



**NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

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**HANSARD**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 1995**

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The Honourable **Samuel Gargan**, Speaker

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**MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

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

I would request that after our prayer today, Members remain standing for a minute of silence in remembrance of the people who so tragically lost their lives in a fire in the community of Tuktoyaktuk. Our prayers are with their families and friends.

**ITEM 1: PRAYER**

---Prayer

---Minute of Silence

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Koe. Thank you, Members. Good afternoon. Orders of the day. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Ng.

**ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS**

Minister's Statement 65-12(7): Nunavut Municipal Lands Referenda

**HON. KELVIN NG:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yesterday municipal voters in the 25 communities of the Nunavut settlement area cast their ballots in the Nunavut municipal lands referenda.

The referenda, which were held pursuant to article 14 of the Nunavut final agreement, allowed municipal voters to decide, on a community-by-community basis, whether or not they are in favour of restricting the sale of municipal lands now being transferred to the communities. Voters were asked: "Do you want your hamlet or town council to be able to sell municipal lands?" A simple majority of eligible voters who cast votes in each community determined the outcome.

Voters in all 25 communities voted in the majority "no." Therefore, all community governments in the Nunavut settlements area Nunavut settlement area will continue to lease lands. Each community government will adopt a land administration by-law which reflects the majority wishes of community residents to lease land.

Mr. Speaker, the department conducted a public awareness campaign in the period leading up to the referenda. This public awareness campaign was developed in partnership with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and the municipal councils, and involved visits by MACA staff, in most cases accompanied by an NTI representative, to each community of Nunavut.

While in communities, these "information delivery teams" provided briefings for the municipal councils, conducted local radio shows and held public meetings. These community visits were augmented by the production of an information kit in four languages, posters, radio and television announcements and a television phone-in show designed to encourage continued discussion and meetings at the community level.

The voter turnout averaged 46 per cent of voters and ranged from a high of 62 per cent to a low of 32 per cent. Mr. Speaker, I look forward to providing a detailed summary of the referenda results to Members later today.

The completed referenda are a milestone in the devolution of authority over lands to municipal councils. The department will now be working with municipal councils to assist them in taking over responsibility for the municipal lands being transferred to their ownership by July 1996. Our focus will include assisting the communities to develop land administration by-laws, and provide training to staff through the community lands administration certificate program at Nunavut Arctic College. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 2, Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Whitford.

**ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

Member's Statement On Support For Retaining The Name "Stanton Hospital"

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in Yellowknife and the Mackenzie Valley, the name Stanton dates back to 1937 and has remained synonymous with northerners' medical history since then. Dr. Ollie Stanton and his wife Ruth moved to Yellowknife in the late 1930s to work at the small hospital run by CM&S, later to be Con Mine, and also served as a medical health officer for the Northwest Territories for a few years.

The Stantons worked in the medical field and within the growing community of Yellowknife. The work, of course, is now legendary. It was seen as an appropriate honour when the previous hospital was named after Dr. Stanton because the couple were early pioneers in medical service in this area. When the new hospital was completed in 1988, it was to bear the name Stanton Yellowknife Hospital. In fact, Dr. Stanton's widow, Ruth, was present at the time to make this dedication.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting, in recognition of our early pioneers, to dedicate places or buildings of importance in their memory, thereby acknowledging their contribution towards society.

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Recently, we have heard that members of the hospital board have suggested renaming Stanton Yellowknife Hospital in order to better reflect the broad spectrum of people that it serves. This suggestion has saddened many oldtimers and many local people here in Yellowknife and other places. Many have called to express their concern that although Dr. Stanton has passed away, there is no reason to change the hospital's name.

If I may offer a suggestion, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of many of my constituents, it would be that we change part of the name Stanton Yellowknife Hospital to Stanton Territorial, Stanton Regional or even Stanton Health Centre. This, Mr. Speaker, would reflect the fact that the hospital services extend to patients well beyond Yellowknife and includes those from the Deh Cho, the Sahtu, the Kitikmeot and the Dogrib Nations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Member's Statement On Impact Of Last Federal Election On Former MPs

**MR. LEWIS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I listened to a program called "As It Happens" last night. It deals with current events right across the country and there was an interview with a man called Peter Dobell who runs the Parliamentary Centre in Ottawa.

Mr. Speaker, the Parliamentary Centre did a survey of Members of Parliament who served in the last federal Parliament. They waited a year after the defeat of the Tory government of Mr. Mulroney before contacting Members because they wanted to measure the impact of the federal election on Members of Parliament a year after the event. Some interesting facts have emerged from surveying all of these Members.

The first one, Mr. Speaker, is those Members who retired and did not seek re-election were, for the most part, happy, contented and had adjusted to life outside of politics. Many decided to pursue other options, people like Mr. Clark, for example; Mr. Don Mazankowski; and, John Crosby, who is now the chancellor of Memorial University. The second point is that of those who ran but were defeated, only 50 per cent after one year have found employment. They were not very happy people because they had not been able to adjust to life outside of politics.

Many of the people who were surveyed noted that in the rejection letters they received for employment, the fact that they had been in politics had been given as a major reason for turning them down for employment. It was no longer seen as an advantage of having served the public because the public no longer felt, at least employers no longer felt, that whatever had been learned there had any relevance to the kind of work they were seeking to do. This particularly applied, Mr. Speaker, to Tory and NDP Members whose parties had been rejected quite thoroughly by the electorate in quite large numbers.

Mr. Speaker, those who did find work, examples like Mr. Perrin Beatty, were very rare. His appointment as the head of CBC was an exception. The vast majority of defeated Members who had served as backbenchers, and these were the vast majority of people in that Parliament, were now living on their pensions with little prospect of entering the workforce.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Lewis, your time is up. Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:**

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

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The Member for Yellowknife Centre is seeking unanimous consent. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:**

Thank you, colleagues and thank you, Mr. Speaker. The survey noted, Mr. Speaker, that those Members with between six and 10 years of service were now living on between \$25,000 and \$30,000 a year. Many of them were in their 30s and 40s and, although to many people that's a good salary, the fact that after one year they were still desperately trying to find something to do didn't give them much prospect of finding a meaningful place in the workforce.

Mr. Dobell noted that politicians are no longer considered to have the marketable skills that for many, many years it was assumed they had. They are no longer viewed positively by employers as they had once been. The lesson from the survey, Mr. Speaker, is that the most contented politicians were those who had left of their own accord and had not risked being rejected by their voters. That is a lesson that all of us, I'm sure, are going to have to consider over the next six months or so. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Pudlat.

Member's Statement On Congratulations To Kenojuak Ashevak On Aboriginal Achievement Award

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Mr. Speaker, I stand today to make a Member's statement and I would like to thank Kenojuak Ashevak who is my constituent. She got an award and I congratulate her for that. When I was a small child, she started making drawings. I know this isn't the first time she has been given an award but, Mr. Speaker, she was given an aboriginal achievement award and I know that she was called

Kenoayoak Pudlat on CBC and I just want to clarify that she is not me. She is someone else. They made a mistake. They always make a mistake with my name. I would just like to thank my constituents and to congratulate this woman for getting an award. Thank you.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

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Member's Statement On Altering Of Liquor Prices

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm sure Members are already aware of the Liquor Commission's recent decision to alter liquor prices in the Northwest Territories, which came into effect April 1st of this year. The new liquor pricing system lowers the cost of many speciality items, while drastically increasing the amounts charged for several of the more popular brands. The brands I'm referring to are the Canadian brands, known as domestic products, such as Calona Wine, Private Stock, and Club Sherry.

For example, Mr. Speaker, Calona Wine went from \$8.50 to \$10.60 a bottle, Private Stock went from \$6.45 to \$8.00 and Club Sherry went from \$16.45 to \$20.75. At the same time, champagne and imported products were priced as follows: you can purchase a bottle of French Cordon Rouge, which went from \$59.90 to \$25.10 and Asti Spumante went from \$17.30 to \$11.45. Champagne such as Dom Perignon went from \$180.60 to \$63.80.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Shame.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Speaker, I certainly don't agree with the direction that the Liquor Commission is taking on this issue, for a number of reasons, and I really think it should be re-evaluated. It's fairly clear to anyone looking at the new price list, that almost all the wines that have been decreased in price are imported products. The domestic wines that many of my constituents like to buy have all increased in price. Mr. Speaker, one would think that this government, especially, would be

supporting a Canadian wine industry, not the Europeans. In fact, many of the wine-producing countries in Europe are the very same ones that are leading the so-called animal rights campaign, against our traditional hunting and trapping industry in the Northwest Territories. I seek unanimous consent to continue.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and honourable Members. It is also very clear that many of the brands that have gone up in price are the ones that had been favoured by low-income individuals, who just cannot afford and who don't want to spend their money on French champagne or products like Drambuie, which also went from \$44.20 a bottle to \$31.85.

It seems to my constituents that this new pricing is catering to the tastes of the elite and people who can afford it. Once again, the poor people, who are too often of aboriginal descent, are taking the inflated brunt of the price change. There is no doubt that everyone realizes this government has to generate more revenue to deal with its current financial crisis. Everyone knows that the sale of liquor is one way that can be accomplished. However, it is very unfair that these revenue-generating initiatives always have to be carried on the backs of the lower-income people in the north.

Mr. Speaker, there is another reason why I feel this ill-considered price policy should be evaluated. Most Members are aware that there is a considerable problem in many of our communities with chronic alcohol abuse, particularly of the "street people." Many of the products that this group tends to purchase, like Calona and Private Stock, have been priced quite high. I think so high that it encourages them to consider purchasing more dangerous products that contain alcohol.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Shame, shame.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Certainly, Mr. Speaker, I am not one to encourage individuals to consume alcohol and I would certainly

hate to see individuals turn to the idea of purchasing Lysol products or aftershave.

I sometimes wonder if the Minister has evaluated the economic impact of this pricing policy on the operators of privatized liquor stores. I wonder if he has considered, by raising the price of favourite brands, that he is actually encouraging the people in communities -- in a community such as Fort Smith, which is fairly close to the border -- to buy their liquor in another province. However, whatever the purpose is, I think this new pricing policy should be re-evaluated and redesigned. That should happen now before we lose a lot of costs through increased health care costs.

I would encourage this Minister to look at the re-evaluation of the new pricing which has been in place since April 1st of this year. Thank you.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Member's Statement On Fund-Raising For Construction Of Parish Hall In Iqaluit

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to inform Members of the good work which has been accomplished by the parish hall fund-raising committee in Iqaluit. Last Friday, thanks to all the organizing costs being covered by the Royal Canadian Legion from branch number four, a packed concert featuring Susan Aglukark and other northern entertainers raised a magnificent sum of \$9,500 towards the new parish hall.

Mr. Speaker, Iqaluit desperately needs a new parish hall. The present building came from the United States Airforce and was built in 1943. There has been overwhelming support from all segments of the community for a new parish hall. As Canon Mike Gardener, our local pastor put it, many people, churchgoers or not, have put their hearts into supporting a new community hall. The community has, once again, pulled together behind this project, which was advocated and supported by the late Simonie Alainga. Although the parish hall fund raising committee has not even been in existence for two years, they have raised \$121,000 to date towards a new parish hall. A lot of these funds were raised in

nickels and dimes, collection boxes in Northern Stores and Arctic Ventures, which meant about \$500 every two weeks and personal donations.

The local committee's fund-raising efforts were also given a great boost by the approval of a \$400,000 NWT infrastructure

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funding contribution on April 6th. I would like to thank the Honourable Art Eggleton and particularly the Honourable Richard Nerysoo, Minister responsible for the funding in the Northwest Territories, for their swift approval of the community's application in time to be announced to the community at the fund-raising concert last Friday. This was a great boost and encouragement to the sell-out crowd in attendance.

Mr. Chris Groves, chair of the fund-raising committee tells me that the fund raising will continue to meet the target of \$550,000 set for the new hall. Construction will begin this summer. I would like to thank Mr. Groves and the other members of the fund-raising committee: Peter Scott, Mary Ellen Thomas, Diane Smith, Mathusalah Kunuk, Pauloosie Kilabuk, Paul Taylor and the good people of Iqaluit on their good work on this very worthwhile project. Qujannamiik.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Hear! Hear!

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Dent.

Member's Statement On RCMP Staffing Levels In Yellowknife

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Members from across the territories have expressed concerns about staffing levels in RCMP detachments. The people of Yellowknife are no different. They are concerned that more officers are needed to provide adequate protection. Mr. Speaker, the problem is that people across the north no longer feel safe, whether they live in Yellowknife or one of the smaller communities. We need to find some way to deal with this concern. I have spoken in this House about a police act which would help by allowing more community policing initiatives. The Minister of Justice has spoken about

other initiatives which are being considered. Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Justice needs to get the process moving quickly.

There has been some debate as to whether crime really is on the increase in Yellowknife, whether it is just that we hear more about crimes in the press, whether the RCMP are reporting more often about incidents they investigate, or crime rates really have increased and people are legitimately concerned. It seems more and more often that we all know someone whose house has been broken into recently or whose windows were shot out with a BB gun, or whose snowmobile was stolen or vandalized.

Mr. Speaker, as a result of the concerns about crime in Yellowknife, and the widespread belief that much of it is drug related, a petition was recently circulated in Yellowknife. Later today, I will table this petition which has over 1,260 names on it. The petition asks that an additional six officers be allocated to "G" division to form a task force to tackle drug-related crimes specifically.

Mr. Speaker, as has been previously pointed out in this House, the staff complement at "G" division has not increased at all in over 15 years, in spite of the population they cover nearly doubling.

As well, there have been an increasing number of offences committed where firearms are used. Yellowknife Members have raised our concerns about staffing levels several times over the past few years. In fact, the Minister of Justice has agreed to Mr. Ballantyne's request to meet with the Yellowknife MLAs and the mayor to discuss the situation. Mr. Speaker, I think this petition with so many signatures, very clearly indicates the public's level of concern about crime. I urge the Minister of Justice to move quickly to deal with this concern. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Member's Statement On Support For Renaming Stanton Yellowknife Hospital

**MR. ZOE:**

Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. In response to the expanding role of the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital as a regional

health facility serving residents from across the territories, the hospital board of governors have announced plans to change the name. Through recent newspaper advertisements, the board is seeking public suggestions for possible new names for the hospital. Apparently, they feel a new name will better reflect the region and the people it serves.

Mr. Speaker, this government has given the responsibility to the board of governors to oversee the administration of the hospital and health services delivery. As part of this responsibility, I believe we need to support them as they make decisions to improve the quality and accessibility of health care. For a number of reasons, Mr. Speaker, some of the MLAs are hearing concerns on the street here in Yellowknife about why the board needs to change the name. Some Members have or will bring this concern of their constituents here to the Assembly, as my colleague from Yellowknife South has done this afternoon.

