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The Honourable **Samuel Gargan**, Speaker

MEMBERS PRESENT

Honourable Jim Antoine, Honourable Goo Arlooktoo, Mr. Barnabas, Honourable Charles Dent, Mr. Enuaraq, Mr. Erasmus, Honourable Sam Gargan, Mrs. Groenewegen, Mr. Henry, Honourable Stephen Kakfwi, Mr. Miltenberger, Honourable Don Morin, Honourable Kelvin Ng, Mr. Ningark, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Ootes, Mr. Picco, Mr. Rabesca, Mr. Roland, Mr. Steen, Honourable Manikot Thompson, Honourable John Todd.

ITEM 1: PRAYER

Oh, God, may your spirit and guidance be in us as we work for the benefit of all our people, for peace and justice in our land and for the constant recognition of the dignity and aspirations of those whom we serve. Amen.

SPEAKER (Hon. Samuel Gargan):

Thank you, Mr. Henry. Orders of the day. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Todd.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement 110-13(4): Transition Action Plan

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, later today I will be tabling the GNWT' draft Transition Action Plan for the creation of two new territories. This plan reaffirms our commitment to creating two new territories in the most orderly and responsible manner possible. It also identifies many of the challenges that will face all parties if we are to ensure a successful transition from one territorial government to two. Mr. Speaker, it is important to state at the outset that we recognize that a significant portion of the detail in this plan deals with Nunavut. I want to assure Members of this House, as the Premier stated in his opening comments for this session, that we will be supplementing this plan with one that provides more detail on the transition costs for the new Western Territory within the next 40 days.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, the Minister responsible for western transition planning, the Honourable Charles Dent, will be tabling in this House next week a further report that focuses more strictly on the issues related to the transition to a new Western Territory. Mr.

Speaker, there are many players in the implementation process: the Interim Commissioner, the Western Coalition, the federal government, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, the Nunavut Implementation Commission and the Caucuses of this Legislative Assembly. All of the parties have made significant efforts in the planning phase, however, the time for planning is over and the time for action and implementation has begun.

Mr. Speaker, the fundamental purpose behind tabling this document today is to provide an outline of the steps that need to be taken to see us through the transition period and to create two functioning governments on April 1, 1999. It is important to stress, Mr. Speaker, that this document represents our best analysis of the current situation and is being offered to all of the parties in a spirit of cooperation and partnership. It is simply advice and nothing more.

Although the GNWT will continue to be the government in Nunavut until April 1, 1999, we have no legal mandate to implement transition measures in Nunavut. It is clear that transitional responsibility rests with the Interim Commissioner and the federal government. As I, and my other Cabinet colleagues have stressed over the past two years, the GNWT will do whatever it can to support this process, recognizing that we are dependent, to a large extent, on others to make some critical decisions and on the provision of reasonable funding from the federal government. Mr. Speaker, in developing this plan, critical information was gathered from all departments. Using key assumptions, we have mapped out the actions and costs necessary for the creation of two new territories by April 1, 1999. Most of the costs identified are not funds that would flow directly to this government, but rather through the office of the Interim Commissioner and the Nunavut government.

The plan assumes that critical headquarters functions will be up and running in Nunavut on April 1, 1999, but that other headquarters positions will not yet be in place. Mr. Speaker, this reality is accepted by all parties and forms the basis for existing federal funding assumptions. Mr. Speaker, another important consideration in the development of the plan is the revised schedule for completion of the infrastructure required in many Nunavut communities. This new schedule will result in further administrative challenges in managing the transition period, particularly for the office of the Interim Commissioner. There are many core functions that must be in place

(either staffed or contracted) for Nunavut to operate as a government on April 1, 1999.

Mr. Speaker, there will very likely be a need for the Nunavut government to request the Western Territory to provide some services under contract on a cost recovery basis for a period of time. It is important that decisions on contracting be made soon to allow the west to retain the key human resources required to provide these services should agreement be reached on this key issue.

Another critical area is that of systems. Governments depend on all types of systems to run and provide services, such as health, motor vehicles and courts. These systems need to be in place early and it takes money and lead time to do this. Key decisions must be made and adequate funding must be put in place very soon to ensure that these systems are in place for the Nunavut government on April 1, 1999. The plan identifies significant transition costs leading up to and after April 1, 1999. These affect both west and east and include such costs as staffing, removal expenses, office space and data

Page 1456

management systems. Mr. Speaker, as Members are aware the federal government has already provided \$150 million in funding for the transition to a new Nunavut government. While this funding was and is extremely important in moving the process forward, it is important to point out that the federal government had to allocate this funding without the detailed information that we now have at hand for both the east and west. For example, Mr. Speaker, key staffing decisions such as the hiring of deputy ministers, Legislative Assembly staff and many of the other central legal, financial systems and personnel staff need to be made as soon as possible. These decisions may result in costs that were not anticipated in the federal government's original transition plan.

The total amount of resources required, as identified in the draft plan, exceed those funds identified by the federal government to date. It is fair to say that the Government of the Northwest Territories has been concerned about these transitional costs for some time, but this document now quantifies the additional financial resources that will be required for implementation. Mr. Speaker, I spoke with the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development about this matter last month and our officials have been meeting to consider how best to deal with these concerns. I am pleased to inform the House that

Minister Stewart has agreed to a table that will allow all parties to assess the transition costs identified by the Government of the Northwest Territories.

--Applause

It is important to point out, Mr. Speaker, that it is our view that significant progress must be made on the resolution of these outstanding costs so the creation of Nunavut and the Western Territory becomes a reality. Given the current fiscal position of the Government of the Northwest Territories, there is no provision within our current budget for transitional costs nor is there any flexibility to redirect funding to this end. Simply put, the Government of the Northwest Territories cannot shoulder the costs to the detriment of program funding for the existing GNWT and the future Nunavut and western territorial governments. At a minimum, we are looking to the federal government for assurance that a reasonable level of funding to cover the transition costs, as outlined in the plan, will be covered off.

A few examples of the issues and the estimated cost of implementation:

- recruiting for Nunavut headquarters positions - \$20 million
- regional office decentralization - \$18 million
- headquarters down-sizing, office space rationalization - \$11 million

The need for additional funding to ensure an adequate transition cannot be understated. A clear and timely commitment from the federal government is vital to the implementation process. Nevertheless there is much that can and must occur, to get the ball rolling—decision points for many of these issues rest with the Interim Commissioner:

- hiring of critical senior staff must begin immediately,
- decisions on computer systems must be made immediately,
- requests to the GNWT for contracting back for services not yet fully functional by 1999 must be made very soon.

