, I think we have to do as much as we can to support these types of initiatives so that each community can take advantage of the various cultural activities that they would like to pursue; particularly for the younger people, Mr. Chairman, because I think it's critical that they know the area of the land and the programs that these agencies put together for them. It's very enriching for them to know exactly how things are done in the bush and that they know the area and so forth. So I would strongly encourage the Minister to assist these types of requests when they come in, not only from my region but from all regions because I think it's very critical that we support the cultural component of his department. Mahsi.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Zoe. Minister Nerysoo, is there anything you wish to add to that? No. The chair recognizes the Member for Iqaluit, Mr. Dent. I'm sorry, Mr. Patterson.

---Laughter

MR. PATTERSON:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have made some general comments already but I would just like to ask the Minister one question flowing from his opening remarks and maybe this is a perfect time to do it. On page 13 he talked about reinstating a \$1 million one-time 1994 contribution reduction which caused the college to draw down its surplus. I just took a quick look -- and forgive me for going ahead, Mr. Chairman -- at the funds allocated to the college on page 1520 and there isn't \$1 million more by my arithmetic in the main estimates this year compared to last year. There is some more money but it certainly isn't \$1 million. I would have thought if \$1 million was reinstated we would at least see \$1 million more in the contributions. Where is the new \$1 million hiding? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Minister Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Just so there's no confusion, based on the formula, Nunavut college would have received \$450,000 and the western college -- whatever name that might be -- would receive \$550,000 but there is still a requirement on the part of the colleges to consider an administrative reduction of approximately \$600,000. While we are restructuring we also have to review where we're placing our resources and that's one of the matters that has to be dealt with.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. The chair continues to recognize Mr. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON:

So, is it appropriate to use the venerable phrase: "The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away"? Is the Minister basically saying we gave \$1 million but we took \$600,000 so, really, we restored \$400,000? Is that the bottom line here? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Minister Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Thank you. We never cut \$1 million from what you might say was the base funding. What we did was cut it from the surplus so that's what we restored. The other point is -- and I don't want to confuse anybody

but certainly there's a requirement -- because of the financial situation we're in, to deal with the issue of cost savings.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. Mr. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON:

Mr. Chairman, I don't want to prolong this -- and maybe when we go into detail is the best time to discuss it -- but if there's a surplus that is being drawn down or added to, where do we see that reflected in these main estimates? The Minister said it really wasn't a reduction and the college wasn't allowed to retain the surplus of at least \$1 million. Is that something we can see in these main estimates, this surplus, or is it something that Mr. Pollard holds in the fiscal framework? Thank you.

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CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Minister Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Thank you. It's in the college, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. The chair continues to recognize Mr. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON:

Where, Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Minister Nerysoo, where?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Thank you. It's in the college books. In other words, it's in the college budget and does not show up in our budgetary process, in the actual allocation.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

General comments. Mr. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON:

I will finish this, Mr. Chairman. Could I ask the Minister then, if there are surplus amounts in the college budgets, could we be provided information about those amounts? I understand there was to be a division of assets and liabilities as well in the college books, so could we get information about that? I think it will help us in looking at this budget to understand the whole picture if we could have some information about surpluses that would help us judge the adequacy of funding for college activities. I don't necessarily mean now, but if we could have that information while we're going through the detail, I'd be grateful. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Minister Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One has to recognize that the way the budget is proposed here deals with expenditures; in other words, the expenditures of the department. It doesn't deal with the balance sheet and the actual audit being done to show what has been spent and received. There are other factors of college financing that are important. There are third-party agreements that are not part of the overall expenditures that we're not party to. In other words, we don't sign the agreement with CEIC on third-party expenditures or with other aboriginal organizations. Those are revenue sources which could help the resources of the colleges, whether it is in Nunavut or in the west.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. General comments.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Detail.

Line By Line

Directorate And Administration

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Detail. Directorate and administration, page 15-12. Total O and M, \$3.564 million.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

---Agreed

Culture And Careers

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Culture and careers, total O and M, \$70.930 million. Mr. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON:

Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask the Minister -- and I guess this is under budget coordination and directorate administration -- what is the status of the division of assets and liabilities of the Arctic College? I understand there was to be a settling of accounts when the new colleges were established. Has that been done and do we know where there is anything in the bank, a deficit or a surplus? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Minister Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

I'm having a discussion with my staff here, Mr. Chairman. What has happened is a trusteeship has been established and the process of division of assets and liabilities is under way now. Mr. Cleveland is the acting trustee of the college as it sits now.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. Culture and careers, total O and M, Mr. Dent.

MR. DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a number of questions. Just recently Members received a brochure on the culture and heritage division library. I was going to ask if the Minister or his staff could advise us when this brochure was produced.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Dent. Minister Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Mr. Chairman, could you ask the question again please?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Mr. Dent, perhaps you could rephrase or repeat the question.

MR. DENT:

Certainly, Mr. Chairman. Last week, all Members received copies of this brochure which is entitled "Culture and Heritage Division Library." I was wondering if the Minister or his staff could advise us when this brochure was produced.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Dent. Minister Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

We would have to have a copy of the document.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you. The Page will pick it up and carry it to you.

Mr. Nerysoo, you've had a chance to see the document, perhaps you have an answer for Mr. Dent. Mr. Gerein indicated he will respond to this.

MR. GEREIN:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This document would have been produced over the past year. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Gerein. Mr. Dent.