If suggesting new changes causes this type of discussion, I fully support the direction the board is taking. The fact that people are talking about the hospital is a step in the right direction. In the past, people did not hear a lot about what the board is doing. The new board is trying to make sure the public is aware and involved in what happens at the hospital. This call for a new name is an example of the more open and accessible approach the board is taking with the people it serves. Good health is dependent on the feeling of well being. If we can do even small things to make people more comfortable, it will be that much closer to better health.

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

**MR. SPEAKER:**

You still have about 44 seconds.

---Laughter

The Member for North Slave is seeking unanimous consent. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Conclude your statement, Mr. Zoe.

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**MR. ZOE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the past, Mr. Speaker, the name of Stanton Yellowknife Hospital clearly identified it as a Yellowknife institution. Residents

from outside Yellowknife, particularly those from smaller, isolated communities, will find it easier to identify with such an institution if it were to have a name which reflected the regional and territorial focus of its work. Such a change would serve to reduce some of the fear and apprehension many northerners, particularly elders with little or no contact with larger centres, are feeling when they must travel to Yellowknife for health care.

In the best interests of the future health of our people in smaller communities who rely on the services provided by this hospital, I will support the board in whatever decision they make to improve the accessibility of the hospital. I am encouraged by their commitment to the mental, physical and emotional well being of our people, and I think the direction they are taking is for the right reasons. I would encourage Members to rely on the board's judgement, and support their decisions in this matter. Mahsi.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Member's Statement On Fine Arts Program In Fort Simpson

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there is a fine arts certificate program that's offered in Fort Simpson that gives the people of the Deh Cho region a chance to enhance and display their artistic abilities. This latest program is in keeping with the long tradition of efforts made by the people of Deh Cho to preserve and encourage traditional arts and crafts. Over the years, numerous activities have taken place such as workshops and different events that were provided to the people in the Deh Cho region. The traditional artists of the past have made efforts to see that the artisan aspect of our culture has not been lost.

As I have mentioned before, most recently the fine arts program is offered in Fort Simpson and Hay River. This program in Fort Simpson is instructing nine students on the fundamentals of design, drawing, sculpture and carving. Instructing the course is Bill Nasogaluak whose enthusiasm and expertise has encouraged each participant to grow and mature into committed artists.

Mr. Speaker, the dream of the Deh Cho is that one day the Deh Cho will become the home to an entire

school devoted to develop our fine arts for the western Arctic. Traditional arts programs would be fundamental, but today's artists would be encouraged to not only preserve traditional skills but take those skills to new heights within the contemporary world of art. Fashion design, fur garment designs and so forth are some areas that could be expanded based on traditional arts and crafts. Similarly, men's traditional skills, could be incorporated into marketable products which would make use of natural materials from the land.

In addition to the current visual arts program and suggested traditional arts program, Mr. Speaker, innovative programs could be developed in the fields of music, dance, drama, film production, fashion design and so forth that reach those beyond our borders.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to applaud the efforts of Ms. Barb Tsetso whose lobbying and long hours of dedication saw the fine arts program finally offered in Fort Simpson. Further, as an example, Mr. Speaker...

I'm running out of time, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The Member for Nahendeh is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Conclude your statement, Mr. Antoine.

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As an example, I would like to congratulate students of this program who travelled to Yellowknife during the Caribou Carnival to participate in the ice sculpting contest. What I just wanted to say, Mr. Speaker, is that there was the...(inaudible)...Mr. Randy Sibbeston and John Sabourin placed second in this ice sculpting contest. Mr. Danniell Allaire and Darcy Moses placed third in the ice sculpting contest. I just wanted to congratulate them at this time and recognize them for their efforts.

I want to add further, that they used only chisels and no chain saws of any kind to do this work so they've done a fine piece of work. If this is any indication of the program, Mr. Speaker, this is a very good program in Fort Simpson. The people who are taking the program are very enthusiastic about this program.

They are spending long hours in the evenings and in the weekends doing the work they're doing. I understand they have produced a lot of good work at this point in time. If that's any indication of the program, the government should seriously support Deh Cho's desire to be a fine arts centre for the western Arctic. Thank you.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Member's Statement On Marketability Of The NWT

**MR. BALLANTYNE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, over the last couple of weeks I've tried to emphasize the positive future we have here in the Northwest Territories and have given the Cabinet some ideas to think about of how we can strengthen our potential. It seems to me we spend so much time here in this Assembly in the north and in the media talking about the negative things; talking about the hurdles and the many obstacles. The negative things are always easy to talk about. It's always easier for people to criticize other people. I think at the end of the day, we have to recognize that the Northwest Territories has tremendous potential. There are only 65,000 people in the territories. We have a wonderful opportunity to provide a tremendous future for our children. I've talked about some of the areas where we're strong and today I want to talk about some of the other areas.

Mr. Antoine made a very good statement about the possibilities of arts and crafts, using the imagination and the skills of our people; to maximize those skills and that imagination and that energy. I would like to hear more of that in this House and in the media. Let's support the people we have who are successful, who are out there doing real things, making real

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contributions and not whining and snivelling about every sort of real or imagined problem that we have.

---Applause

We in the Northwest Territories have very little to complain about. Our future is in our hands. I think we have every opportunity and will only be limited by our



own imagination and our own energy. Here in the western Arctic we have renewed interest in oil and gas. Up and down the valley, we've talked about the mining potential. I would like to see our Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and our Minister of

Intergovernmental Affairs take some delegations from the Northwest Territories down to Calgary. Let's talk about mining potential. Let's use this government as a vehicle and a catalyst to bring the people who will get the benefits together with those people who want to invest in the Northwest Territories.

The area of tourism...One company alone, Raven Tours, brings in 1,000 Japanese tourists a year. I would like to see Ministers of this government in Japan selling tourism to the Japanese.

---Applause

The potential at the end of the day is immense and I don't think we should shy away from spending money.

---Applause

Politicians are so afraid to spend money wisely with a good return on the dollar, afraid of criticism from their constituents that they're going to Japan. There are some amounts of money that have tremendous potential for return. I think we should be intelligent in how we spend our money, but let's start spending our money on some things that are going to give us a return at the end of the day.

I think in the area of arts and crafts...

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Ballantyne, your time is up.

**MR. BALLANTYNE:**

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

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

**MR. BALLANTYNE:**

Thank you. As Mr. Antoine said, we have dozens, probably hundreds, of very talented people in the territories in the area of the arts. I think there is

tremendous potential there. I think there is a huge market of Canadians, Europeans and people from the Orient who would be very, very interested in what we have to offer.

So, again, my message is -- and it's a message that I'm going to continue to deliver in this House -- let's emphasize those things that we do well. Let's stand together as northerners and work on our strengths. If we work together on these issues, the potential for the Northwest Territories is immense and unlimited. Sometimes, I feel that somehow or another, we, in the Northwest Territories and Canada, lack some confidence and we're a little ashamed to stand up and say that we're proud of who we are and what we can do.

It seems it is politically correct to be cynical in the 1990s and I want to say one more time that we, in the Northwest Territories, cannot afford to be cynical. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Item 3, Members' statements. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Mr. Arngna'naaq.

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

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

**HON. SILAS ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to an oral question asked by Mrs. Marie-Jewell on March 27th regarding the tabling of the fire suppression review.

Mr. Speaker, as I have indicated, I will not table the consultant's report on the review of the GNWT's forest fire management program and policy. However, I am prepared to provide the report on request to any Member who wishes a copy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Mr. Arngna'naaq, do you have several more to do?

Further Return To Question 351-12(7): Strategy Re Monitoring Air Quality

**HON. SILAS ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Mr. Speaker, I just have one more return. It is a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Ballantyne on March 29th, regarding the strategy for monitoring air quality.

The problem of airborne pollutants is not restricted to the Northwest Territories. It is a global problem that requires global solutions. The Government of Canada has taken a lead role in promoting new international agreements on the management of pollutants, such as through the United Nations economic commission for Europe's convention on long-range transboundary air pollution. While Canada no longer allows the use of pollutants such as DDT and toxaphene, many other countries have not yet done so.

The Government of the Northwest Territories, primarily through the Departments of Renewable Resources and Health and Social Services, continues to urge the federal government to take any actions necessary to reduce international sources of airborne pollutants. The Premier has brought this concern to the attention of the Prime Minister. Where appropriate, our government participates directly on task forces or Canadian delegations to ensure that northern concerns relating to airborne pollutants are heard and addressed. Most recently, at the February meeting of Canada's Energy and Environment Ministers, the Department of Renewable Resources spoke of northern concerns and the need to promote new agreements to manage these pollutants.

To respond to concerns over territorial sources of air pollutants, the Department of Renewable Resources has prepared air

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quality guidelines which recommend local limits for certain airborne pollutants. Compliance with the guidelines is voluntary. The Government of the Northwest Territories will continue to participate in programs that monitor the levels of air pollutants in the air, water, wildlife and people. The most recent information shows that levels of airborne pollutants in country foods are not increasing or affecting the productivity of territorial wildlife. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Return To Question 380-12(7): GNWT Employees' Notice Re Lease Termination

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a reply to a question asked by Mr. Patterson on April 3rd regarding GNWT employees' notice of lease termination.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of the Northwest Territories is allowing the leases on 12 single-detached staff houses to expire, as there is no ongoing need for the units. The leases expired on March 31, 1995.

Affected tenants were hand-delivered written notices on March 3, 1995, by property managers, Public Works and Services, advising them that the GNWT would not be renewing the head lease on their unit. The notice for one tenant was posted on his door as he was not at home. The letter advised tenants of several options available and provided the name and telephone number of a contact person with the Department of Personnel who would assist them with alternate staff accommodation. Tenants were informed that they could be relocated to alternative staff housing and that moving assistance would be made available to assist them. Another option would be to negotiate directly with the owner to remain in the unit.

Mr. Speaker, tenants were advised that, where warranted, the GNWT would consider holding over the head lease beyond March 31, 1995. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 4, returns to oral questions. 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 to recognize in the gallery a distinguished medical person, Dr. George Gibson, who has been here for many, many years. He's not so heavily involved in medicine as he once was and it's nice to see he's still in Yellowknife, very heavily involved in the community, and I know he

has no plans to leave. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, colleagues. I'm pleased to recognize in the gallery 25 students from the grade eight class of the Range Lake North School and their teacher, Ms. Sarah McDonald and their principal, Mr. Ulrich.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Mr. Speaker, this period in our orders of the day is usually taken up by Yellowknife Members to recognize their constituents because I don't very often have constituents come all the way here from Iqaluit. I'd still like to take this opportunity to recognize a familiar face back in his old seat, Mr. Ben McDonald, who works for the Union of Northern Workers. Thank you.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Koe.

ITEM 6: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 452-12(7): Fulfilment Of Contract For Tourism Zone Association Review

**MR. KOE:**

Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yesterday my colleague, Mr. Antoine, asked the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism about the status of the review of the tourism zone associations. I, too, have concerns about this study and some of the current events that have posed questions about the consultants who were hired to do this study. When

the call for proposals was advertised last fall, one of the conditions included was as follows: "Clause 6.7, schedule. The consultant must be prepared to begin work immediately upon award of this contract and is required to have all work completed and approved no later than March 31, 1995."

Mr. Speaker, March 31, 1995 has come and gone, and here we are awaiting results of this study. Can the Minister advise us if the contractors have lived up to the terms and conditions of the contract to study tourism zone associations?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, Mr. Todd.

Return To Question 452-12(7): Fulfilment Of Contract For Tourism Zone Association Review

**HON. JOHN TODD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Later on today, I will be tabling an executive summary of the study and the review that Mr. Koe is referring to. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Koe.

Supplementary To Question 452-12(7): Fulfilment Of Contract For Tourism Zone Association Review

**MR. KOE:**

Thank you. I look forward to that review. I also understand that currently the department is initiating an interim consultation process with the Northwest Territories tourism operators to assist in the creation of new representatives for both east and west tourism industry organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I agree that there should be two separate organizations, one in the east and one in the west, but I would

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like to hear why the department is carrying out another consultative process while you still do not have the results of the one that was supposed to be completed for March 31st.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 452-12(7): Fulfilment Of Contract For Tourism Zone Association Review

**HON. JOHN TODD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't see it as a consultative process, I see it as an initiative in the private sector and they are both involved in the tourist associations and it would be driven by them. As I said earlier, I believe yesterday, in response to a question asked by Mr. Antoine, the Western Arctic Tourism Association is trying to pull together all the zones in the western Arctic to meet to determine: one, if they concur with the report; two, what action they are going to take, if it is necessary to develop a Western Arctic Tourism Association; and, three, how are we going to live within our fiscal means in terms of the reductions in the OPPLAN and the budgets. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Koe.

Supplementary To Question 452-12(7): Fulfilment Of Contract For Tourism Zone Association Review

**MR. KOE:**

I am glad it is being driven by the private sector, but the letter was signed by the deputy minister of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. So, the interim consulting process, as it is called, has asked for some tourism operators to participate in a marketing advisory group, a meeting that has been proposed for April 20th. And the call letter requesting participants states that the tourism zone review will be complete in April. Now with these studies and meetings going on, can the Minister assure us that a review of the tourism associations and tourism zones and organizations will be complete by April 30, 1995?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 452-12(7): Fulfilment Of Contract For Tourism Zone Association Review

**HON. JOHN TODD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not familiar with the letter that the honourable Member is talking about, so I cannot talk to that letter as I don't have it in front of me. But I want to assure Members that any development with respect to changes in the zones or

changes in the tourism associations will be: one, driven by the private sector; two, reflective of their needs; and, three, has to meet the fiscal conditions that we are all working under. In the OPPLAN we have already reduced the money for the zones from \$600,000 to \$400,000.

There was a meeting last weekend in Iqaluit with the Nunavut tourism zone associations, in an effort to provide some guidance and instruction to the department as to how they would see the -- I think this is what they called it -- Travel Nunavut Association take place. I am confident that the industry in the west will do the same and that we will respond accordingly. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Koe.

Supplementary To Question 452-12(7): Fulfilment Of Contract For Tourism Zone Association Review

**MR. KOE:**

Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. As I mentioned, the call for the marketing advisory group meeting was made by letter and was sent directly to tourism operators. In the western Arctic tourism zone letters were sent to five operators, and out of the five only three are currently active. I believe that letters were not sent to the other 50 or more operators, including a zone association, aboriginal groups, hotels, restaurants, and airline services. So I would like to ask the Minister, if he believes that tourism operators should be involved in decision making on tourism activities in the Northwest Territories, should they not be included in the consultative process which his department is carrying on?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 452-12(7): Fulfilment Of Contract For Tourism Zone Association Review

**HON. JOHN TODD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If we included everybody that the honourable Member wishes to include, we would not have any money to deliver the program. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Patterson.