Mr. Speaker, any discussion of transition measures, particularly as they relate to Nunavut, would not be complete without considering the issue of decentralization. As Members of this House are aware, the Government of the Northwest Territories

has continually supported the concept of a decentralized government for Nunavut so long as it was efficiently designed and that adequate federal financing was made available. The Government of the Northwest Territories remains committed to the implementation of the decentralized model of government for Nunavut on this basis.

Mr. Speaker, the draft transition plan deals specifically with the steps that are required to ensure that decentralization proceeds. It includes an estimate of approximately \$18 million as the one-time costs associated with decentralization. In our view, this information will be critical to the office of the Interim Commissioner and the future Nunavut government to ensure that decentralization occurs as quickly and efficiently as possible. Mr. Speaker, this plan is not a request by the GNWT for \$136 million. This plan is really an alert to all of the parties that there are significant transition costs associated with creating two territories. This plan is a guide for action. It is not a perfect document nor does it contain all of the answers, however, it does outline the order of magnitude to the task at hand. We hope that all of the parties, particularly the Interim Commissioner and the federal government, will take this information and use it as a guide for action.

Mr. Speaker, creating two territories is a massive challenge—one which few governments have ever had to deal with. This transitional action plan offers a path towards that goal and also provides a realistic assessment of the opportunities and constraints along the way. I hope that all of the parties will view it accordingly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

SPEAKER (Hon. Samuel Gargan):

Thank you, Mr. Todd. Ministers' statements. Mr. Dent.

Minister's Statement 111-13(4): NWT Literacy Week

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this week has been designated Literacy Week across the Northwest Territories. It provides us with an opportunity to celebrate the importance of literacy in our lives and the role it plays in strengthening our society. In this age of economic, social and political change; literacy means more than the basic ability to read and write. Literacy skills include a person's ability to understand

and use information. These skills are essential in a world where daily living requires complex thinking and communication skills.

Page 1457

The importance of a literate society can be measured in terms of people's ability to find jobs and their success in the workplace, participation in further education and training opportunities or active participation in the social and cultural life of communities. Our ability to maintain and support our cultural traditions is also linked directly to literacy. The ability to read and write in aboriginal languages ensures that these languages remain vital and have a valid place within northern society. Literacy is an issue that requires the attention and support of all northerners. The Department of Education, Culture and Employment has developed partnerships with the colleges, community-based organizations, business and industry and the federal government to deliver a variety of projects across the Northwest Territories. This year, these partnerships have supported the delivery of more than 50 projects through the Community Literacy Projects fund, the Workplace Education program and the Aboriginal Languages Literacy program. With the support of the National Literacy Secretariat, both Aurora College and Nunavut Arctic College are involved in the delivery and support of literacy projects as well.

Another important partner is the NWT Literacy Council. The Literacy Council is playing an increasingly important role in developing and maintaining links among literacy practitioners across the Northwest Territories and in providing support to communities in the development of sustainable literacy programming. Every year during Literacy Week, the NWT Literacy Council sponsors the "Read for 15" challenge. Residents across the NWT are invited to read for 15 minutes, and then phone the NWT Literacy Council to record their participation. Schools, the colleges, community groups and individuals all take part. Last year, thousands of people took up the challenge. Today is the day the "Read for 15" challenge is being held this year. I would, therefore, like to issue a friendly challenge to all Members of this Assembly to read for 15 minutes, then call the Literacy Council here in Yellowknife, or alternatively, a school or learning centre in your home community to ensure your participation is recorded.

On behalf of the government, I would like to commend the hard work and dedication shown by both literacy

learners and practitioners in their commitment to a more literate society in the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, Mr. Dent. Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Ningark.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement 446-13(4): GNWT Division Transition Action Plan

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to rise today on behalf of the Members of the Nunavut Caucus to indicate our collective support for the government's transition plan for the creation two new territories-the Transition Action Plan that the Honourable John Todd has outlined in his Minister's statement and which will be tabled in this House later today.

Mr. Speaker, Members of Nunavut Caucus recognize that this plan is not, I repeat not a blue print for decentralized Nunavut government as proposed in Footprint 2 and agreed to by all parties. This is a concern to us all, Mr. Speaker, and to all our constituents that the implementation of the decentralized government structure is not the responsibility of the GNWT nor is it possible to achieve in the few short months remaining.

While we recognize that fact, Mr. Speaker, we also recognize we have a duty to the people of Nunavut and that duty is to ensure an orderly transition to a reportable, functioning government in Nunavut on April 1, 1999.

In the 18 short months remaining, we must move quickly within our mandate to establish as many functioning components of Nunavut government as we realistically can within the limit of the transitional fund provided by the federal government.

Mr. Speaker, in the absence of any other plan or direction we believe this government has taken the necessary steps to develop a realistic plan that proposes to do the most we can and the least we must do to ensure essential government function in Nunavut on April 1, 1999.

Of course, this is subject to federal recognition and remuneration of the transition costs laid out in the plan. Mr. Speaker, time is of the essence. Mr.

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

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Natilikmiot is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Do we have any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Ningark, you have unanimous consent.

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, time is of the essence. Mr. Speaker, we must move now. Members of the Nunavut Caucus are hopeful that this transitional plan will receive a favourable response from all colleagues in the west, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, our partners in the east and particularly the office of the Interim Commissioner.

We must move forward together, Mr. Speaker. Our pace must be swift if we are to accomplish even the minimal, yet crucial task this plan calls for. We may be able to do more, Mr. Speaker; but not alone. It will take the combined and co-operative effort of all parties to achieve our goal of the functioning Nunavut government on April 1, 1999.

That will only be the beginning, Mr. Speaker. We have not given up on our dream of a decentralized Nunavut government that is, responsive and responsible to all our people. That is what they want, Mr. Speaker. That is what they need.

Mr. Speaker, but we can only assure that dream if we move now to establish a foundation on which to build the model we want. Individually, we are all disappointed that we are not further along in our preparation for our new government and our new territory, Mr. Speaker; but we are at the critical point in what will come to be known as the history of Nunavut and

Page 1458

we must move forward in concert and with conviction. Mr. Speaker, our history and our future will be reflected of our dreams. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Miltenberger.

Member's Statement 447-13(4): GNWT Division Transition Action Plan

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today as chair of the Western Caucus to offer my comments on the governments draft transition plan for the creation of two new territories. This plan is an important step in detailing both the transition measures that need to be taken and the costs associated with that transition from now until April 1, 1999.