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MR. DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, since I had underlined a section in that brochure, I'm sure the Minister knows where I'm headed with this line of questioning. The brochure, which I suspect has been done fairly recently, indicates that between 9:00 and noon Monday through Friday and 1:00 through 4:30 in the afternoon Monday through Friday that a professional librarian will be available to assist researchers with their questions and queries should they need some information through the library. I had asked the Minister some questions about the position of a librarian. I know Mr. Lewis has been asking a number of questions. I just wonder if the brochure coming out now means the department has examined the staffing situation at that library and have decided to maintain the position of librarian as a full-time

position and ensure that there is someone available to assist with questions, queries and research on weekdays as is outlined in the brochure.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Dent. Minister Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

If I could ask Mr. Gerein to respond to that, please.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Gerein.

MR. GEREIN:

Mr. Chairman, the document was produced over the past year during the course in which time events changed, and the document was still distributed because it deals with services generally at the heritage centre and the library itself. We will still have a library technician/archivist on staff who could deal with day-to-day enquiries, but will not be the same level of service as generally indicated in the document. The library will still be open for the hours as indicated. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Gerein. Mr. Dent.

MR. DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The brochure also points out that the library at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre is not just a source of information for things archival, but is also a source of information on how to run that sort of library. In fact, it points out that it's a good place to do research to find out exactly what is needed in the way of a librarian for such a facility. Could the Minister advise whether or not the department has in fact checked to see whether or not the government will now be following the same programming that we would advise others to with this type of library, given the changes that we are proposing for staffing?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Dent. Minister Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. All I can say is it's our intention to offer the best service with the support

system that we're suggesting and that that takes care of it at this particular juncture.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Minister Nerysoo. Mr. Dent.

MR. DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just as a comment, I do know that I've been contacted by constituents who have expressed a lot of concern about what they fear is the downgrading in the services available through that library. I think Mr. Lewis has been pointing out quite succinctly that this is a world-class facility and I would hope that we would be able to take a look at the staffing and ensure that we are, in fact, able to provide services on a level that they should be provided in a world-class facility. I think there's a real risk that what has been built up over a great many years as a valuable resource could be if not lost, sort of lost in the shuffle because people don't know what is there or are not able to access it as easily as they might otherwise.

Mr. Chairman, if I might move on to another area of concern under this task that has to do with colleges. Again, Mr. Lewis was asking earlier today about the use of Akaitcho Hall by Yellowknife Education District No. 1. I believe he had asked whether or not there was a consultant brought in to take a look at what the uses could be and the Minister advised that it was an internal review. I know that Arctic College sees the use of Akaitcho Hall as being a valuable resource too. I understand that the feeling is that they could consolidate all of the different locations that they are using in Yellowknife into that one location and feel that they could get out of expensive leases now spread out across and around Yellowknife and use the building for basically a campus in terms of classrooms and offices. I know that Arctic College is amenable to multi-use so there might be some way to coordinate the use between Arctic College and Yellowknife Education District No. 1. I wonder if that sort of approach is being looked at. Are we looking at ways of perhaps putting the facility to use rather than having it sit empty? Perhaps on an incremental basis instead of looking for \$4 million, \$5 million, or \$6 million to try and upgrade the building to take it on all at once.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Dent. Minister Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:

First of all, I'd like to thank the honourable Member for the advice, I think it's good advice. Secondly, we are concerned about ensuring that the facility is used on a more regular basis than just sitting there. Simply for Arctic College, I think there is an advantage for additional use of that particular building. At least the facility could serve a broader part of our community and we certainly see it as being potentially supportive of high school programming or part-time educational programming as well. My concern has been that there is a need to recognize the fact that there is a campus in this community. It's serving a large part of this particular community and, in fact, students from other communities, and programs here have to receive the recognition that they should. The other point is, it's not simply a matter of moving the headquarters or anything of that type; every major centre that we have now has some basic facility recognized for college programming. We have an opportunity here in Yellowknife and I think we should take advantage of it and recognize the institution for what it is, and that is a post-secondary institution.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. The clock has reached 6:00 pm. I shall now rise and report to the Speaker. Before I rise and report to the Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the committee to thank the Minister and his witnesses for appearing before us. We look forward to seeing you, hopefully, tomorrow.

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MR. SPEAKER:

The House will come back to order. Item 20, report of committee of the whole. Mr. Whitford.

ITEM 20: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 1 and would like to report progress and, Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of committee of the whole be concurred with.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The seconder is Mr. Dent. The motion is in order. To the motion. We don't have a quorum. Mr. Hamilton, will you ring the bells.

Thank you. 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 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 are meetings tomorrow at 9:00 am of Caucus and at 10:30 am of the Ordinary Members' Caucus.

Orders of the day for Tuesday, March 28, 1994:

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 1, Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1995-96

- Bill 21, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1994-95

- Bill 29, Interim Appropriation Act, April 1 - June 30, 1995

- Committee Report 2-12(7), Report on the Legislative Action Paper on the Office of Ombudsman for the Northwest Territories

- Committee Report 3-12(7), Report on the Review of the

Legislative Action Paper Proposing New Heritage Legislation for the Northwest Territories

- Committee Report 4-12(7), Report on the Review of the 1995-96 Main Estimates

20. Report of Committee of the Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills

- Bill 15, An Act to Amend the Elections Act

22. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Tuesday, March 28th at 1:30 pm.

---ADJOURNMENT