Question 453-12(7): Delivery Of Legal Interpreting Program By Arctic College

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Mr. Speaker, Members know that I have been concerned about the gutting of the legal interpreting program by the Minister of Justice, through his department. I am told that there is a plan to transfer this program to Arctic College. Therefore, I would like to ask the Minister for Education, Culture and Employment, how will Arctic College deliver this program? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Return To Question 453-12(7): Delivery Of Legal Interpreting Program By Arctic College

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is no plan at this particular juncture to transfer the responsibility to Arctic College -- we should say Aurora College and Nunavut Arctic College -- mainly because the assessment that is being done is to determine who and how we will deliver the matter of training. Presently there are five agencies involved in training: Aurora College; Nunavut Arctic College; the Department of Health and Social Services; the Department of Justice; and, the Department of Education, Culture and Employment.

The problem that we have is that we need to determine and rationalize the delivery of training for interpreters/translators, whether they are in the field of health, justice, or interpreter/translation services for the Assembly. Our task now is to rationalize that and we are making every effort. Once that is done, we will be able to deliver the program in a more rational and better fashion.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

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Supplementary To Question 453-12(7): Delivery Of Legal Interpreting Program By Arctic College

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Mr. Speaker, I understood from the Premier, who is responsible for official languages, in her responses to my questions last week, that this program would be transferred to Arctic College. Now the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment is telling me there is no particular plan to transfer this program to Arctic College. Is this program now deceased, dead, gone, Mr. Speaker? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 453-12(7): Delivery Of Legal Interpreting Program By Arctic College

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

No, Mr. Speaker. I believe that what is occurring is an indication that there is obvious support for clear responsibility on the part of community and education board, Aurora College and Nunavut Arctic College.

The other component that one must recognize is that in the case of Inuktitut it is generally my view that the responsibility for the training of Inuktitut translators should rest with the institution for which that language is better served. In other words, Nunavut Arctic College would be the best agent for the delivery of that training program.

It would be no different in the case of Aurora College; for instance, Fort Smith, at the moment, is involved in teacher education that deals with language education. The campuses that are involved, whether it is in Yellowknife that delivers Dogrib interpreter training or whether it is in the Gwich'in area or the Inuvialuit, the fact is that there are presently organizations or institutions that are available to us that can better deliver the program. I want to assure the honourable Member that it is certainly not our intention to gut the program, but to improve the ability of this government to deliver or streamline the approach to the delivery of training for our interpreters/translators.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 453-12(7): Delivery Of Legal Interpreting Program By Arctic College

**MR. PATTERSON:**

I understand from the Minister's answer, Mr. Speaker, that there is no particular plan, however, there is "an indication." Mr. Speaker, the Minister may know that many of the important vital functions of the legal interpreters program is to refine, define and improve the translation of legal terminology in aboriginal languages. The Minister, in his response, is talking about training legal interpreters. Will the Arctic College also be responsible for the refining, defining and developing of legal terminology? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 453-12(7): Delivery Of Legal Interpreting Program By Arctic College

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Mr. Speaker, I want to advise the honourable Member that we are as concerned on this side of the House as the honourable Member is with regard to the delivery of programs in aboriginal languages. What we are trying to address in one component of the work that has been done by Avery Cooper Management Consultants of Yellowknife is the issue of training. The honourable Member raises one other component and that is language development. Irrespective of who, in the end, is responsible, the fact is with the modernization of our aboriginal languages, whether it is Inuktitut, Gwich'in Dogrib or whatever, there is a need for those people who are involved in the languages area to be involved in the development of the language, whether they are educators, interpreter/translators or whether they are involved in the Inuit Cultural Institute, the Dene Cultural Institute, the Gwich'in Social and Culture Institute, et cetera. The development of the language has to be based on a holistic approach. It can't be integrated simply into categories. The issue is language development has to be approached in the context of those people who are using the language and those who speak it.

We are concerned about the issue. I appreciate the concern the Member has raised. The review and work we are doing collectively is not intended in any way to reduce the commitment to program delivery or service delivery, but rather to rationalize and improve the services that are offered. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Final supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 453-12(7): Delivery Of Legal Interpreting Program By Arctic College

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, when I talked about this very important program well used by the courts, which is receiving growing demands, I mentioned that there is a 1-800 number that is available to legal interpreters to call if they are having difficulty, while they are interpreting in court, with legal terminology. I have just heard the Minister say there is no intention to reduce the commitment, the service delivery -- and I have heard the same thing from the Minister of Justice -- and I would like to ask the Minister if he will assure this House that the 1-800 number, which I am told is very valuable to interpreters who are working in court, that they can call for assistance if they are interpreting in court in another community, will be preserved when this program is transferred to Arctic College, which is what the Minister indicated would happen. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 453-12(7): Delivery Of Legal Interpreting Program By Arctic College

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Personally, I can't make that commitment to the honourable Member because that responsibility still rests with the Minister of Justice. But I will take seriously the suggestion the Member has made and look at the value of the service that we are providing and ensure, in our discussions with our envelope group, that we recognize the value of the service and look at it in the context the Member has raised in this Assembly.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

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Question 454-12(7): Initiatives For Police Services In Yellowknife

**MR. BALLANTYNE:**

Mr. Speaker, my question would be to the Minister of Justice. My colleague, Mr. Dent, talked about a petition from the people of Yellowknife, 1,200 names,

which is the largest petition in the history of Yellowknife. It is regarding the fear out there that there isn't adequate policing. Mr. Speaker, this issue has been on the floor of this House for a year and a half. We have asked many questions of the Minister, given him many suggestions of how he can deal with this problem and we are waiting with anticipation for him to tell us how he intends to deal with the problem in Yellowknife of inadequate policing.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Minister of Justice, Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question 454-12(7): Initiatives For Police Services In Yellowknife

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, when the Department of Justice is allowed time to completely present its proposal and the budget, there will be some detail provided that will lend some relief to the question of RCMP presence in Yellowknife. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Ballantyne.

Supplementary To Question 454-12(7): Initiatives For Police Services In Yellowknife

**MR. BALLANTYNE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am not exactly sure what the Minister means. There has been a request for a number of police officers. There have been suggestions to set up auxiliary police. There have been suggestions to augment Crime Stoppers. There have been suggestions for a program to support the police bureaucracy, so more police will be on the streets. Perhaps the Minister can tell us what questions will be answered and when.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return To Question 454-12(7): Initiatives For Police Services In Yellowknife

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, two things: one, there is a proposed increase to the amount of funding that we provide to the RCMP under the proposed 1995-96 O and M

budget in the Department of Justice. If that is approved, then we will allow the RCMP to fill a number of vacancies that they are carrying at this time. We should see an increase in the number of RCMP officers who are assigned presently in the Northwest Territories. That will involve the city of Yellowknife.

The second point is the Members from Yellowknife asked about a month ago if I would be prepared to meet with them, so I could hear their creative and innovative ideas about how we can address the problem regarding the need for a safer society. I made the commitment that I would. I am waiting for a time and place, so we can get into further detail on the ideas the Members may want to bring to me.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Ballantyne.

Supplementary To Question 454-12(7): Initiatives For Police Services In Yellowknife

**MR. BALLANTYNE:**

Thank you. I don't know if the Minister has ever read the book "Waiting For Godot," but I was waiting also; waiting for the Minister to announce publicly what he is going to do. Once we saw exactly what we had to work with, I thought we would sit down with the mayor and the Yellowknife MLAs and decide imaginative ways to augment that. It seems that we both have been waiting. What aspect of this will be in the budget? There are studies being done by the RCMP themselves right now. When can we expect the results of those studies?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return To Question 454-12(7): Initiatives For Police Services In Yellowknife

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, I thought the study was expected some time in June but I couldn't be dead certain about that. The Member from Yellowknife asked if I would be prepared to meet with Yellowknife Members to discuss a number of ways we can assist with policing here in the city. Some creative and innovative approaches were the words used at the time of the request. I agreed and am now waiting to be invited to a meeting they would call. I wasn't under the

impression at all that I was asked for the meeting and I should call it. That's the unfortunate misunderstanding we had. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Final supplementary, Mr. Ballantyne.

Supplementary To Question 454-12(7): Initiatives For Police Services In Yellowknife

**MR. BALLANTYNE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as long as the Minister understands that there is a very, very serious problem in Yellowknife, we understand that money is short. Together, we can come up with some imaginative solutions. I will ask the Minister if he would be available during the next couple of weeks to have that meeting and see if we can start on the road to a solution to a very serious problem.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return To Question 454-12(7): Initiatives For Police Services In Yellowknife

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, it is an acknowledgement by myself and this government that we have concerns about the ability of the RCMP to carry out their work adequately, given the kinds of resources we've allocated to them. The RCMP has recognized that as well because they have undertaken a study which the Member referred to, which shows a positive approach to dealing with the problem. They're doing a study on what is the best approach for the RCMP to provide policing under current and future circumstances, such as the depletion of the pot of money which funds policing and also how division is going to affect the RCMP's ability to meet their policing duties.

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We will do whatever we can to address the needs, as called on by the Members from Yellowknife as well as the Members from every other constituency across the Northwest Territories. Whatever suggestions are made, we will be very happy to try to follow up on them. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Question 455-12(7): Provision Of Extended Health Benefits

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Health and Social Services. Mr. Speaker, last Wednesday, I asked the Minister how many individuals would be affected by the increase in medical travel copayment fees. She told the House that approximately 1,800 individuals would be affected.

Mr. Speaker, since we have concluded the budget of Health and Social Services in committee of the whole and since there was \$1 million in that budget identified for Metis health benefits, it would appear that this government will be providing extended health benefits to Metis people. I certainly support extension of these benefits to the Metis people but this will probably mean that we now have a very small group of people who don't have this type of coverage. Will those same 1,800 individuals now be the few who do not enjoy extended health benefits in the NWT?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms. Cournoyea.

Return To Question 455-12(7): Provision Of Extended Health Benefits

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, the number of 1,800 which was provided was a guesstimate of who would be excluded out of a group of people. Some of them may be under health programs and they will also be included in the Northwest Territories package of benefits that are presently available to all Northwest Territories residents. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, could the Minister identify how many individuals presently are not provided extended health benefits in the territories?



**MR. SPEAKER:**

Ms. Cournoyea.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, could the Member please give me his question again? I missed part of his question. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Same supplementary, Mr. Dent.

Supplementary To Question 455-12(7): Provision Of Extended Health Benefits

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question was, could the Minister advise how many individuals presently do not enjoy extended health benefits in the Northwest Territories?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Ms. Cournoyea.

Further Return To Question 455-12(7): Provision Of Extended Health Benefits

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I'm still working on the figures. I gave a guesstimate and we're working on the figures. I'll be able to provide those at a later time. I don't have the details which show the Member exactly those people who would be excluded because the Metis benefits would take some of those numbers. I really don't have those exact numbers yet, I'm still working on them, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Dent.

Supplementary To Question 455-12(7): Provision Of Extended Health Benefits

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe the Minister has committed to provide that number to this House at some future time. Would the Minister also provide the House with an estimate of the cost of providing those extended benefits to this group of people, whose numbers she will come up with at that time?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Ms. Cournoyea.

Further Return To Question 455-12(7): Provision Of Extended Health Benefits

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I can provide the numbers and, like with the Metis health benefits package, we haven't quite finished working out yet what we're going to be able to do with the dollars that are allocated. I will attempt to give the details, from the information available to process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Question 456-12(7): Notice Of Lease Termination For GNWT Staff Housing

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Personnel made a statement today about the notice of lease termination to GNWT employees in Iqaluit. These employees have been hit by rent increases, by user-pay for utilities and the latest move is to evict a dozen families with 28 days notice. I would like to ask the Minister of Personnel, is 28 days notice, after the commencement of a rental period for the end of that month, the notice recommended under the Residential Tenancies Act? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Minister of Personnel, Ms. Cournoyea.

Return To Question 456-12(7): Notice Of Lease Termination For GNWT Staff Housing

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I don't know. I'll check into it.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

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Supplementary To Question 456-12(7): Notice Of Lease Termination For GNWT Staff Housing

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, whether or not it's legal notice -- and I suspect it's not -- the whole government staff housing policy has been to encourage employees to get out of staff housing, to encourage them to buy or build their own homes. I think the Minister knows that in Iqaluit there is only a fledgling private market. There are not a lot of houses for sale in the market, the process for obtaining a lot by ballot draw and the process for ordering sealift materials and arranging financing takes a long time. I would like to ask the Minister, since the government's policy is to encourage people to get out of staff housing and buy or build their own homes, wouldn't it have been a much more constructive approach to give employees in these detached units, whose leases were being terminated, a lot more notice so that they would have time to plan to buy or build their own homes, rather than being sent scrambling in the middle of winter trying to find alternative locations in a few weeks. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Ms. Cournoyea.

Further Return To Question 456-12(7): Notice Of Lease Termination For GNWT Staff Housing

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, with regard to people in detached units and government housing, and encouraging individuals to go into the private market, I am not aware specifically of each individual and what their needs and requirements are. However, if the Member will recall from the statement, if there is a difficulty on the date that was set -- and there could be some valid reason that people cannot make arrangements, if we help them to make alternate arrangements or if they were not able to go to owners so they may make the deal directly with the owner -- we would consider those particular circumstances, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 456-12(7): Notice Of Lease Termination For GNWT Staff Housing

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Mr. Speaker, I am aware of the circumstance of some of these tenants and I have written the Minister about them. They said it would have been great if we had

known, if we had six months or so to plan because we are open to building our own house. It would have been great if we had had some time to prepare and plan for sealift, financing and the like. Some of them will be given another month through the Minister's good offices.

The government knew that the leases were being terminated. Why on earth didn't the government say we will give the employees a healthy six months or more, so they can reorder their lives and consider this major investment in home ownership and have a proper amount of time, not just a month's extension to consider such weighty matters. Why didn't the government give them ample notice so that they could become home owners without having time constraints pressuring them into hasty decisions or negotiations? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Ms. Cournoyea.

Further Return To Question 456-12(7): Notice Of Lease Termination For GNWT Staff Housing

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, as I said, if there are some individuals who cannot find alternate housing arrangements or cannot make a deal with the owner to have that extended time, then we are prepared to look at those circumstances. We don't want to see people who have been put into an impossible position. My understanding is they were not put into an impossible position and we are prepared to work with these individuals. And if they are having difficulty in dealing with the owner making that lease, then we are prepared to help and try to give them the lead time that is necessary for them to order materials, get a lot and do all these things. We are in the month of April, I guess there are a number of months that can be used to make up that time.

So if there are specific things that we can do for these individuals, we should be working with them to see if there is an alternative of making a deal with the new landlord directly or finding alternative accommodation if that is what has to be done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 456-12(7): Notice Of Lease Termination For GNWT Staff Housing

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate that offer and I may take it up with the Minister in the case of several of my constituents who are genuinely interested in home ownership, if they had a little more time to work on it.

I would like to ask the Minister about one other matter referred to in her statement in my final supplementary, Mr. Speaker; that is, moving assistance would be available to assist the employees. I would like to ask the Minister, since this move is at the initiative of the employer or the landlord, will the employer be covering the full cost of moving as has been done in the past? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Ms. Cournoyea.