It is clear that a lot of work needs to be done to put into place the infrastructure, staff and systems required for the Nunavut Government. Mr. Speaker, the one clear message from this plan is if the creation of two new territories is going to be done in an orderly way, the federal government must assume its obligation to pay all transition costs related to both new territories.

Ultimately, it is the federal government which has responsibility to create two viable new territories. Without federal leadership a smooth transition will not occur. Time is a critical factor, with only 541 days remaining until division. We look forward to clear and timely direction from the federal government on how they intend to proceed on transition costs.

Mr. Speaker, since 1981, this House and people of the western Arctic have consistently supported the creation of Nunavut. With only 18 months until division, the challenge today is to ensure the transition is smooth and orderly as possible in both the west and Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, in meeting that challenge, greater focus must be placed on dealing with western transitional issues. The Western Caucus is anxious to review the more detailed issue description of transition costs for the west which is now being prepared by the government.

We also look forward to the report to be tabled by the western transition Minister early next week. This will be a key element in setting a course of action for the west in preparing for the creation of two new territories in the coming days and months.

Mr. Speaker, the discussions on the financial arrangements for the two new territories is another critical element of the division process. We are taking an active part in these discussions with our partners on the western coalition. Furthermore, the work being done in partnership with the Aboriginal Summit on the Constitutional Working Group will be vital in creating a new vision for the Western Territory.

Mr. Speaker, I believe a more complete picture of what faces the two new territories in planning for division is emerging which will allow this House to start focusing on the measures which need to be addressed now.

Mr. Speaker, I request unanimous consent to complete my statement.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Thebacha is requesting unanimous support to conclude his statement. Do I have any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Miltenberger, you have unanimous consent.

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we plan for transition for two new territories, it is important to emphasize that division must in no way lead to reduction in program and services levels in the west. The public have already suffered from considerable government cutbacks and should not be expected to endure more cuts to finance transition costs.

The task in front of us appears to be enormous and daunting. However, this assembly has successfully dealt with challenges of this magnitude in dealing with the deficit. We must as MLAs take this opportunity to shape the new territories with confidence and vigour. There is a great opportunity here to create two new territories which are bold and visionary. Let us not shrink before this grand undertaking, the likes of which may never be seen in Canada again. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Enuaraq.

Member's Statement 448-13(4): Broughton Island School Extension

MR. ENUARAQ:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon. Mr. Speaker, before I was elected, I was a teacher in the classroom. Being a teacher today is not an easy job, as we all know. The priorities are the students themselves. The students have to be in a friendly and safe environment. At present, the Inuksuit School in Broughton Island is overcrowded and planning for the addition of the school is to start in the year 2000 to 2001. Building of the addition is to take place in the year 2001 to 2002. The community would like to have

the date for this project moved forward. The classrooms are overcrowded and this makes it hard for the students to learn.

The Community Education Counsel and Hamlet Counsel in Broughton Island have both written letters asking that additions be built sooner. They have had no success to date. We know that in times where there is little money for us to operate with, the community of Broughton Island feels that this is the time where the government may have to relook at their priorities. Four years is too long to wait for a school addition that was needed a year ago. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, Mr. Enuaraq. Members' statements. Mrs. Groenewegen.

Member's Statement 449-13(4): Tribute to the Gonzales Family

Page 1459

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the nature of our role here in the House is often to draw attention to deficiency and shortcomings in our regions. But today I would like to balance with a tribute to a Hay River family.

Hay River boasts many remarkable families that I could speak about, but my attention was again recently drawn to the accomplishments of the Gonzales family. Romeo and Tessie Gonzales immigrated to Canada from the Philippines in 1967. Romeo has been a teacher in the Northwest Territories since 1968. He has been actively involved in the promotion of sport and recreation having been recognized by Sport North as both Sportsman of the Year and Coach of the Year.

His contribution to northern youth is difficult to adequately quantify, but I know many young lives have been affected by his dedication. Tessie Gonzales also began her life in the Northwest Territories as a teacher, but soon took time out from her career to fulfil her proudest accomplishment as a mother. While raising three boys, she found time to substitute teach, teach religious education and donate her efforts to charitable organizations. She presently serves on the District Education Authority and the Counsel for Disabled Persons.

The Gonzales three sons are now emulating their parents' values in their service to community and their dedication to excellence. Ronald, the youngest, recently graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with a degree in Physical Activity Studies and is now working on a second degree in Education. Ronald's recognition as the Northwest Territories Male Athlete of the year in 1994 is one amongst many national and international achievements in wrestling and coaching far too numerous to mention.

Raymond Gonzales recently graduated with a B.A. Majoring in Economics. He was the recipient of the Economic Development and Tourism bursary in 1995 and is currently studying for his Master's Degree in Finance and Economics at the University of Alberta. Raymond has also earned numerous designations in the martial arts and competitive rifle shooting.

Roderick, the eldest Gonzales son, graduated from the University of Alberta in April this year with a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering. It was the Hub's coverage of Roderick's most recent recognition in Edmonton this month which reminded me again of the excellent ambassadors that the Gonzales have been for Hay River and for the Northwest Territories. Mr. Speaker, I would like to seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

The honourable Member for Hay River is seeking unanimous consent to conclude her statement. Do I have any nays? There are no nays. Mrs. Groenewegen, you have unanimous consent.

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This latest award that Roderick has received is in addition to a growing list of awards and commendations. Including, but not limited to, the Peter Lougheed's Scholarship, the Shell Scholarship in Engineering, the Tom Chambers Award, the Dean Research Award in Chemical and Mineral Engineering, the Charles Noble Award for student leadership, the Golden Geer Award for outstanding contribution of engineering students, and the NWT Scholarship from the Association of Professional Engineers and Geophysicists. That is a long list and Roderick is also an accomplished musician.

We often wait for special occasions to recognize contributions of our constituents, but I thought it would be appropriate to remind ourselves today that although assisted by exceptional parents as tutors and mentors, the Gonzales' children were born, raised and educated in the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Barnabas.

Member's Statement 450-13(4): Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment Facilities

MR. BARNABAS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker as of

March 31, 1997, a total of 125 new cases of cancer were reported in the NWT Cancer registry for the period from 1990 to 1996, for the Baffin Region only. In my constituency for the same time period, there were a total of 15 cases reported, nine in Arctic Bay, four in Grise Fiord, two in Resolute.

This is only a portion of the Nunavut area. Many cancers can be cured when found in the early stages. In the communities, the time between diagnosis and treatment is very long. During the delay a patient may suffer further damage or perhaps die. In remote communities, there is a potential for delay in diagnosis. Limited facilities, lack of storage for medical staff results in delays, not only for diagnosis, but proper treatment as well. Inaccessibility to the full choice of cancer treatments also compromises the health of the cancer victim. Mr. Speaker, early detection and availability of effective treatments reduce the number of cancer incidents in my constituency for the whole Northwest Territories. If we can prevent the loss of life due to cancer, we could also make an effort to do so. This may mean the government may have to develop new methods and programs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Members' statements. Mr. Ootes.

Member's Statement 451-13(4): YWCA Transitional Housing Program

MR. OOTES:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, I would like to thank the NWT Housing Corporation and the YWCA. It did an excellent job earlier this year by finding a way to do more for people in transition by spending fewer tax dollars. I am referring to the decision to shift the YWCA's transitional housing program from Northern United Place to the Rock Hill apartment complex in Yellowknife. This excellent move took a program to serve individuals and families out of an institutional high rise and set it up in a building more suited to its objectives. Because of this move, the government has also saved about \$200,000 annually that it had contributed towards the program.

Page 1460

A lot of people throughout the north come here to make changes in their lives. Approximately half of the YWCA's current clients come from communities from throughout the north. The other half are Yellowknife residents trying to re-build their lives. All of them are involved in either job searches, life-skill training programs or educational upgrading. Long term projects that will eventually lead to a better quality of life for those people.

Transitional housing has also helped families who have made the difficult decision to leave a battering or abusive spouse who have used up their six weeks crisis housing at McAteer House. A lot of people need programs like the YWCA's transitional housing program in order to turn their lives around. It is incumbent upon this government, therefore, to invest those savings from this program back into this community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, Mr. Ootes. Members' statements, Mr. Picco.

Member's Statement 452-13(4): Iqaluit Regional Hospital Funding/Construction

MR. PICCO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker over the past two weeks there have been many concerns raised with the financing of the construction of the new hospital to be built in Iqaluit. This hospital is to serve the people of the Baffin Region. It was first discussed in the 1988 health transfer agreement between the GNWT and the federal government. Subsequent to that agreement was a commitment in letter form to replace, not renovate the existing facilities. Mr.

Speaker, last week the Honourable Goo Arlooktoo chaired the meeting with the chair of the Health Board, Ms. Ann Hanson, and the chief executive officer of the Health and Social Services Board, Ms. Pat Kermain. The Baffin MLA along with Minister Ng and senior officials with the Department of Health and Social Services also participated. The discussions were a combination of meetings held between myself, Ms. Hanson and Kermain, going back to November, 1995.

This past summer at the Baffin Member's meeting and again with the chairs of the Nunavut health boards and Finance Minister Todd, we met in Iqaluit to discuss the construction and funding for the facility. The confusion, Mr. Speaker, in the media and with the public at large needs to be clarified.

First of all, the question of replacement and renovation, it has always been our understanding that the federal commitment based on the original 1988 agreement called for a contribution based on the aboriginal population of the region preceding construction. Today, that is approximately 85 percent. After questioning the Minister of Health and Social Services in this House, it came out that the federal government had issued approximately \$10 million since the 1988 agreement to the Government of the Northwest Territories. This money, as per the understanding, would be accessed for the first facility under the 1988 agreement, Inuvik or the Baffin hospital to be built. However, the money was, as is the custom, deposited in a consolidated revenue fund and had been spent. Thus, the Government of the Northwest Territories has to replace these funds. With the deficit reduction plans in place, it is outside the monetary ability of the government to finance both Inuvik and Baffin hospitals from general revenue, and therefore, private financing in conjunction with the Government of the Northwest Territories is needed to build the facilities.

The meetings held over the past 22 months and again last week were to discuss and update these plans. With the clock ticking towards division, it is imperative to begin these projects during this, the last budget cycle of the Government of the Northwest Territories. The concern in the Baffin region was the accessing of private financing to help facilitate the construction of the hospital. On August 7th, in Iqaluit, a mechanism to accomplish this was signed by Ms. Hanson and Jerry Ell, chief executive officer of the Qikiqtaaluk Corporation.

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

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Iqaluit is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Do we have any nays. There are no nays. Mr. Picco, you have unanimous consent.

MR. PICCO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to my colleagues, first time. Regarding our meetings last week and conversations, Mr. Speaker, I want to assure the people of Iqaluit and the residents of the Baffin region that the Deputy Premier, Goo Arlooktoo, and the other Baffin MLAs are committed to having the new Baffin hospital proceed on time and on budget. We have been working on this as I stated earlier for several months. The project has not stalled and we are now in the functional and program design stage. The recent media reports have caused some concern and I understand the anxiety. However, Mr. Speaker, this project has never been taken lightly. We are aiming for the construction to commence this fall. That has not changed. I understand today that the Minister for Health and Social Services, Mr. Ng, has accepted the resignation of Ms. Ann Hanson for the chair of the Baffin Regional Health Board. Mr. Speaker, Ann Hanson has worked tirelessly for the people of Baffin, as chair of the health board and I know personally the work and long hours she spent above and beyond the call of duty in that position. I respect her decision and thank her for her support and friendship. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Members' statements, Mr. O'Brien.

Member's Statement 453-13(4): Passing of Mrs. Meg Kuksuk

Page 1461

MR. O'BRIEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak of the sudden death of Mrs. Meg Kuksuk. Mr. Speaker, Meg was a respected elder and an active member in the community of Arviat. I am sure my fellow members will join me in offering our sincere condolences to the Kuksuk family, relatives and friends. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, Mr. O'Brien. Members' statements. Mr. Henry.

Member's Statement 454-13(4): Balance of Efforts Required to Create Two New Territories

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Over the last several months, I have heard many concerns about the process leading up to the creation of the two new territories. The concerns seem to be centred around the number of reports prepared on behalf of Nunavut as opposed to the number prepared for the new Western Territory. These concerns have to be dealt with and put to rest, when one looks at the facts. We in the west, have a tried and proven method of delivery of services to the public. This method, I suggest, will not change at least until after division. Nunavut, on the other hand, has to start from scratch, hence, the amount of paper and planning required by and for Nunavut, to design, plan and implement which is no daunting task when creating a new system of government for an area the size of Nunavut. For the most part, we in the west have much less to do in regard to implementation. Mr. Todd, today, talked about opportunities and Mr. Speaker, I believe division does hold opportunities for the competent bureaucrats that are already in place here in the west. For Nunavut to have in place, a necessary infrastructure to house the workers required to administrate the programs of the new government will not be a reality by division.

Mr. Speaker, given the fiscal constraints, which all governments must operate under, I would suggest an opportunity exists for the present bureaucracy to contract out its highly skilled work force to the new territory of Nunavut, at least until the necessary infrastructure is in place. All parties should look at concerns that have been raised and fears expressed by one side or the other not getting a fair break in regard to assets and liabilities or formula financing.