Further Return To Question 456-12(7): Notice Of Lease Termination For GNWT Staff Housing

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, the allocation of the dollars for this type of move has been determined to be available up to the amount of \$1,000. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Question 457-12(7): Study On 1994 Tuberculosis Outbreak In Cape Dorset

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Mr. Speaker, I have a question directed to the Minister of Health and Social Services. In my constituency, particularly in Cape Dorset last year, there was an outbreak of tuberculosis. People were being shipped to southern hospitals for treatment. I would like to ask the Minister of Health and Social Services whether they have done

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studies with regard to TB outbreaks in Cape Dorset. I know that, Mr. Speaker, the nurses in the community of Cape Dorset assisted as much as they could with the resources that were available to them and we

appreciate what they have done. However, I would like to know if the Department of Health and Social Services has done any studies with regard to the tuberculosis outbreak that occurred last year. The people of Cape Dorset would like to know why there was such an outbreak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms. Cournoyea.

Return To Question 457-12(7): Study On 1994 Tuberculosis Outbreak In Cape Dorset

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I am aware of the outbreak of tuberculosis. I am also aware that when the situation arose, a number of people were transported out of the community for more treatment to other locations. As well, there was some extra help moved into Cape Dorset to try to see what had happened, to try to determine why the outbreak occurred. I have not received the results of those determinations but as soon as they have been written up, I will be pleased to provide that information to the Member. We worked with the health board to see that there would be follow-up and to look at some of the areas where we might make improvements as well. So, Mr. Speaker, once the report is done I will make that available to the Member. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Question 458-12(7): Rationale For Not Tabling Fire Suppression Review

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Renewable Resources. In his reply today, he indicated that he would not table the consultant's report on the review of the forest fire management program and policy, after the territorial government has spent \$392,000 getting this report formulated and an additional \$70,000 to reassess the report. After expending \$462,000 and he doesn't want the public to see the report. Can I ask the Minister of Renewable Resources why he does not want to table this report? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Minister of Renewable Resources, Mr. Arngna'naaq.

Return To Question 458-12(7): Rationale For Not Tabling Fire Suppression Review

**HON. SILAS ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The intention of the department in the use of this report is to use it as a management tool. That was, I believe, the only intention of the department in having this report prepared, to use as a management tool with which they could form a forest fire management strategy for the Northwest Territories. So, I do not intend to table the document. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Supplementary To Question 458-12(7): Rationale For Not Tabling Fire Suppression Review

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Minister stated, it was intended to use as a management tool. Can the Minister advise this House as to whether or not there is a committee formed to address and assist the department in developing forest fire management policies? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Arngna'naaq.

Further Return To Question 458-12(7): Rationale For Not Tabling Fire Suppression Review

**HON. SILAS ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The department, in consultation with the various departments of the government as well as with people in the affected areas, has been working on a strategy they'll be able to work with this coming summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Supplementary To Question 458-12(7): Rationale For Not Tabling Fire Suppression Review

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you. A further supplementary, Mr. Speaker, with respect to the report itself. I would like to ask the Minister, does he not feel, after spending close to \$500,000, that there is some information -- and there is some good information in that report, Mr. Speaker, don't get me wrong, I've taken the time to look through the report and find it quite informative with regard to forest fire management -- in that report that would allow the public to better understand forest fire management? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Arngna'naaq.

Further Return To Question 458-12(7): Rationale For Not Tabling Fire Suppression Review

**HON. SILAS ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think there are many, many reports that are written by and for the Government of the Northwest Territories that the public doesn't see which the government uses as management tools. I have indicated that I don't intend to table the document but would make it available to any Member who would like a copy of it. This report is a 14-volume report, Mr. Speaker, and it would require extensive work to try to make copies of it. I have no objections to any Members asking for copies and seeing the report. Where I stand at this point is, I will make it available to any Member who wants it but I am not going to table it in the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Supplementary To Question 458-12(7): Rationale For Not Tabling Fire Suppression Review

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you. Can the Minister advise the House whether or not he objects to the possibility of the public requesting a copy of the report? Would he make a copy of the report available to the public in the event that individuals

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of the public ask for a copy, since he is not willing to table the report in the House? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Arnngna'naaq.

Further Return To Question 458-12(7): Rationale For Not Tabling Fire Suppression Review

**HON. SILAS ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have indicated that the report is a management tool and I believe any management tools that are produced are for internal use. I have indicated that I will make it available to Members who, I believe, would make constructive use of it. But as far as I understand, our intention in coming up with this report was to use it for internal purposes and that's the way I intend to keep it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Question 459-12(7): Eligibility Of Management Trainees To Bid On Staff Housing

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have more questions about staff housing, but this time for the Minister of Public Works. Mr. Speaker, I think the Minister knows I'm grateful that he has approved the sale of some 20 detached or duplex staff housing units soon in Iqaluit to be bid on by interested employees. The concern that has arisen, Mr. Speaker, is that employees in the GNWT management training program were all Inuit life-long residents, long-term employees who have been guaranteed employment on completion of the program. They've been told that while they're in the program they're term employees and they might not be eligible to bid on the houses going up for sale.

I would like to ask the Minister if he's had the chance to look into this problem and if he would support allowing these management trainees, who I think are a very good risk and investment for the Government of the Northwest Territories, to bid on the staff housing units which are coming up soon for bid in my constituency. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Minister responsible for Government Services and Public Works, Mr. Morin.

Return To Question 459-12(7): Eligibility Of Management Trainees To Bid On Staff Housing

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is the first I've heard about it, but it doesn't make sense not to allow them to bid. I'll look into it and see if I can do that. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Question 460-12(7): Options For Provision Of Metis Extended Health Benefits

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Health. Mr. Speaker, I know the Minister is considering options for providing improved health benefits to Metis, which we all know is long-awaited and long sought after. I would like to ask the Minister, is an insurance scheme through a private insurer one of the ways in which these additional health benefits might be provided to Metis in the Northwest Territories? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms. Cournoyea.

Return To Question 460-12(7): Options For Provision Of Metis Extended Health Benefits

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, yes, that is an option. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 460-12(7): Options For Provision Of Metis Extended Health Benefits

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister if, in looking at the option of providing health benefits to Metis in the Northwest Territories through a private insurer, it would be possible to consider allowing other people in the Northwest Territories, who don't have employer coverage or who are not covered through Indian and Northern Affairs, to purchase insurance so they can be protected from the costs of travel, medicare or drugs, if they should

happen to fall ill and not be covered by their employer or another plan. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Ms. Cournoyea.

Further Return To Question 460-12(7): Options For Provision Of Metis Extended Health Benefits

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, it may be possible to explore that and come back with that information. Mr. Speaker, with regard to Metis health benefits, as Members know, certainly within the federal domain of benefits either for status aboriginal people or extended benefits that would include Metis, it is a far more acceptable program which would not affect the overall program delivery of the Government of the Northwest Territories.

In trying to establish health care for Metis, we have to look very hard to find a way to do that and, at the same time, retain the type of financial arrangements we have with the federal government. Since there has been quite a bit of work done constitutionally and with inherent right issues, it appears that we could move with Metis health benefits without jeopardizing the overall scheme of the financial arrangements between the federal government and the Northwest Territories.

I would think that we can always take another look at that, but it would also have to be in conjunction with what it would do with the overall financing of the NWT, if you include benefits other than to aboriginal people. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 460-12(7): Options For Provision Of Metis Extended Health Benefits

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make it clear that I am not advocating the erosion of medicare. What I am talking about is for the services that aren't provided

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by medicare, such as more than one medical travel out which, for my constituents, can cost in the neighbourhood of \$1,000 a trip. I am talking about drug costs that aren't covered by medicare. It seems to me that if an insurance scheme is being considered, which would be funded by \$1 million available to provide Metis health benefits, would it not be possible for others to pay premiums and get the benefit of that kind of coverage as well as for Metis, who wouldn't have to pay the premiums. I am asking the Minister if she would look at setting up an insurance scheme that would be available to ensure that others who were not covered for these benefits that fall outside of medicare, could take the benefit of the economies of scale that may arise from setting up a new insurance scheme for Metis in the territories? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Ms. Cournoyea.

Further Return To Question 460-12(7): Options For Provision Of Metis Extended Health Benefits

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, like I said, this would be outside the rationale for the arguments that we gave for the Metis as aboriginal people and its effect on the overall arrangements between us and the federal government. Given the Member's question on whether we would take a look at it in terms of people buying into an insurance plan, I can work on that to see what the possibilities are. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Antoine.

Question 461-12(7): Transfer Of Arctic College Credits To Other Institutions

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment. Yesterday, the Minister made a statement about partners in education. In his statement, the Minister made a number of comments. The Minister stated that there is a council of Ministers for Canada who are working together. One of the things they are working towards is improvement in the transfer of credits among universities and colleges. In previous sessions I have raised this question to the

Minister. I wanted to know which colleges have credits in courses that could be transferred. It is good news that they are looking at improving the transfer of credits among universities and colleges for the first two years of undergraduate studies. Which universities and colleges would be accepting the credits from the north?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

Return To Question 461-12(7): Transfer Of Arctic College Credits To Other Institutions

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With regard to a short list of those programs or institutions to which we have relationships, they are: McGill University; the University of Lethbridge; the University of Calgary; the University of Saskatchewan; and, I believe, the University of Regina. There are other programs in the trades, we deal with NAIT, Fairview and SAIT. The efforts we are trying to address in this initiative that the Council of Ministers of Education are undertaking is students can transfer from institution to institution across the country and be recognized for the courses they are taking at other universities. For instance, if there is a student attending Dalhousie in the area of political science or law, they may be able to take the courses they have taken to the University of British Columbia and vice versa.

Today, there are students who have taken courses at the University of Toronto that are not accepted at the University of British Columbia. We are trying to break down those barriers. That will happen also in the trades area.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Antoine.

Supplementary To Question 461-12(7): Transfer Of Arctic College Credits To Other Institutions

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Another question to the Minister from the statement he made yesterday. The Minister stated yesterday that Education, Culture and Employment will review the student financial assistance program in the new fiscal year to increase its access for adult learners to bring its annual 10 per

cent expenditure growth within financially sustainable levels. This is an interesting point, Mr. Speaker. For some time now, student financial assistance has been a real challenge to all MLAs. We all have people in our constituencies who go to college or university. When people go to school, they are always running short of funds. This is where we come in. If the Minister is going to review this program, it says he will be doing that in this new fiscal year. Could the Minister tell the House how he is going to do this review? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 461-12(7): Transfer Of Arctic College Credits To Other Institutions

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to advise the honourable Member that this is not the first time I have advised the House that the review would be taking place. Presently, the review is going out to a private company that will undertake to review the programs that are in existence at the moment and to have discussions with students. In fact, I had a meeting, along with staff, with the students of the University of Alberta advising them this review was taking place. Other students will be advised that the review is taking place, so we can get advice from the students as to the shortcomings of the programs that we now run for students. The fact is that in some instances, we may have a program that is the best in the country in total dollars, but maybe we are spending it in the wrong location. We need to have students access other programs, such as the child day care program, for instance, so we can supplement some of the students who are attending institutions outside the Northwest Territories.

So, Mr. Speaker, I can write and advise all Members of the status of the review. I can provide the documentation, the terms of reference and the timetable of the review, so that Members are well aware of the process we are following with regard to the review.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Question period has lapsed. Item 7, written questions. Item 8, returns to written questions. Mr. Clerk.

## ITEM 8: RETURNS TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Return To Written Question 21-12(7): Proposed Amendment To The Migratory Birds Convention

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):

Mr. Speaker, return to Written Question 21-12(7), asked by Mr. Zoe to the Minister of Renewable Resources concerning the Proposed Amendment to the Migratory Birds Convention Act.

Between 1990 and 1992, the federal government undertook public consultation to develop a national position on amending the migratory bird convention, which is the treaty between Canada and the United States. The Department of Renewable Resources attended most meetings and facilitated territorial input so that territorial concerns could be incorporated into the final Canadian position. Throughout this process, the Department of Renewable Resources provided advice to the federal government and promoted the concept of fair, legitimate, northern access to this renewable resource.

The national position has the following four elements:

-Migratory birds, their eggs and nests may be harvested throughout the year, subject to regulation that may be required for their conservation, by aboriginal peoples of Canada having aboriginal or treaty rights, but the birds, eggs, and nests so taken shall not be sold or offered for sale.

This element resolves the primary concern of territorial residents, that legal aboriginal access to migratory birds in spring (outside of the current legal season) should be assured.

-Murre may be taken by non-aboriginal residents of the province of Newfoundland and Labrador for food, subject to regulation, during the period from September 1st to March 10th, but the murre so taken shall not be sold or offered for sale. The season for murre hunting shall be further restricted to such period not exceeding three and one half months as the proper authorities may deem appropriate by law or regulation.

This element does not have direct relevance to NWT concerns.

-Migratory game and non-game birds and their eggs may be taken for food throughout the year, subject to regulation that may be required for their conservation, by qualified non-aboriginal residents in areas of

northern Canada in accordance with provisions in co-management agreements established pursuant to Canadian legislation, but the birds and eggs so taken shall not be sold or offered for sale.

This element is required because land claim settlements have created non-aboriginal beneficiaries, for example spouses of aboriginal beneficiaries, who are to receive the same benefits as aboriginal beneficiaries.

-The dates of the closed season on the taking of migratory game birds by qualified non-aboriginal residents may be varied by law or regulation in areas of northern Canada to be specified by the proper authorities including those appointed in accordance with provisions in co-management agreements established pursuant to Canadian legislation. The season for hunting shall be further restricted to such period not exceeding three and one half months as the proper authorities may deem appropriate by law or regulation; and the birds so taken shall not be sold or offered for sale.

This element provides the potential for access to migratory game birds by non-aboriginal residents in areas where the birds are not currently available during the legal season. Development and implementation of new seasons and quotas would be through co-management structures, such as those established under land claim agreements. Concerns relating to protection of aboriginal and treaty rights could be addressed through this process.

The federal government is currently assessing the options for recognizing aboriginal and treaty rights in either the convention or Canada's Migratory Bird Convention Act.

### MR. SPEAKER:

Item 8, returns to written questions. Item 9, replies to opening address. Item 10, petitions. Mr. Dent.

## ITEM 10: PETITIONS

### MR. DENT:

Mr. Speaker, I would like to present a petition dealing with the matter of RCMP staffing levels. Mr. Speaker, Petition No. 7-12(7) contains 1,260 signatures and, Mr. Speaker, the petitioners request that the "G" division RCMP detachment be allocated six more trained officers to form a drug-related crime task force to work in Yellowknife. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.



---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Item 10, petitions. Item 11, reports of standing and special committees. Item 12, reports of committees on the review of bills. Item 13, tabling of documents. Item 14, notices of motion. Mr. Patterson.