I would fight to those concerns as follows: the expertise in preparing the implementation of the information that decisions are made are worked up senior bureaucrats who have years of education and training along with an indepth knowledge of the north and its people. I have seen the work of these individuals which have produced, and am pleased to say, I am impressed with the quality and simplicity of the approach.

On the question of formula financing, this is a little more difficult. Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

MR. SPEAKER:

The member for Yellowknife South is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Henry, you have unanimous consent.

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On the question of formula financing. This is a little more difficult. The area or issue will be an engagement between the federal government and each of the two new governments. For the most part, Mr. Speaker, in the west we will not see in most communities any noticeable change.

Teachers will still be in the classroom, health care will still be provided by the same method of delivery as is presently in place, et cetera, et cetera. The only qualifier to the above is the amount of dollars Ottawa provides in the formula financing to each of the two new territories. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, Mr. Henry. Members' statements. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Mr. Morin.

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

Returns to Oral Questions 586-13(4): Status of Personnel Secretariat

HON. DON MORIN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Ootes, the status of personnel secretariat. On October 3, 1997 Mr. Ootes asked how many individuals and how many positions were left in the personnel secretariat. There are eight positions in the personnel secretariat, of these eight positions, two are currently vacant, six are staff. Two of the six staff are on transfer assignment and one of the staff is on leave prior to retirement. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

ITEM 5: RECOGNITION OF VISITORS IN THE GALLERY

HON. MANITOK THOMPSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not have the opportunity to recognize very many people in the gallery but today, I would like to recognize the senior administrative officer of Repulse Bay up there in the white shirt and his name is Sheldon Dory and also the Mayor, Steve Mapsalak of Repulse Bay. They are here meeting with officials of some departments.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Welcome to the Assembly. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mrs. Groenewegen.

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my pleasure today to recognize Tessie Gonzales, the subject of my Member's statement today. Welcome to the House.

MR. SPEAKER:

Welcome to the Assembly. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a constituent from Cambridge Bay, Suzie Sim. Thank you.

Page 1462

MR. SPEAKER:

Welcome to the Assembly. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. I would like to recognize Sue Enge and her daughter, Nicole Rosanne Enge. Thank you. Welcome to the Assembly. Could you ask her to wave to the Members? Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Picco.

ITEM 6: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 621-13(4): Baffin Regional Hospital Funding

MR. PICCO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. It concerns the Baffin regional hospital financing. Can the Minister inform

this House at what stage the government is with the funding for the facility?

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of Finance, Mr. Todd.

Return To Question 621-13(4): Baffin Regional Hospital Funding

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, I appreciate my colleague's statement today that brought some clarity to the issue, but the reality is up until recently, there was a pinch of dispute between the parties on the conditions in which we set for proceeding with the hospital. One of the conditions we set was the dollar value as in terms of the footprint and I still do not have clarity on that whether all parties agree with that. The other condition that we set was we wanted consideration given that we would privately finance this hospital or partially privately finance it. The consumer's concession should be given to the Kitikailuit Development Corporation as was being given to all other parties in Inuvik and Rankin. I do not, to this date, have confirmation of those two conditions I have met. When I do, we will proceed.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Picco.

Supplementary To Question 621-13(4): Baffin Regional Hospital Funding

MR. PICCO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, can the Minister assure this House that the new Baffin/Inuvik hospitals will not be put at risk because of the proposed construction of other health facilities?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 621-13(4): Baffin Regional Hospital Funding

HON. JOHN TODD:

Well, Mr. Speaker, I can tell them that the desire of this government is to proceed with these hospitals as we have said consistently. The only thing that is going to put us at risk is the inability for compromise to be

reached by his colleagues in Baffin. He brings forward a compromise and understanding that we meet the conditions that I have said. I want to be clear in this House the conditions we set with respect to the fiscal framework and the cost that we felt that we can afford as well as an arrangement to be made with the people of Baffin Island. We will proceed an expeditious way to move forward on the development of this hospital proposal. But it is not our position to ask for the position. How could I put it, Mr. Speaker. We are still waiting on confirmation that those two conditions will be met. Once we have reached that, we will be prepared to move forward in an aggressive way to proceed with the construction of both Inuvik and the Iqaluit hospitals. It will not be to the detriment of any other health facilities that we are planning. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Picco.

Supplementary To Question 621-13(4): Baffin Regional Hospital Funding

MR. PICCO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there are a lot of truths and half truths, innuendo and rumours concerning the funding of these hospitals because of the convoluted nature of the agreement since 1988. I wonder if the Minister of Finance can confirm the federal commitment being offered by the federal government on the construction of both facilities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 621-13(4): Baffin Regional Hospital Funding

HON. JOHN TODD:

Mr. Speaker, everybody keeps talking about the 1988 agreement or the 1986 agreement, the rules of engagement have changed dramatically since then. We were not in up to the fiscal position that we are in now as we were then. So, I think it is important to point out to my colleague that what we are trying to do is find a creative, innovative solution to the development of the hospital facilities that are required across the territories. That is our desire. I have recruited, as I said last week, a technical expert on the public/private partnerships. We are raising to try to

get that put together so that we can bring a policy forward to Cabinet to get approval. Once that is done, we can sit down with the parties that are interested in financing these new hospitals and move forward. It is also my understanding that Mr. Ng has given, and is prepared to give, the monies necessary for the program and facility planning to the boards. We are on side, as I said to my colleague. He has to get to his colleagues in Baffin on side on this issues. It is not us that is holding this issue up.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Final supplementary, Mr. Picco.

Supplementary To Question 621-13(4): Baffin Regional Hospital Funding

MR. PICCO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we have had several meetings in the Baffin Region during the Baffin Leaders' Summit in July where we had agreements and also the meeting with Mr. Todd in August. I do not see any difficulty in the Baffin Region. Will the Minister be meeting in the near future with our partners, the developers and financiers, to work

Page 1463

out the logistics of the funding of the construction in the near future? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 621-13(4): Baffin Regional Hospital Funding

HON. JOHN TODD:

A note to my colleagues in the House, I have a copy of the letter from Mr. Jeriel advising me that the Baffin hospital board has rejected their proposal that they be a partner in the development of this hospital facility. I am prepared to move forward when we get confirmation that the Baffin Board is prepared to accept 1) that there has to be public/private partnership approach to this issue; 2) that it is within the fiscal framework that we outlined to them at a meeting that I thought we had an agreement on and found out later we did not. So I am not prepared to move and any further discussions until such time as I get clarity on those two issues.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mr. Enuaraq.