ITEM 14: NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Motion 17-12(7): Review Of Official Languages Services

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, April 13th, I will move the following motion:

I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, that this Assembly recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories proceed as soon as possible with its overall review of all official languages programs, in cooperation with NWT organizations with an interest in official languages; and further, that this Assembly recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories, in cooperation with the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, review of the effectiveness and cost of official languages services provided for the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, if I may, since we'll adjourn tomorrow, I intend to seek unanimous consent tomorrow to proceed with my motion then. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

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motions. Item 17, first reading of bills. Item 18, second reading of bills. Item 19, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Bill 1, Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1995-96; Bill 13, An Act to Amend the Fair Practices Act; Bill 16, An Act to Amend the Retirement Plan Beneficiaries Act; Bill 22, Forgiveness of Debts Act, 1994-95; Bill 23, Write-off of Debts Act, 1994-95; Bill 24, Community Employees' Benefits Act; Bill 27, An Act to Amend the Land Titles Act; 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; Committee Report 5-12(7), Report on the Review of Rewriting the Liquor Laws of the Northwest Territories: A Legislative Action Paper; Committee Report 6-12(7), Report on the Review of the Legislative Discussion Paper on the Draft of the New Education Act; and, Committee Report 7-12(7), Report on the Second Annual Report, 1993-94, of the Languages Commissioner of the NWT, with Mr. Ningark in the chair.

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

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Good afternoon. The committee will come to order. What is the wish of the committee? I'll put my earpiece on first so I can hear you. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to recommend that the committee resume consideration of Bill 1 and Committee Report 4-12(7) to continue on with the review of the Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs budget and, if we should conclude that, to move on to Personnel, Executive Offices and, perhaps, FMBS.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Do we have agreement?

**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

Intergovernmental And Aboriginal Affairs

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Right after the break?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you.

--SHORT RECESS

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Before I open the floor for general comments, I would like to ask the honourable Minister if he would like to bring in the witnesses.

Mr. Minister, would you please introduce your witnesses to the committee.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my left, shortly I hope, Mr. Bob Overvold, the deputy minister, will join me. On my right is Terry Allen, director of finance and administration for the ministry.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. General comments from the floor. Mr. Patterson.

General Comments

**MR. PATTERSON:**

I think the record shows that I asked an important question when we closed, Mr. Chairman, if I may draw that to your attention. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Thank you for reminding me, I was looking at it earlier but I had forgotten about it. Mr. Minister, if you can remember, or if you have information with you, perhaps you could respond to Mr. Patterson. Mr. Minister.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

I don't have a Hansard with me, perhaps he could repeat the question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. I will read the question by Mr. Patterson from the unedited Hansard. "Just a question before we conclude this afternoon, Mr. Chairman. There is a new Division Secretariat being established in the Executive. What I would like to ask

is how the Division Secretariat relate with the Ministry of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs, and why is it not part of that ministry rather than being part of the Executive Council Secretariat? It very much relates with the NTI and political work associated with Nunavut, the Nunavut Implementation Commission. I'm just wondering why it reports to the Executive and the Premier and not through this ministry. Thank you." That was the question from yesterday.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I didn't get a copy of the Hansard, so I was not aware of what the question was.

Mr. Chairman, it is my view that this is a question which would be properly addressed to the Premier, since she is ultimately the one answerable for the way that the Executive and the Cabinet assigns its different duties. For instance, this particular division is being set up in the Executive and I think the Premier should answer that question. It is more properly left for her to answer that question and not myself, if I could defer that question to her.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Patterson, the honourable Minister has indicated perhaps the question is more appropriately directed to the Premier. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

I appreciate that, Mr. Chairman. But I would like to ask the Minister, what role does the Ministry of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs have in division planning and dealing with division issues within the government? Thank you.

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**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Chairman, along with the Department of Finance, we have a very similar role we have always played in relation to that question. For instance, the entire exercise brought on by the Legislative Assembly and Cabinet in looking at division; the implications of it; the work schedule; and, the work done by the Legislature and Cabinet over the last three years in preparation for division were all largely organized and followed up

on by the ministry staff in conjunction with the Department of Finance. So we do play a large role in helping the Cabinet and the Premier's office answer questions related to division, in setting up and proposing processes for dealing with issues that arise out of that. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. General comments from the floor. Mr. Antoine.

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Going into the definitive objective, the first definitive objective on page 02-35 is to implement a Cabinet approved protocol and mandate regarding principles for negotiating and implementing self-government. Mr. Chairman, given that negotiating self-government is primarily a federal responsibility, what would the Minister's role be in self-government negotiations between northern aboriginal First Nations and the federal government? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Chairman, I had said yesterday that because self-government negotiations is a new initiative that requires some focus and some clear mandates in order for it to be expedited, this government has suggested that we should come up with a clear mandate and a protocol, to be clear to the Members of this Legislature and the public, on what we see is our role and our mandate in how we will conduct ourselves in the course of self-government discussions and negotiations.

With that in mind, the Cabinet directed us to develop a draft mandate and protocol paper. We did that, the Cabinet approved a discussion paper for consultation purposes. We have gone to the Inuvialuit, the Gwich'in, the Sahtu, the Deh Cho, Treaty 8, Dogrib, and I think the Metis Nation to get their input as to whether or not this is a good idea and what they think of the draft paper.

We are presently getting feedback from the different groups. As I said yesterday, there are a couple of points: one, there is an uneasiness about the fact that the federal government itself does not have any clear policy, they don't have a self-government paper.

Although they have committed in their red book of the Liberal Party to recognize and support the inherent right to self-government, there hasn't been a paper yet and we expect that this month. It looks like it is unclear at this time when the federal government will come forward with it. I would suspect that they may need more time before they are prepared and able to come forward with a good paper.

In the meantime, this government has elected to try to do the same. It has been our view that we are a required party to the negotiations because we are funded and mandated to serve the public in delivering certain programs and services. To leave us out of it will make the process very cumbersome, since the federal government will need to consult with us continuously in order to be able to expedite the negotiations. So we think the best way is for us to be involved.

As well, the federal government has insisted from the beginning that we should be involved. Having said that, I have taken the view that we should be involved. I feel that because I think, as a government, we can help the aboriginal groups to get many of the things that they want. Certainly our paper, in our view, is unique in Canada, the extent to which we are prepared to almost dismantle ourselves in face of the call for self-government by aboriginal people. We put this government on the table. That is done nowhere else in Canada. If the aboriginal groups are insistent and all of them insist that we shouldn't be party to the negotiations and that we should sit it out, we would give that serious consideration. At this time, we are just going through the consultations. It will be a few weeks yet before we put all the discussions together and have something definitive for Cabinet. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Antoine.

**MR. ANTOINE:**

The protocol in the mandate was directed by Cabinet to this Minister to develop. This is quite an important guideline that has been developed for self-government. Talking to the different representatives of different First Nation organizations, some of the wording is okay, but a lot of them have great concerns that the implications of this protocol coming from this government without the involvement of the First Nations, initially, it sets parameters before they even get to the table. That is one view the group I

represent, the Deh Cho, have. It might put restrictions on them even before they get to the table. That is a problem, too. In developing this protocol, was the federal government involved in the development of the protocol and guidelines? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Chairman, we put this paper together because we think we take a rather progressive view nationally in our approach to self-government negotiations. The principles that we list are fairly wide-ranging. We use words that perhaps could, upon discussion with aboriginal groups, alleviate their concerns. We used "territorial" to define a central government because if we say we should be one central government, the animosity level rises incredibly. When we say "central," for instance, people think I'm talking about one government, no community governments, no regional governments, just one central government. I learned the lesson the hard way. Now we use the word "territorial" to mean that in a single western territory, there will be a territorial government made up of at least two, perhaps three, levels of government.

The principles are there. Some of them we have no choice. For instance, we think self-government arrangements must respect the Canadian Charter of Rights. We don't see any way around that. There are other draft principles that different groups have taken offence to and have questions about, certainly with the wording. I asked for consultation because I want to know what they think of these principles in the draft

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paper. That's what we're doing right now. The Deh Cho has made very little response to it.

As I say, if the whole paper is objectionable, then we need to know why. If it can be clearly articulated, then we may be convinced that, perhaps, the very people we want to help don't want our help at all. If that's the message, we're going to take that very seriously and bring it back to Cabinet. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. The honourable Member for Nahendeh.

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This protocol of this government are guidelines that the Deh Cho First Nation will follow when they start negotiating self-government. My understanding of self-government in the Deh Cho area is that it is wide open. They haven't set parameters for themselves in their land claim negotiations, where other groups have agreed to have self-government under a public government system. In the Deh Cho, that's not the case. If you're going to lump everybody under one protocol, it already will restrict the groups who haven't settled their claims yet. That's one of the problems I have with this protocol. It has to take that into consideration.

Regarding the consultations that are going on now, I would like to ask the Minister if this protocol he has developed with his department would allow for a group such as the Deh Cho to have input into it, to see if they could change the protocol if they say it is restricting their abilities during their self-government negotiation initiatives. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Chairman, if the Deh Cho comes back and says they would like to change the wording of many of the principles and suggest a number of principles are unacceptable and give reasons for that, we are prepared to listen to them because the principles are supposed to guide us in the conduct of negotiations. If they are seen to impede the advancement of certain positions, then we have to rationalize why we're doing that. I understand what the Member is saying. It's kind of funny to be consulting with the very groups we're negotiating with but, in our case, the aboriginal groups are also part of the public we serve, so it's important for them to know how we're going to conduct ourselves, the same way as we're consulting with the municipalities.

We're also asking the federal government to look at our protocol and mandate for their review. One of the things that I raised yesterday and I think the federal government has raised as well, is the Deh Cho paper says they want to set up a separate territory within the Deh Cho traditional boundaries. I don't see it as a starting point in negotiations but the federal government has said that themselves. However, the federal Minister, I believe, has also instructed his

officials to conduct exploratory talks -- which is all that is going on now with the Deh Cho -- to say that let's explore the reasons why people are asking for a separate territory and what it is that they hope to achieve and how they how to achieve it so we can better understand the position that they're taking. Once we know that, we'll be in a better position to see what we can do to

meet the aspirations of the Deh Cho people. That is going on right now in the discussions with the federal officials.

While I understand that the federal government has said no to a separate territory, they haven't hard-lined it in the exploratory talks. They have taken the time to hear out the Deh Cho on a number of occasions to let them flesh out the parameters as the Deh Cho see it; how they envisage self-government for their territory. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Before I recognize the next speaker, either Mr. Antoine or another speaker, I would like to ask the honourable Minister to introduce the witness for the record.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Chairman, I am happy to see Mr. Overvold appear -- as I hoped he would -- on my left as of yesterday and the same today.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Welcome, Mr. Overvold, to the committee. General comments. Mr. Antoine.

**MR. ANTOINE:**

This protocol and mandate was approved by Cabinet; this will give direction for how this government is going to negotiate and how this government's going to implement self-government. Like I said, I have some concerns about this one and I understand that other First Nations in the north also have some concerns about it. This is the only one that's doing it. The federal government doesn't have one. They're developing one but some people feel that this government jumped the gun and went ahead and developed this protocol and mandate and it may create a problem for some of the First Nations in what they are trying to achieve. As a result of that, I understand that there is some feedback that's not

very favourable to this protocol and mandate at this time.

I would like to ask the Minister when would this consultation be concluded so that he would have a good understanding of where all the different aboriginal groups stand on this protocol and mandate? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Qujannamiik. Mr. Minister.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand what the Member is saying and I would have liked to hear him say that the federal government is very slow and they should have jumped the gun in delivering a policy but they haven't. The government said that they were going to deliver it last fall; last fall came and went and there is still no paper from the federal government. The last we heard it was due this month, in April. As a government, we had tried to take a positive approach. I did not want, as a Minister, to be told that I'm taking an ad hoc approach to self-government negotiations. I had asked the ministry, and the Cabinet had supported it, to come up with a draft that would tell the aboriginal groups and the public how this government is going to conduct itself and on what principles it would build its positions in negotiations.

The officials have just sent the draft to the aboriginal groups, the Association of Municipalities and the federal government for feedback, and if it appears that the aboriginal groups all want us to stay out, that they don't want a draft mandate and policy, then that will go to Cabinet. I'm preparing to go to Cabinet in

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the middle of May for a decision on this. We may defer, we may adopt it, we may withdraw it completely and take an ad hoc approach to self-government negotiations.

I should let the Member know that I think it would be totally contrary to the interests of anyone if no one in the north tries to capture an opportunity to put focus on the self-government aspirations of the six regional groups that make up the western part of the territory. How are we going to make sure that the Inuvialuit, the Gwich'in, the Sahtu, the Dogrib, the Deh Cho, Treaty 8, the Metis Nation and the Metis of the South Slave and the North Slave all work towards self-government that has some semblance of commonality? We are

categorically against the balkanization of a western territory; but the federal government, on the other hand, may not be. They may be very happy to see the aboriginal groups set up little enclaves for themselves. This government is not interested in seeing that. If there's some other way to ensure that people get to appreciate the merits of having a common front of all aboriginal people and northern people to deal with self-government issues, political and constitutional issues, then we have to provide that direction, that leadership. That's what we're trying to do. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. General comments. Mr. Zoe.

**MR. ZOE:**

Mahsi, Mr. Chairman. I would like to touch on a different area than my colleague from Nahendeh. I would like to touch on the area of community transfers. In the budget there are many staff in the community transfer division of the ministry. I would like to ask the Minister how many staff we have in terms of PYs, if there are any vacancies within those number of PYs and the cost of their salaries and wages?

I have further questions, Mr. Chairman, after I hear from the Minister. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you, Mr. Zoe. I believe there is one sitting above you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have eight person years that are assigned to community transfers. Presently, we have one vacancy. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Zoe.

**MR. ZOE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand that there is both an eastern and western section, both with four employees assigned to each division. Is the one vacancy that the Minister made reference to in the east or in the west? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Chairman, there are actually three vacancies. One is in the east and one is assigned to the west. Also, under the western Arctic community transfer, we had two community liaison coordinators. One was vacated voluntarily a month or so ago and the other person is on loan to the self-government function. Technically, it's a vacancy but it has been vacated on loan, seconded. In the east, the executive director position that was formerly filled by Sheila Bassi is presently vacant.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Zoe.

**MR. ZOE:**

Mr. Chairman, with all these people under the community transfer section, could I ask the Minister if he could update us on the number of communities which have been involved in the community transfer initiative?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Proceed, Mr. Minister.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Chairman, there are 74 communities, I believe, in the Northwest Territories. I wonder whether the Member will simply allow me to provide briefing documents which would show the history of community transfers since the beginning, some four years ago, and the amount of activity and work done to date. We do have, for instance a listing which shows the number of communities that have expressed initial interest or have requested information workshops on the community transfer initiative since 1992; which is some 45 communities. The interest has been high.

In some communities, we have started having discussions and workshops, and the communities are taking the time to have internal discussions about whether or not they are prepared to make further commitments. Other communities -- for instance, McPherson -- have indicated that, at this time, they are not prepared to do any further work. The implementation of the Gwich'in claim and the business interests of the community have taken centre stage, the entire stage, so to speak, at this

time. The leadership has indicated to us that they support the concept of the community transfer initiative but they are not prepared to do anything specific at this time.

We are continuing to hold the position that we're not going to go out and actively sell the initiative. We know that people are interested and they will do it when they are prepared and feel their priority is transfers. As a government, we're prepared to do business. The store is open, so to speak, but we're not taking the approach that everybody should be doing it. We're simply open for business and when business is called for by different communities, we shall respond. We're prepared and organized to do it. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Zoe, would you settle for the information paper being provided to you by the Minister? Mr. Zoe.

**MR. ZOE:**

I am looking forward to that summary, Mr. Chairman. Earlier, the Minister indicated that there are a number of vacancies. Can I ask the Minister how long these vacancies have existed?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. The honourable Minister.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Thank you. Mr. Chairman, the executive director position, which was vacated at the end of January, is presently being advertised. Once that position is filled, we will move to advertise for the community liaison coordinator for the western Arctic part of the community transfers. Regarding the other community liaison coordinator, which I said was on loan to the self-government task, we have no intention of advertising for that since the person still holds that position. They're simply on loan to help with the self-government aspect of our work.

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**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Zoe.

**MR. ZOE:**

Mr. Chairman, the Minister indicated that there were two positions. One was the executive director for the east, which is being advertised and one is a secondment into the self-government area. The other position he said was also vacant is the community liaison coordinator. What about that position? Is that being advertised? How long has that been vacant?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Qujannamiik. Mr. Minister.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

The Member just missed part of my comments. I said we're presently advertising for the executive director position and once we fill that, we will move to advertise for the community liaison coordinator position, which was vacated in February. The second community liaison position is not a secondment, it is a loan. We're simply aiding the self-government task which is burdened with work because we are also helping with the Constitutional Development Steering Committee work, and have been for some time; namely, Mr. Iveson.

In order to help, one of our staff, Gabriela Sparling, has been assigned temporarily to help with that workload. She still fills the community liaison coordinator position so we have no intention of advertising that position. We're advertising for two positions; one presently and one in the near future. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Zoe.

**MR. ZOE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, earlier, the Minister indicated that there has been a lot of interest expressed by a number of communities. If I recall, out of 70 odd communities, he indicated about 45 communities expressed interest. If I recall correctly, Mr. Chairman, when we first announced this initiative, there was great interest expressed by all communities; particularly medium-sized communities such as Cape Dorset and Fort Good Hope which have successfully completed transfers. But, after looking at how the initiatives were being handled, a lot of communities were turned off because of the complications of the process we have in place.

I disagree, at this point in time, with the Minister saying that there's a lot of interest out there. I don't

think that's the case. In my view, Mr. Chairman, the interest is no longer there. I would like to ask the Minister if he could provide to our committee the names of the communities that his staff have travelled to in the last year and how many of these communities are seriously pursuing transfer of this particular initiative; transfer of programs for this initiative?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you, Mr. Zoe. Mr. Minister.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Chairman, just a couple of questions ago I had asked the Member if he would be prepared to accept, instead of an hour-long presentation from me on all the work that we've done -- all the travel, the workshops, the funding that we've provided to communities, the visits, and all the transfers that have been completed, the ones that are being negotiated now -- if he would simply take that in the form of a briefing papers and he had agreed. This is where we got into difficulty with the Member yesterday as well. He's also now saying that we haven't done anything and interest is waning. I would suggest to the Member that he should wait before he makes categorical statements like that, because they're simply not true and it makes it difficult to have a good discussion when you make categorical statements like that based on whatever it is that you're basing it on.

For instance, there are more communities than just Fort Good Hope and Cape Dorset that have completed transfer agreements. I can, just for the Member's appreciation, list them and then give him an indication of the amount of work that has been done to date.

In Fort Good Hope, for instance, we've done the one on economic development and we've done one on renewable resources. We've done an aide memoire that sort of leads to a framework agreement; that's going to be resulting in the community looking, for instance, at social services and all the agreements that they could take on under that scope.

In Cape Dorset we've completed social services, economic development and public works and housing.

In Holman we've done public works.

In Aklavik we've done economic development and renewable resources and we have a memorandum of understanding under which we will continue to look at other transfers.

In Tuk we've done economic development and public works.

In Fort Providence we've done economic development plus we have a memorandum of understanding there as well.

In the town of Inuvik, we've done economic development and lotteries which was a significant development last year.

In Fort Norman we've done economic development plus we have a memorandum of understanding.

In Fort McPherson and Tsiigehtchic we have economic development and an MOU that we completed before McPherson indicated that that's as far as they were prepared to go at this time. We're continuing with our discussions with Tsiigehtchic on other elements as they come up.

Coppermine, we've done economic development and a trainer memorandum of understanding.

Cambridge Bay we have social services and economic development.

In Grise Fiord we've done renewable resources and a memorandum of understanding.

In Resolute we've done renewable resources and a memorandum of understanding.

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Arctic Bay, we've done renewable resources and a MOU there as well.

There are transfers pending in Holman for the executive service officer; in Pelly Bay for the executive service officer; in Gjoa Haven for the executive service officer; Arviat, for lotteries; Cape Dorset is now looking at government services and an officer position; in Deline we're looking at lotteries; Fort Norman, we're looking at lotteries; Tsiigehtchic, we're looking at social services; Aklavik, we're looking at social services, public works, housing maintenance and the power maintenance. These are all pending final negotiations.



In Inuvik we're talking about social services; Norman Wells, we've just completed transfer of the natural gas system so they are now prepared to continue picking up discussions where they left off some years ago on other interests they have in taking on other transfers.

In terms of contributions, the amount of money we've given out, in 1993-94, we gave out a total of \$294,500. In 1994-95 we've given out the same amount, \$296,830. In terms of the work done and the amount of money that we're advancing to continue the work, it's looking good and I don't understand the Member suggestion that interest is waning. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. General comments. Mr. Zoe.

**MR. ZOE:**

Mr. Chairman, in my view, although this initiative was a good one when we first announced it -- sure, it had a lot of interest -- the interest isn't there now. There are some communities that want, say, an EDO position and a lot of them that the Minister outlined are only one-program positions. No substantial... various programs where the community itself would be more in control of, for instance, social services, public works, housing, et cetera. Although the Minister indicated that these programs are being negotiated and they are still liaising with the communities, there hasn't been that much movement, in my view, because a lot of them that the Minister outlined are still pending. How long does it take? It doesn't take four years. We completed, in my view, basically two communities. One is Fort Good Hope and the other is Cape Dorset. Those are two substantial ones that you can really say were a success.

I disagree with my colleague, the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, when he says there is a lot of interest, that everybody is asking for his staff to come in and provide these types of workshops and to start negotiating and developing memorandums of understanding, et cetera. I don't think that's the case. The public has to know exactly what's happening. For instance, in my area there is no interest. Even south of the lake; I haven't heard the Minister mention any communities south of the lake. You mentioned primarily the east, the Inuvialuit area and some in the Delta. I agree with him that when we first started this initiative, there was a lot of interest expressed but once they saw how complicated it was, it was more

difficult for the communities to deal with the process that we put in place. Although the Minister indicated that in 1993-94 we expended, in terms of conservation, \$294,500 and in the following year \$296,830, that isn't a substantial amount that we are talking about; only a few positions that we've given them and maybe a few office supplies to go with them. But, there hasn't been a substantial transfer taking place in a lot of our communities; I can really say something has happened in our only two: in Cape Dorset and Fort Good Hope. In that respect, Mr. Chairman, in my view, the progress has been very slow in this area.

Mr. Chairman, funding which was identified for community transfers is scattered, not only within this department here but it is scattered throughout the entire budget. Why hasn't the Minister considered consolidating the funding for communities evolving in this initiative in single-line items in the budget; this would better allow monitoring of the effectiveness of the transfer and might provide more flexibility to communities in using the transferred funds. I would like to ask the Minister why hasn't he considered doing that?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Chairman, there is a school of thought that says the same thing as the Member: everything is well the way it is so we shouldn't change anything. It is true that some communities have other priorities at this time. For instance, the Dogrib are focused very much on their claim, self-government negotiations; and business interests also seem to be occupying a great deal of their time.

We have economic development positions that are answerable right now, not to the communities, not to the Dogrib, but to this government. The Dogrib seem content to leave it the way it is. We have renewable resource officer positions in the Dogrib communities; again, they are not directly answerable to the Dogrib. Some communities have decided they want to do something about that, and we have done work with them. The Dogrib feel that is okay for now and that is their business. This initiative is community-driven and we are not going around beating our drum trying to get the Dogrib or anybody else to say...They have to show that we are needed and that this initiative has to

be shown to be highly in demand, otherwise we're a flop.

The government has shown a tremendous initiative here; I believe very, very strongly in it and so does this government. As communities are prepared to move...It is not a big deal, it is not any great initiative to request that Lac La Martre should take over the economic development officer position; they have recently expressed interest in doing that. There is no great magic trick to it, you just ask if you can take that over by coming to an arrangement with the government, you do the same with renewable officer positions and we are in business.

These people can, on a day-to-day basis, answer directly to the Dogrib authority, whatever it is in those communities, if that is what the expressed wish is; but if they don't want to do it at this time, that is fine. I just tell them that this government stands ready to do business, and we are doing it. The Member is saying I don't think you are doing any work. I disagree with him categorically. We wouldn't be here today if the Member had won the day in the Legislature three years ago; not at all.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Mr. Chairman, I want to make it clear that I am enthusiastic about community transfer. I would love to

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see it happen; I think it is key to the very credibility of this government in many parts of the Northwest Territories, to enhancing the credibility of this government. It is critical to spreading employment opportunities in Nunavut, that we have a success with community transfer.

When I was in Cabinet in the previous Legislature, we tried very hard to deliver on community transfer, and I can say without shame that we failed miserably; it didn't work. Although there were a lot of efforts and Mr. Wray was the Minister then in charge, he had every commitment and personal dedication in the world to this, it never happened. Yes, there were a few economic development officers transferred. Yes, there were a few other government PYs transferred. But in the sense of giving communities real powers to set priorities, handle significant amounts of money,

control their own lives at the community level, we made no progress.

I have to, with the greatest respect, say to the Minister that especially considering the numerous person years and sizable financial resources that have been put in this area over the last three years, I don't think that we have made an awful lot of progress with this government either. And I want to say clearly, I don't think it is from lack of effort or commitment on the part of the Minister and his staff. Somehow we haven't quite got the formula to make it work. I suspect it has to do with the nature of bureaucracies; there is a certain interdepartmental rivalry and there is a certain kind of resistance to giving away authority to communities so that we have to fight in order to make it happen.

I don't want to criticize anyone, Mr. Chairman, but I think the purpose of this committee is to look at the amount of money that we are dedicating to this task and deciding whether we are getting value for money. I look at eight person years and I, frankly, wonder what they are doing. Now we have an answer that two or three of them are not there and they are doing other good work.

There are real problems with this community transfer arrangement. I will speak for Nunavut because I know about Nunavut; we have paid great attention to the Cape Dorset experience in the Baffin. We held a leaders' meeting in Dorset to find out first hand how they had done it, we were hoping that our communities could profit from the Dorset experience.

What have we learned -- and it was put together in a resolution at our last Baffin leaders' summit -- is that the training and community development component has to be enhanced and that the absence of a component in training and community development is an impediment.

We recommended that it would be more appropriate if personnel who have a presence and credibility in the region -- through being known in the region -- deliver the CTI programs, rather than people from headquarters who are not well-known. I am not questioning their abilities, but they are not known to the community leaders and, therefore, there are barriers for that reason.

We noted the problems about the barriers the Financial Administration Act imposes to block funding, which I know Mr. Pollard is trying to correct through an amendment to these

main estimates, and I know Mr. Kakfwi has been looking at solutions. But, nonetheless, that has been an impediment.

We also had a serious discussion about the fact that the wide-open menu -- pick and choose as you see fit -- may not be as effective as we might have hoped, even though it's extremely democratic. In fact, if communities instead had two or three choices of medium, large and small responsibilities and models were developed, we might have more take-up, rather than leaving it wide open and, therefore, leaving communities quite uncertain about what to take.

There also seems to have been, and all you have to do is talk to the good people who were involved in Cape Dorset, quite a labyrinth of an approval process. Maybe ground has been broken, it's simpler now, and Dorset has paved the way to an easier process. But, if you talk to them, as we did, they said it was a pretty tough process. They spoke very highly of Mr. Kakfwi's personal commitment, but they had to journey to Yellowknife at great expense more than once to make it all happen. I don't want to rant and rave on and on here, Mr. Chairman, but I do want to support Mr. Zoe. I have to say, despite the effort, the money, and the eight person years, I don't know if we've got an awful lot to show for it.

I think we should be honest here with ourselves and say nobody is questioning the effort that was put into it, but somehow it is not taking. I would have thought housing for sure would have. In the early months of this government, it seemed there was a lot of interest in the Dene communities in housing because it is a visible, important program and Dene communities had taken initiatives in building their own housing, particularly block funding and things like that. Housing seems noticeably absent in the list of successful community transfers.

I don't know what has gone wrong and I don't want to blame anybody, but I would have to say, for the amount of effort we're putting into it, something has to change. Maybe the answer is not to reduce these PYs -- although that is something that Members of this committee have to ask: if you need that many PYs -- maybe the answer is to change the whole approach. I would hope, now that we're in the last year of this government, that the Minister and his officials will search their souls and ask if we had to do it over again, would we do it over again? Would we do it differently? Are there ways of improving this? How can we make it happen?

We all want it to happen but, largely, it doesn't seem to have happened. I acknowledge the progress made here and there. I'm not diminishing how important the oil and gas transfer was for Norman Wells. But, really, in terms of communities grabbing hold of their own lives, not including Dorset and Good Hope, we haven't got a lot of examples to show yet. Maybe a number of them are being nurtured and are going to happen.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. While the committee is within my reach, I would like to remind all the honourable Members that I will only allow a 10-minute speech for each

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Member at any one time. I should have done that from the beginning of this committee meeting. Also, I would like to remind each and every honourable Member and the Minister to try to refrain from statements that may have implications of provoking serious arguments between Members. Mr. Minister.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Chairman, I agree they shouldn't be provocative. In response to the Member for Iqaluit, I still say categorically, we would be in deep doo-doo if this government was not prepared and had not assigned the kinds of resources it had some three years ago to this task. Members were clamouring, saying what is this government waiting for; why is it not assigning staff for this very, very important function that everybody in the eastern Arctic wants to discuss? It's not easy to conjure up the reaction if we had done nothing.

I have to remind Members that they were wondering why we couldn't assign a fixed budget for this initiative when we first introduced it. I had refused to put a budget on it because I had said I cannot do it until I have a realistic idea about how much it would require. I know that if it was too low, it would be severely criticized as a motley commitment to an initiative that is in high demand in the communities. I suffer now with the probability, at least in the view of the two Members, of having assigned too much money to this task. I don't disagree with the Members there.