Question 622-13(4): Broughton Island School Extension

MR. ENUARAQ:

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be speaking in Inuktitut. As I stated earlier during my Member's statement the students in Broughton Island have a very small classroom. The teachers are suffering because of the small classroom that is provided to him or her and the educational board in Broughton Island met and discussed this problem. They had requested that the building of the additional classroom be put ahead because the plan is far into the future yet, and they do not want to wait for this date for the additional classroom to be built. I would like to ask the Minister responsible for Education, Culture and Employment as to whether or not this could be brought forward ahead of time rather than being done on the date that it is supposed to be done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (Translation ends)

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister responsible for Education, Culture and Employment, Mr. Dent.

Return To Question 622-13(4): Broughton Island School Extension

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Member appears to be identifying a problem with the space shortfall. According to my notes, the school in Broughton Island is expecting to have about 142 students this year--full time equivalent students. That would have put the use of the school at about 75 or 76 percent. Mr. Speaker, it would not normally be the position of this government to advance a project unless the enrolment was over 80 percent and there was a projection for the population to continue to grow. But Mr. Speaker, I will be happy to confer with my honourable colleague and discuss what he sees is the issue and ensure that the figures that we have within the department are accurate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Ningark.

Question 623-13(4): Proposed Kitikmeot Regional Hospital

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Health and Social Services. By the way, welcome back Mr. Ng. On September 29, 1997, a letter was written to the honourable Minister from Pauluongayak representing the steering committee, health discharge to natal to postnatal additional program and so on. We recognize the fact that there is a government plan to build a regional hospital in Cambridge Bay in this riding health care to Kitikmeot region until it happens to be a community of that region. Sometime when you come up with a solution, there are times that you also have a consequence. Mr. Speaker, a number of questions came out from the community of Taloyoak. One is, will that hospital provide the services which are currently provided by Stanton Regional Hospital? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of Health and Social Services, Mr. Ng.

Return To Question 623-13(4): Proposed Kitikmeot Regional Hospital

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it is a regional health facility, and the scope of what services would be available would be determined after a program review and based on what can be affordable. First of all, based on what the Kitikmeot health board and leaders in the region would expect as far as having services that possibly could be delivered in the region. That type of program would still have to be determined as we entered into some of the planning stages for the regional health facility, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Ningark.

Supplementary To Question 623-13(4): Proposed Kitikmeot Regional Hospital

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to the Minister, there are times when we see a stage plan that has never seen a reality, but there are times

when merely a plan becomes a reality. Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is that since we are planning to build a hospital in Cambridge Bay, is not there any thought given to providing a boarding facility for the people of the Natilikmiot Region in the event the hospital is built? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Ng.

Further Return To Question 623-13(4): Proposed Kitikmeot Regional Hospital

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it is a bit premature to be speaking on whether or not there would be boarding facilities required. As we know now there are some services that are centralized in Cambridge Bay. For example, I use the orthodontist where they bring in patients from the other communities and they home board a lot of those individuals or place them in the hotels if there is no home boarding available in order to try to provide a more

Page 1464

efficient service that is regionally based. Again, it would be determined on what services would be available and what needs would be there in some of the planning, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral question. Supplementary, Mr. Ningark.

Supplementary To Question 623-13(4): Proposed Kitikmeot Regional Hospital

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to the same Minister, in line of my questioning, we used to have a pilot project in Taloyoak which, I believe, was established in 1989 that was to provide a birthing program for Taloyoak, Pelly Bay and Gjoa Haven. I am wondering if the Minister will continue to recognize that program and continue to provide services and funding that may be required by that community even when the hospital is built. I understand that it is currently in the planning stage only. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Ng.

Further Return To Question 623-13(4): Proposed Kitikmeot Regional Hospital

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would say it is safe to say that it is not even in the planning stage except for the fact that it is a conceptual project right now that is supported by the health board, supported by the ministry and supported by leaders in the region in trying to develop a facility that can hopefully reduce some of the travel and expand some of the services that may be available in the region if it is not available in the local community. The direction of this government is for health and social services. We are going to try to provide as much services as possible in their home communities so people do not have to leave and do not have to disrupt the normal routine of their lives in trying to receive treatment. Secondly, if that is the case where they do have to leave the community, then at least try to retain them within the region if it is economical to do so and if the service can be efficiently provided, Mr. Speaker. Failing that of course, going to the centre where the services would be available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Ootes.

Question 624-13(4): RCMP Investigation into GNWT

MR. OOTES:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Premier. A question was left open yesterday regarding the RCMP investigation underway within the Government of the Northwest Territories. I asked the Premier if he has asked Members of his Cabinet whether they are the subject of an RCMP investigation and the Premier said no, he had not asked each and every Member. But later he said he would undertake to do that. My question is, has the Premier now asked each and every member of Cabinet about this? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Premier.

Return To Question 624-13(4): RCMP Investigation into GNWT

HON. DON MORIN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Ootes.

Supplementary To Question 624-13(4): RCMP Investigation into GNWT

MR. OOTES:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the Premier tell us what the response was from Members. Sorry, I will ask that question. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question 624-13(4): RCMP Investigation into GNWT

HON. DON MORIN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have asked Members of Cabinet and each Minister has assured me that they have not been informed officially by any party that they are subject to any kind of investigation by the RCMP, but I was unable to ask other Members of the Assembly. I will leave that up to Mr. Ootes. He is the chairman of the Ordinary Members Caucus. Thank you.

-- Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Ootes.

Supplementary To Question 624-13(4): RCMP Investigation into GNWT

MR. OOTES:

To clear the air, Mr. Speaker. As the Premier said yesterday, there are a lot of rumours and innuendo going around, and I appreciate his response. Thank you. My question is, will the premier inform us if there is official notice of the nature of this investigation into the GNWT?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question 624-13(4): RCMP Investigation into GNWT

HON. DON MORIN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would suggest the Member read Hansard, it was the same question he asked yesterday. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mr. Miltenberger.

Question 625-13(4): Division Transition Planning

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister responsible for Division. Division planning has been going on for many months, and it is picking up speed. As of late my colleague from Yellowknife South raised the issue of the possibility of services being provided

Page 1465

from the east to the west as we negotiate our way through the transition of setting up two new territories. Could the Minister indicate how far back this problem was first possibly anticipated? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister responsible for Division, Mr. Todd.