They will note as the details come out that there is, in fact, a proposed reduction in the area of community transfers for the coming year. We acknowledge that the amount of money we have assigned to this task is

more than we what we require. I'm prepared to downsize. There's no difficulty. But I say again that we have to be ready and are ready to do business. The work we did in Cape Dorset has been a tremendous achievement. We have worked out many of the kinks and wrinkles and I'm very happy that Cape Dorset took on this initiative at the time it did. We're all doing an evaluation of that.

The Nunavut Implementation Commission has involved itself and wants to be part of that evaluation, as well. They have involved themselves in community transfers and see it as a positive initiative. They want to provide some more suggestions on how we can approach this work. I agree, not all communities are prepared to get involved. Some have said that they recognize that we're ready to do business but they have other priorities. They're not prepared, for whatever reason. The blatant truth is, some communities may not be administratively stable enough to take on community transfers at this time.

Other communities, as I've said, are unable to agree politically or internally. Housing associations may not necessarily agree that the hamlets or other political groups should take them over. We just tell them that we need some agreements before we can conduct business with them. Those kinds of discussions are ongoing, I'm sure. But, until then, we have to be ready. There are a tremendous number of barriers. There are bureaucratic barriers, civil servants who have been very supportive, some loudly silent on the initiative, and some have been blatantly scornful of the initiative from the beginning.

I recognized that from the beginning, as a Minister. People will know from their own communities and regions that some people are actively supporting and encouraging transfers and others are strangely silent about it. Some are almost openly scornful of it. The barriers are there, some are human barriers, some are our own. There's an inability of communities to take them on administratively. There's an inability to find the kinds of personnel they want and need in order to take on these transfers. There is the internal inability at this time to move transfers such as housing. There are staffing concerns that need to be dealt with before people get serious about them. Those are the realities. The fact is we can't shove this initiative down. We can downsize the amount of money that we assign to it, but there is never going to be a day when this government refuses to do transfers. We have opened the door and we can never close the door again.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. General comments. Do we have further general comments? Shall we get into detail?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

Line By Line

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Okay. On page 02-39, we have intergovernmental and aboriginal affairs, total O and M, \$4.215 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. On page 02-40, details of grants and contributions, grants, \$250,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Grants and contributions, contributions, \$700,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Grants and contributions, \$950,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. On the next page we have detail of work performed on behalf of third parties, total program \$461,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

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**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Back to the program summary, Ministry of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs program summary, page 02-38, total O and M, \$4.215 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Are we agreed that we have concluded this particular department?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

I would like to thank the honourable Minister and his witnesses for appearing before the committee. I think you have earned your money today, Mr. Kakfwi.

Department Of Personnel

The next department, according to the agreement we have, is Personnel. Madam Premier, do you have opening remarks on the Department of Personnel?

Minister's Introductory Remarks

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The budget proposal for Personnel is \$4.1 million and 38.4 PYs.

As you know, Personnel continues to recruit for all public service positions, except those in the NWT Housing Corporation, Workers' Compensation Board, health boards and teaching positions with school

boards. For these organizations, Personnel develops procedures, provides guidance and advice and conducts operational reviews of staffing procedures.

In addition to the money needed to continue the recruiting program, the estimates reflect an increased emphasis on training, compliance and the promotion of the government as an employer.

In addition, Personnel intends to increase the frequency of its operational reviews this fiscal year. The reviews will help to improve the application of the government staffing process throughout the territories. Eight operational reviews are scheduled. As well, a process has been developed to monitor

satisfaction with personal services from both the client department and applicant perspective.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to provide Members with an overview of how we are addressing the hiring of students this summer. Mr. Chairman, the government has already received over 190 applications for employment in response to 1,527 packages sent by Personnel to students receiving financial assistance from the Department of Education.

The package provided information on summer employment and encouraged students to submit their resumes. A letter to deputy ministers encouraged them to hire students this summer at headquarters and in the regions was also distributed in February. A staffing officer met with departmental coordinators to discuss summer students and review the casual employment guidelines.

In the regions, a Personnel office, in conjunction with Education, Culture and Employment, will coordinate student placement within government departments and provide counselling sessions. Education's career centres will assist students with their job search in the private sector.

In Yellowknife, the government has entered into a partnership with the Chamber of Commerce and Human Resource Development Canada that will result in a one-stop shop for students looking for summer work. An office location for the centre will be announced in the near future.

Under the partnership arrangement, the chamber will operate the centre and will contact employers for job listing, advertise vacancies and match students to positions. Human Resource Development Canada

will provide funding for operating costs. The territorial government will provide furnishings for career development seminars, post job advertisements and provide personnel advice.

In addition, an information session for Yellowknife students will be held the first week in May. Representatives from the Department of Education, Culture and Employment, the career development section, the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce and Personnel will be in attendance to provide information to students or respond to any questions they may have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

At this point, I am prepared to respond to any questions Members may have.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Madam Premier. The chair recognizes the Member for North Slave, Mr. Zoe.

Standing Committee On Finance Comments

**MR. ZOE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On behalf of the Standing Committee on Finance, I would like to make a report with regard to Personnel.

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The Impact Of Reorganization

As we noted last year, Personnel has essentially been stripped. Three functions remain. These functions are recruitment, workforce adjustment and staff housing. The staff housing function was originally scheduled for transfer to the Housing Corporation by April 1, 1994. However, that transfer has been delayed to April 1, 1995.

The Premier indicated that further changes to the department were imminent. In any case, committee Members feel that the issue of the department's future should be resolved quickly.

Student Summer Employment Program

For many years, Mr. Chairman, the government has provided an employment program for students in the summer months that is the best in the country for both aboriginal and non-aboriginal students. This program has provided northern students with work experience which was relevant to their course of studies and increased the usefulness of the student when they

completed school and began permanent work. Within the program there has been a priority system to ensure northern students received the available jobs rather than students from the south.

Last summer, as a result of mishandling the situation by the department, the program unfortunately became the centre of a controversy which had strong racial overtones. The committee feels that the situation was not handled as well as it could have been and a simple misunderstanding became a major issue.

For the coming summer, the committee expects the department will provide clear direction so the public and students understand the program, its objectives and how it will operate.

Video Recruitment

In response to recommendations of the committee, the department has begun using video conference calls for job interviews rather than flying southern candidates north. This provides a major cost savings. About five years ago, NorthwTel promised it would implement enhanced technology in the north. This technology would have assisted departments such as Personnel in reducing travel and meeting costs. However, the proposed technology has never been fully implemented. The committee urges the government to continue pressing NorthwTel to implement technology which would allow all northerners to communicate more effectively.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes the comments from the Standing Committee on Finance. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Zoe, for your comments. I forgot to introduce you as the spokesperson for the Standing Committee on Finance prior to the introduction.

Is the Minister prepared to take the witness stand? Do you need someone to help you at the witness stand?

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Always.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Always. Sergeant-at-Arms, fetch Mr. Always. Does the committee agree?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agree

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, committee.

Madam Premier, would you be so kind as to introduce Mr. Bohnet?

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Yes, Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to introduce to the committee the acting deputy minister, Mr. Darryl Bohnet.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Welcome to the committee, Mr. Bohnet. General comments. Department detail, total O and M, \$4.13 million. I'm sorry. My apologies, page 05-8, staffing, total O and M, \$4.137 million. The chair recognizes Mr. Zoe.

General Comments

**MR. ZOE:**

Thank you. Before we get into detail, I wonder if I could ask the Minister if she could update the committee as to what the future holds for this particular department?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Zoe. Madam Premier.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, this part of government, the Department of Personnel, will become a secretariat. Starting April 1st the Personnel Secretariat will be reporting directly to the Premier.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Madam Premier. Staffing, total O and M, \$4.137 million. Mr. Zoe then Mr. Patterson.

**MR. ZOE:**

Mr. Chairman, I have another question to the Premier with regard to this department. The Standing Committee on Finance has urged the government to put pressure on NorthwesTel so that they can provide the technology which will allow all northerners to

communicate more effectively. Could she give us an update as to what progress they have made in that respect?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Zoe. Madam Premier.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

I know that the direction was given that we should work with NorthwesTel. However, I can tell the Member that we have not really progressed very far on this and the intent is to try to deal with NorthwesTel. I know they were in town yesterday but I wasn't in. We will be dealing with them as soon as we can get some free time to do so. They've been notified that we are anxious to proceed in trying to make more utilization of the company and the communications technology. They are aware of it but we just haven't had time to take the next step. The secretariat and the government itself is very much in support of trying to make more and more use of technology. Thank you.

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**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Madam Premier. The chair recognizes Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Did I understand the Premier correctly to say that this department has become a secretariat as of April 1st. Is it in the current year she was referring to? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Madam Premier.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, yes, it will be this year.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Madam Premier. Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Sorry, I thought you had your hand up. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you. Just a few questions from the opening remarks, Mr. Chairman. There's no mention at all of housing. Do I understand that the department is now

completely out of housing and has no role in staff housing? I guess the question I have is in relation to allocation of staff housing where staff housing exists. Does the department still have a role in that area or is it completely out? Has everything been transferred to Public Works and Services in the staff housing area? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Madam Premier.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, the secretariat does participate in the regional committees, allocation committees, but the whole housing component has been transferred.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Just another question from the opening remarks, Mr. Chairman, and that is on student summer employment. Can I ask the Minister, does student employment also refer to high school students, especially grade 12 students who are looking for summer jobs as they prepare to go on to post-secondary education? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Madam Premier.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, yes, the senior high school students are involved in the program for summer student employment but, as you know, because they get out of school later, they come on later on in the season.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Madam Premier. All done, Mr. Patterson? Thank you, the chair now recognizes the Member for Thebacha, Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a couple of comments which brings me to a couple of questions. Since the Premier has indicated that this particular department would be devolved into a secretariat effective April 1st -- you have noticed over the past couple of years, certainly I wouldn't state a

downsizing of the department but a reallocation of the department -- many of the responsibilities have been granted to FMBS for the purposes of tying it in with negotiations and recognizing the cost factors of the public service, which I agree with.

However, at the same time, the Personnel departments is one of the important department in bringing in people into this system. I am somewhat concerned with the fact that the secretariat being set up...Are you looking at setting up something like a public service commission? It seems over the past couple of years there has been human resource positions allocated to each department.

The concern that I have about that with our affirmative action program in place is how is this going to be monitored through a secretariat? With regard to the human resources positions allocated to each department, how are the hiring procedures going to be followed? Because as soon as you give the responsibility to the departments, you are going to allow for the process to possibly be implemented unfairly.

We all know government now has a bad reputation many times, in certain departments, of hiring people who they know and not for what they know. What I would like to know is how are you going to avoid this. Those are some of my comments, Mr. Chairman. Thanks.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, we didn't, at this time, contemplate a commission. Perhaps it is something that will have to be contemplated in the next government, but right at this point in time, we are not contemplating setting up a commission.

The secretariat is within the Executive which would be providing support and ongoing monitoring at the will of the Legislative Assembly and direction of this Assembly. The secretariat will still be doing the hiring and staffing. So there is no intention to change the staffing process within the secretariat. We will still be adhering to the appeal process that has been established from the time the honourable Member had been the Minister responsible and instituted a strong appeal process. So that will still be established, we are not advocating taking that away.



**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Just another question, Mr. Chairman. Is it the intention of the Minister to still allow, in addition, a casual employment area of responsibility with the Personnel Secretariat that is being set up? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, placing casuals has been part of the responsibility. And we will continue to, there is no plan to change that. So, the secretariat of Personnel would continue to place casuals.

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**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Maybe the Premier could explain to some of the Members the difference between a department and a secretariat. Responsibilities have been devolved from that department to FMBS over the past couple of years and now there is a move to develop a secretariat. Could I just get an explanation of the difference? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, the only fundamental change is their financial administration would come from the Executive. Other than that, the secretariat, because it is a secretariat does not have to have all of the components and trappings of a department and it is very much more of a focused section under the Executive. It isn't advocated that there is a change in the job function, other than what has been transferred on housing and that would be a more focused section for Personnel.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

The other question that I wanted to ask is in developing a secretariat, how does this effect the Public Service Act?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, my understanding is it does not make any changes at all.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Just to clarify, no proposed changes will be required in the future. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

That's correct. Mr. Chairman, I would like Mr. Bohnet to clarify in case I have forgotten something.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Bohnet.

**MR. BOHNET:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Public Service Act is assigned to the Minister responsible for the Financial Management Board Secretariat. The staffing section of the act is delegated to the deputy head of Personnel Secretariat.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you. The other comment that I have is with regard to student hiring. Mr. Chairman, how was this department taking the most advantage of student hiring in

conjunction with the program that was announced by the federal government? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, the way we would try to work with the area of responsibility of student hiring is in a partnership with the chamber. We will also be working with Human Resources Development Canada and they will be providing the funding for the operating cost.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

That appears good for Yellowknife but what about the outlying communities?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, outside of Yellowknife and at the other regional centre, education committees will be coordinating, with the support of Personnel, to make sure that...Because we are not in Yellowknife, there isn't a centre where students can go to get the support and the back-up to be channelled into the jobs that will be available. It is not as big of a set up as Yellowknife, but through Personnel and ECE, we feel that that can be handled.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

I just wanted to know whether or not it was in conjunction with another agency outside of the government, but it appears that it is a partnership between ECE and Personnel. My closing comment, Mr. Chairman, I want to take the time to...In my community, as people know, in the past, it has been difficult to be able to give position in the Department of Personnel without a great amount of appeals that have been launched, because there are fairly qualified people in my constituency. I have noticed

the appeals are probably still at a fairly moderate rate but I don't find it as politically contentious as it used to be. I do want to take the time to certainly thank the current superintendent and the past superintendent for, what I believe, is fairness in ensuring the affirmative action policy is adhered to. Positions are being granted to individuals who are qualified and who are affirmative action candidates.

I think that should be noted because I certainly have appreciated the support of the department in ensuring fairness has been implemented and that you get the most qualified people on the basis of what they know and not who they know. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that sometimes the work of the personnel that we have in the various departments really needs a little bit of support like that and I would like to thank the Member for acknowledging good work when good work is being done. Thank you.

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Staffing

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Madam Premier. The committee noted that. Staffing, total O and M, \$4.137 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Program summary, total O and M, \$4.137 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you. Does the committee agree that we are concluded with Personnel?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you. Madam Premier, I would like to thank you and the witness for assisting the committee with this matter.

What is the wish of the committee? We had previously agreed, I believe, to go to the Executive. Does the committee agree? The chair recognizes Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

It's been agreed that we go to the Executive but, Mr. Chairman, I feel there should be more Members in the House. Otherwise, we should report progress. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. The Member has brought to my attention that we do not have a quorum. I shall sound the bells.