Return To Question 625-13(4): Division Transition Planning

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think it is important if I can, give me a moment, to put into context. I think if we looked somewhat historically, many of us would have hoped that we would be able to have an ideal turn key situation, as we reached April 1, 1999. Where all aspects of the new Nunavut government would be in place. The reality in today's world is that just simply has not happened for a variety of reasons and it is of no fault of anybody. So it was incumbent upon us when we looked at trying to determine a transition strategy-and I think the key word here is transition-that we would look at what essential ingredients or essential components of government we could put in place and the time left given that we are only one of the drivers in the car. In our best estimate it was clear that there would be a number of services that we

would not be able to put into place prior to April 1, 1999. So, what has been suggested at the official's level between the Interim Commissions officer and my own is if the Interim Commissioner may wish to consider some bilateral arrangements between himself and this government in the delivery of services that will not be in place in April 1, 1999.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Miltenberger.

Supplementary To Question 625-13(4): Division Transition Planning

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the Minister indicate whether this particular issue will be addressed either by himself or his two colleagues in the planning process that is going to be undertaken on behalf of the Northwest Territories and not just the Interim Commissioner. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 625-13(4): Division Transition Planning

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, I think it is important to point out that the ultimate responsibility for deciding on where Nunavut wishes to purchase these transitional services until such time as the new Nunavut gets fully up and running lies with the Interim Commissioner. Certainly in our planning process we have indicated to his office and his staff that we are prepared to provide that service if they so wish, and we are under discussions right now of some possibilities and some categories as we would provide that service if he so wished. It is an important component, if you want, of this transition to two new governments, but ultimately the responsibility for purchasing those services lies with Mr. Anawak, the Interim Commissioner.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mr. Henry.

Question 626-13(4): Re-zoning Yellowknife Airport Land

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister responsible for the Department of Transportation, Mr. Antoine. I have had a number of constituents approach me about the governments proposal to re-zone land that currently controls the Yellowknife airport. This rezoning would result in the possibility of non-aviation related companies building premises at the Yellowknife airport. Given that the city of Yellowknife has many unserviced lots available and that there is an over abundance of land available in the city, I have a problem with the government competing with the private sector and the city of Yellowknife. Can the Minister tell me why this government is competing with the private sector as well as the tax-based municipality for the development of land which is in an abundance presently in Yellowknife? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of Transportation, Mr. Antoine.

Return To Question 626-13(4): Re-zoning Yellowknife Airport Land

HON. JAMES ANTOINE:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Department of Transportation, particularly the airport here in Yellowknife has land around the airport and there is a development plan that has been in place for a number of years now. In this plan there is identification of blocks of land for different uses right at the airport for immediate access to the airport and so forth. We also have land there that is away from the airport between the Mackenzie Highway and the service road where there is non-airport related businesses that have established there and there is land available for such businesses. The intention of the department of transportation is not to compete against the Yellowknife businesses or the city of Yellowknife. In fact these lands are available for commercial development. They applied to us, and they go through NavCan approval and Transport Canada approval. Then they have to go to the city for the final approval of their development proposal. Once that is done, then the Department of Transportation then receives revenue at the airport for leasing the land, and the city in turn collects the taxes on these properties. There is a cooperation between the city and the Department of Transportation in developing these lands. We do not regard this whole process as competing with any business in this town.

That is not the intention. The intention here is that the Yellowknife airport would like to generate revenue so that it could operate and function as an airport. The rezoning of the whole airport plan is initiated by the department and this is done with the city of Yellowknife and the intention here is to rezone all the airport property so that we have better control of what type of businesses

Page 1466

and what type of commercial enterprises would establish at the airport. We try to have the type of businesses established at the airport that is pure to the airport operation and is related to air services and so forth. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Henry.

Supplementary To Question 626-13(4): Re-zoning Yellowknife Airport Land

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Minister. You had suggested that there was a plan in place for the development. Was this plan transferred with airports or was this plan prepared by the Government of the Northwest Territories? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Antoine.

Further Return To Question 626-13(4): Re-zoning Yellowknife Airport Land

HON. JAMES ANTOINE:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this development plan at the Yellowknife airport was last updated in 1994 by Transport Canada while they were still the owners and operators of the airport. There is a need now to further update this land development plan here for the Yellowknife airport and that is what we intend to do by initiating the rezoning process in the city of Yellowknife. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Henry.

Supplementary To Question 626-13(4): Re-zoning Yellowknife Airport Land

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister informs me that this plan was prepared or updated in 1994 so I take it that there was some work done on it prior to 1994. Mr. Speaker, this is 1997, and I would suggest that many developments have occurred in the north which I think have greatly impacted this plan in particular the diamond industry which hopefully will be locating a lot more activities in the north. I am wondering if the Minister has taken that into consideration in this plan and updated the plan further than the 1994 addition that he is talking about. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Antoine.

Further Return To Question 626-13(4): Re-zoning Yellowknife Airport Land

HON. JAMES ANTOINE:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The intention of the department is to complete the work over the next year in conjunction with full consultation with the city and with the airport users and all the stake-holders that might be involved with airport operation. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Final supplementary, Mr. Henry.

Supplementary To Question 626-13(4): Re-zoning Yellowknife Airport Land

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Minister commit to receiving the input of land owners presently surrounding the Yellowknife airport and receive their input into this rezoning and uses for the airport land? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Antoine.

Further Return To Question 626-13(4): Re-zoning Yellowknife Airport Land

HON. JAMES ANTOINE:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this whole process is going to be handled by the city of Yellowknife and their rezoning procedures, so I am sure that anybody that is interested in the Yellowknife airport and wants input will have that opportunity. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mr. Barnabas.

Question 627-13(4): Cancer Detection Programs

MR. BARNABAS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as per my Member's statement earlier, my question is directed to the Minister of Health and Social Services, Mr. Ng. What programs does the department have to speed up the diagnose and treatment process for cancer in small communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of Health and Social Services, Mr. Ng.

Return To Question 627-13(4): Cancer Detection Programs

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, through the boards and the health centres there is an annual pap smear program that, I believe, is annual, maybe it is semi-annual, that ladies participate in. Under the well women's clinics some of the self-examination programs and awareness programs for breast cancer, those are the ones specifically that come to mind. I think that for specific cases of diagnoses would depend on the individual coming to the health centres or to the medical clinics, wherever they may be and the professionals assessing their family histories, depending on what types of possible cancer they may be looking for or medical history of the patient. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

Supplementary To Question 627-13(4): Cancer Detection Programs

MR. BARNABAS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. How many cancer specialists are currently employed by the Government of the Northwest Territories? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Ng.