Department Of Executive

Thank you. The committee will come back to order. The committee previously agreed that we should move to the Executive offices, page 02-11 in your blue books. Is the Premier ready with her opening remarks?

Minister's Introductory Remarks

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I'm pleased to present the main estimates for the executive office program of the Department of the Executive. I would like to begin by responding to the Standing Committee on Finance's recommendations that the Premier assume responsibility for initiating transition planning in order that the next government enter into office with a blueprint for action and decision-making.

Work on this document has begun and will be completed prior to the dissolution of the 12th Legislative Assembly. It will build upon those subject areas outlined in the SCOF report and will contain sections on major accomplishments and objectives of

the current government and Legislative Assembly; major recommendations and observations of the Standing Committees on Finance, Legislation, Agencies, Boards and Commissions and the Special Joint Committee on Division; spending priorities and strategies; bills and policies which are in preparation and ready for Cabinet consideration; other organizational reviews and options; and, status of and strategy for intergovernmental initiatives and negotiations.

As this document will cover a wide array of issues, I will be writing to committee chairmen to ask for their input. I accept the Standing Committee on Finance's offer of assistance and have asked the Minister of Finance to coordinate that aspect of the document. The need for a fiscal plan was highlighted in the federal budget in cuts that are being made across the board, for example, in the federal government's final offer on the Canada-Northwest Territories official languages agreement.

As Members will recall, the federal government responded to our initial renewal proposal of \$30 million with a \$9 million counter offer. Through hard work and pressure by the GNWT and our two MPs, their offer was subsequently raised to \$16 million last summer, \$18 million last fall and, finally, \$20 million this winter. The \$20 million is composed of two parts, \$18 million in the agreement, itself and \$2 million in new community-based aboriginal culture initiatives.

While we are disappointed that we were unable to secure higher funding levels, the terms and conditions of the documents are a considerable improvement over past agreements. For example, administrative flexibility has been greatly enhanced by allowing transfers between projects, appendices and fiscal years; easier approval mechanisms; and, fewer reporting requirements. These changes meet many of the recommendations and observations of the Standing Committee on Agencies, Boards and Commissions and the Official Languages Commissioner. They will also allow us to cover all costs incurred during the 1994-95 fiscal year.

Prior to federal Cabinet consideration of the division issue, the GNWT will submit to the Minister of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs and the federal Minister of Finance, a detailed position paper on division. This document will cover financial, administrative transition training and infrastructure issues and the impact on both territories. We will be working closely with the special joint committee on this matter.

One area which is being allocated additional funds is the women's grants program. These grants provide funds to women's groups at the community level to facilitate workshops, attendance at conferences and special projects. These groups are an active part of the community wellness strategy and the increase from \$50,000 to \$100,000 should assist in the number of projects undertaken.

The department's other contribution program is also undergoing change. As Members will note, the total amount of funding for regional councils have been reduced to reflect councils which have disbanded and chosen new ways of bringing forward regional views.

The department is developing a policy to address assistance for regional leadership meetings, which will be in place this year and will provide funding for a maximum of two meetings per year. Funding for ongoing regional councils will be frozen for 1995-96 at the previous year's level.

The other reductions in the regional office budget totals \$463,000, an accommodation of staff changes resulting in a combined total of nine fewer person years. The trend over the past number of years has resulted in most departments establishing a greater presence in the communities leading to less and less demand being made on government liaison officers and clerical staff supported by the Department of Executive.

In addition, other government initiatives such as the transfer of responsibility of housing to the Housing Corporation on June 1st and community transfer initiatives have all resulted in much less demand being placed on our departmental staff.

Mr. Chairman, the need for the Department of Executive administrative and clerical support in western communities is virtually non-existent. In the eastern Arctic communities outside of the community of Arctic Bay, which also serves Nanisivik, the ongoing support of the Executive of more than one-half person year in each community is no longer needed. The budget about to be presented for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 1995 addresses these changes through the elimination of half-time positions in three regions. Community representation will still be maintained in all communities as in the past, only at a lesser level.

This decision does not in any way reflect on the many years of valuable service provided by the incumbents. In fact, I continue to hold that the individuals affected will decide to accept the new part-time positions.

It should be noted that in several communities such as Cape Dorset, Holman, Gjoa Haven and Pelly Bay, discussions are under way to transfer the role of GLOs to the hamlet councils. They will receive a financial contribution and the ongoing support of the regional director in fulfilling the necessary activities. We are also exploring the option of putting those funds into the MACA budget to be included in the municipalities' operating budgets for ease in administration by both the GNWT and the hamlets.

I would now like to briefly address the Standing Committee on Finance recommendations 10, 11 and 12. The first states that:

#### Recommendation 10

"The committee recommends that the Premier ensure that sufficient resources are provided to the government's office in Ottawa to enable the government to increase its presence in the nation's capital, so as to ensure that the Northwest Territories is adequately represented in discussions regarding financial, constitutional, self-government, and other important issues."

This recommendation must be read in conjunction with number 11, which states that:

#### Recommendation 11

"The committee recommends that in the next government, the duties of the Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs Ministry be divided; and further, that the next Premier assume responsibility for the intergovernmental affairs responsibilities."

The committee, quite rightly, points out that the decision to merge Intergovernmental Affairs with Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat dates to the Charlottetown Accord days when the constitutional agenda was at the forefront of public debate and required a comprehensive approach to political and constitutional development. The Minister responsible is reviewing this matter.

The final recommendation directed to me, as Premier, is number 12 which states:

#### Recommendation 12

"The committee recommends that amendments to the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act that would give the Premier the authority to discipline and dismiss Ministers be prepared and introduced at the current session."

I agree with this recommendation and legislation has been introduced. I look forward to answering your questions on the budget for the Executive offices for the fiscal year 1995-96. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Madam Premier. I will now ask the chairman of the Standing Committee on Finance if there are some opening remarks. Mr. Antoine.

Standing Committee On Finance Comments

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Department of the Executive consists of three separate and distinct programs: Executive offices, Financial Management Board Secretariat, and Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs. We're dealing with the Executive offices.

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Regional Council Funding

In some parts of the NWT, regional councils are active. However, there are other regions where councils have not been active in recent years. In some of these regions, the idea of an established office "managing" the council has been replaced by a different concept where regional leaders meet regularly to discuss relevant issues.

Total funding to regional councils is reduced in the main estimates. The Premier advised the committee of a new policy, to be in place by April 1, 1995, to address funding for regional councils. Committee Members expect the policy to be flexible enough to provide adequate resources for either the original regional council concept or the "regional leaders' meetings" idea, according to the desires of the leaders in each region and the demands of the Regional and Tribal Councils Act, which requires regional and tribal councils to meet at least twice a year. Members also suggest that the act be reviewed and revised, as necessary to reflect the current status of regional councils.

National Affairs

Over the next five years, the government will have to deal with the federal government on many major issues including division, the Quebec referendum, social security reform and reducing the national debt. It is crucial that the NWT retain its place at the national table during these difficult times. Northern aboriginal groups will also be very active in Ottawa over the next few years as self-government negotiations take place. The government currently has a small office in Ottawa to support the efforts of the Government of the Northwest Territories in addressing national issues. The committee believes it is important to increase our presence in the Ottawa office, including a component which would be available to assist NWT aboriginal groups when they go to Ottawa.

Committee Motion 37-12(7): To Adopt Recommendation 10, Carried

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommends that the Premier ensure that sufficient resources are provided to the government's office in Ottawa to enable the government to increase its presence in the nation's capital, so as to ensure that the Northwest Territories is adequately represented in discussions regarding financial, constitutional, self-government, and other important issues.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Question has been called. We don't have a quorum, I shall sound the bells.

Thank you. We have a quorum now. To the motion.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Mr. Zoe.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Yes, I heard that, but the light went on over there so I couldn't address it. I thought he wanted to speak. We all thought he wanted to speak. Now, question has been called. All those in favour of the motion, please signify. All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

The chair continues to recognize Mr. Antoine.

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Intergovernmental Affairs

During the life of this government, Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs has been the responsibility of one Minister. This made sense in the context of the Charlottetown Accord negotiations. However, now there are pressing aboriginal issues in the NWT such as self-government, division and constitutional development which must have a designated Minister responsible for aboriginal affairs who can give them the attention and focus they deserve.

The Premier should deal with the Prime Minister and the provincial Premiers on national and international issues and have responsibility for the intergovernmental affairs portfolio. This change should be incorporated into the transition plan being prepared by the government.

Committee Motion 38-12(7): To Adopt Recommendation 11, Carried

There, I move that the committee recommends that in the next government, the duties of the Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs Ministry be divided; and further, that the next Premier assume responsibility for the intergovernmental affairs responsibilities.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Antoine. We have a motion on the floor. The motion is in order. To the motion.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Question has been called. We do not have a quorum. I will ring the bells.

The chair recognizes a quorum. We have a motion on the floor. The motion is in order. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Continue, Mr. Antoine.

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Ministerial Accountability

The Premier, on behalf of all Members of the Assembly, needs the authority to discipline and dismiss Ministers. For the remainder of this government, the Premier must have undated resignation letters for all Ministers. For the next government, the committee believes there needs to be some mechanism, possibly through amendments to the Legislative Assembly and

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Executive Council Act, which would give the Premier the authority to discipline and dismiss Ministers.

The 12th Assembly attempted to address this issue through a motion arising from the Territorial Leadership Committee. This motion dealt with the discipline and monitoring of Ministers. However, on closer review, the problems still exist. Members of the committee note that the Government House Leader has already made a commitment to amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act to address another issue. When these amendments are made, the committee would like to see additional amendments to deal with the discipline and dismissal of Ministers.

Committee Motion 39-12(7): To Adopt Recommendation 12, Carried

There, I move that this committee recommends that amendments to the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, that would give the Premier the authority to discipline and dismiss Ministers be prepared and introduced at the current session.

Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Antoine. We have a motion on the floor. The motion is in order. To the motion.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

---Carried

Thank you. Mr. Antoine.

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Mr. Chairman, that concludes the statement of the Standing Committee on Finance.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you. Does the committee agree that we proceed to detail?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Does the Premier wish to take the witness chair and bring in witnesses? Does the committee agree?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you. Good afternoon, Madam Premier. Would you be so kind as to introduce your witnesses to the committee?

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, I'd like to introduce the secretary to Cabinet, Mr. Pierre Alvarez, and the director of finance and administration, Terryl Allen.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Good afternoon and welcome to the committee. General comments. Detail.

Line By Line

Commissioner's Office

Commissioner's office, page 02-12, Commissioner's office, total O and M, \$269,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

Ministers' Offices

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Ministers' offices, \$3.865 million. The chair recognizes Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

Thank you. During the last week and half there were questions to the Premier about her role and the workload that the Premier has. A lot of the emphasis in the questions was whether or not there was going to be a review of the role and a shuffling of some portfolios. Now that several days have passed, has the Premier had time to reflect on the line of questioning from last week and what plan of action is the Premier going to take in this regard?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Koe. Madam Premier.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, because of circumstances overloading my agenda, with issues in Tuk and the fact that I had to go to a meeting in Vancouver, I have not been able to sit down and reflect any further on this matter. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Madam Premier. Ministers' offices, total O and M, \$3.865 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

Executive Council Secretariat

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you. Executive Council Secretariat, total O and M, \$6.705 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you. Details of grants and contributions, grants, \$100,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Contributions, \$1.148 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

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**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):** Grants and contributions, \$1.248 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you. Detail of work performed on behalf of third parties, total program, \$13,000. The chair recognizes Mr. Zoe.

**MR. ZOE:**

Mr. Chairman, there are contributions made to the Status of Women of \$312,000 and the Native Women's Association of \$175,000. In the Ministers' offices activity, we also have the Women's Advisory and Public Affairs Divisions. Could the Minister explain how these two different groups work together? Are they totally separate, independent groups or do

they provide administrative services to the Status of Women Council?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Zoe. Madam Premier.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, the NWT Status of Women Council is a separate organization that provides ongoing support towards women's issues in the Northwest Territories. Bertha Norwegian is a special advisor to me and she handles the grants program that goes to a number of agencies upon their requests. I can provide a list of those people who have accessed the grant program through the special advisor to the Minister.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Madam Premier. We will move now to page 11. Just to make sure, I'll ask the question again. Total program, \$13,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Mr. Chairman, I just have one question on grants and contributions with regard to regional councils. What regional councils are being funded for this amount of \$651,000?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, the Sahtu Regional Council, Keewatin Regional Council and Kitikmeot Regional Council. Those are the ones that are receiving ongoing funds as they are operational at this point. The other councils would be receiving money for two meetings per year.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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



**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

When it was decided to disband the South Slave Regional Council the communities agreed, providing they would be funded to be able to gather to prioritize some of their political undertakings. Have they been funded at all in this past year? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, they have been funded for one meeting and there is an allocation, but they have to request the funding.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Just to confirm, there is funding in the budget in the event they request an allocation. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Yes, Mr. Chairman. There is funding allocated for them, upon request.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Madam Premier. Page 02-11, program summary, operations and maintenance, total O and M, \$10.839 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Does the committee agree that we are concluded with this department?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you. I would like to thank the Premier and the witnesses for assisting. I will recognize the clock and report to the Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The committee will come 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 Committee Report 4-12(7), and would like to report progress with three motions being adopted and, Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of committee of the whole be concurred with.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Do we have a seconder? Mr. Arngna'naaq. 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. Mr. Clerk, item 22, orders of the day.

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**ITEM 22: ORDERS OF THE DAY**

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

Mr. Speaker, there will be a meeting of the Special Joint Committee on Division immediately after adjournment. There are meetings for tomorrow at 9:00 am of the Standing Committee on Finance, at 9:00 am also of the Standing Committee on Legislation, at 10:30 of the Ordinary Members' Caucus, at 11:30 am of the Nunavut Caucus and at 12:00 noon of the Caucus Subcommittee on Bill C-68.

Orders of the day for Wednesday, April 12, 1995:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motion
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
  - Bill 32, An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, No. 2
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
  - Bill 1, Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1995-96
  - Bill 13, An Act to Amend the Fair Practices Act
  - Bill 16, An Act to Amend the Retirement Plan Beneficiaries Act
  - Bill 22, Forgiveness of Debts Act, 1994-95
  - Bill 23, Write-off of Debts Act, 1994-95

- Bill 24, Community Employees' Benefits Act
  - Bill 26, An Act to Amend the Jury Act
  - Bill 27, An Act to Amend the Land Titles Act
  - 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
  - Committee Report 5-12(7), Report on the Review of Rewriting the Liquor Laws of the Northwest Territories: A Legislative Action Paper
  - Committee Report 6-12(7), Report on the Review of the Legislative Discussion Paper on the Draft of the New Education Act
  - Committee Report 7-12(7), Report on the Second Annual Report, 1993-94, of the Languages Commissioner of the NWT
20. Report of Committee of the Whole
  21. Third Reading of Bills
  22. Orders of the Day

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Wednesday, April 12, 1995 at 1:30 pm.

--ADJOURNMENT