Page 1467

Further Return To Question 627-13(4): Cancer Detection Programs

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I may be wrong, but I do not believe that we do employ any specific cancer specialists, although we draw upon the services from other jurisdictions. I think we do have some internists that do have some knowledge of cancer screening programs and that type of thing, but I would have to check into that matter as whether or not we do have specific cancer specialists on staff with any of the boards or with the department, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Mr Rabesca.

Question 628-13(4): Speech Pathologist in North Slave

MR. RABESCA:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yesterday during my Member's statement I spoke about my region's need for a speech language pathologist and this government's haphazard response to this important service. This type of service is needed in my region, and I would like to ask the Minister responsible, the Honourable Mr. Ng, when his department will consider transferring this position to the community service board?

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of Health and Social Services, Mr. Ng.

Return To Question 628-13(4): Speech Pathologist in North Slave

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I guess first of all I would disagree that I do not think it is a haphazard response about this important service. We

do recognize there is a need there. The honourable Member for Hay River also brought up this issue about the need of a speech pathologist for Hay River to service her residents. I agreed when she brought up the issue that I would review what service area and what type of programs that the five speech pathologists based in the Stanton Regional Board have in respect to how often they service the communities and what regions and communities they do service, At that time I can make a decision on what may be a suitable way to try to address some of the needs in the other areas if it is deemed that maybe they are not getting the service that they should be or if the fact remains that the pathologist on staff are maybe overworked and the need to try to assist them in beefing up some of the service to the other areas that may not be as well represented as Yellowknife, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Erasmus.

Question 629-13(4): Med-Emerg Report

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Health and Social Services. In regards to the Med-Emerg report, Mr. Speaker, in the spring of 1997 there was a consulting firm Med-Emerg International Inc. who had prepared a draft document outlining the proposed health care reforms to be undertaken by the department. We recently met with the members of the medical profession who are quite concerned with the process how the report was put together as well as the report itself, its contents. First of all I would like to know how this firm, Med-Emerg International Inc. was selected as the group to do this report.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of Health and Social Services, Mr. Ng.

Return To Question 629-13(4): Med-Emerg Report

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I believe in answering this question in the committee of the whole, I said that the sole-source contract based on the experience that the Med-Emerg International group could bring to the table in facilitating a development of a draft strategic plan in a fairly timely fashion. At that time I said the extreme pressure that

was on us as a system in trying to deliver to health facilities in Inuvik and Iqaluit and in reviewing some of the major reforms that our department was undergoing in trying to reform the health and social services system in the Northwest Territories, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Erasmus

Supplementary To Question 629-13(4): Med-Emerg Report

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, could the Minister elaborate on the northern experience of the people who did the report, the interviews and the actual report and their prior northern experience in the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Ng.

Further Return To Question 629-13(4): Med-Emerg Report

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I do not have all the CV's of the individuals with me. I know there was, I can say there was some limited northern experience. I think what is fair to say is that we recognize that they had not a lot of northern experience. Why we recruited them is for their medical and social services expertise and not so much their northern experience where we felt that northern experience would come from the individuals they had spoken to at the boards and in the communities. It came from the people who were assisting and facilitating them within the Department of Health and Social Services, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions supplementary. Mr. Erasmus.

Supplementary To Question 629-13(4): Med-Emerg Report

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, so we have a group of people with limited northern experience and we understand there was very cursory consultation with the medical profession, I do not know if that is an indication of how they consulted with the communities, but I would like to

Page 1468

know is the department implementing this report in their health care reform? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Ng.

Further Return To Question 629-13(4): Med-Emerg Report

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think it is important to say once again that it was a draft strategic plan that the Med-Emerg International group proposed to us. That is the basis of a document that we took forward to the public, and it is still out there now with our partners the boards who have agreed to take on the consultative process within their own regions to receive input from their service clients on whether or not the plan addresses some of the needs and some of the directions and if we are going in the right direction in respect to some of the reforms that we are undertaking and to address some of the strategies that were put forward in that report, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions final supplementary. Mr. Erasmus.

Supplementary To Question 629-13(4): Med-Emerg Report

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, could the Minister indicate how long the process was from when notice was given that interviews were going to be done. How long was there between the time people found out and when the interviews were completed? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Ng.

Further Return To Question 629-13(4): Med-Emerg Report

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I do not have that information right in front of me, Mr. Speaker. I have to go back and check some of the notes and correspondence quite frankly, and advise the Member accordingly. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mr. Picco.

Question 630-13(4): Minister's Statement on Transition Planning

MR. PICCO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, earlier today Mr. Todd made a statement concerning the draft transition plan that he intends to table later today. I have several questions on the transition costs in his statement. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Todd made mention of \$136 million in additional transitional costs. There has been a great deal of discussion on transition costs and incremental costs and the like. We talk about division and it gets quite confusing when we talk about incremental and transition costs. I wonder if Mr. Todd could clarify for this House the difference between transition and the incremental costs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of Finance, Mr. Todd.

Return to Question 630-13(4): Minister's Statement on Transition Planning

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity today to answer that question because I think it is an important one for the constituency at large. The transition, Mr. Speaker, are one time costs, if you want. One-time costs in terms of the establishment of the Nunavut government. They are the costs, for example, of training employees. They are the costs for the building of the houses. They are not ongoing. The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development is responsible for paying for these transitional costs. So, Mr. Speaker, transitional costs are, if I just be a little more succinct, one time. There

was a short fall as I indicated in my speech, in our opinion, which we outlined to the federal government in March, 1996. Our report kind of clearly outlines what we think the shortfall is and identifies clearly what it relates too. These transitional costs have to be paid for by the federal government. On the incremental side, incremental costs are ongoing costs to run the government over whatever period of time in history the government is. For example, Mr. Speaker, if we are going to have two Departments of Health and Social Services, one east and one west, the monies that we now have in place are insufficient to run two departments because there are going to be additional costs, and these are what we call incremental costs. We are currently negotiating, if you want, with the federal government these incremental costs when we negotiate the two new gross expenditures bases. It is a bit confusing, but I hope that clarifies for my colleague what the difference is between transitional, which is one time and incremental which is ongoing.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral question. Supplementary, Mr. Picco.

Supplementary To Question 630-13(4): Minister's Statement on Transition Planning

MR. PICCO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think the federal government has already committed \$150 million on the table for these costs. I wonder if the \$136 million that Mr. Todd is now talking about is that on top of the \$150 million that we have already received? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 630-13(4): Minister's Statement on Transition Planning

Page 1469

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yes. Mr. Speaker, the numbers we have identified as \$136 million in the document which I will table today is in addition to the \$150 million that was submitted to Cabinet in March of 1996. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral question. Supplementary, Mr. Picco.

Supplementary To Question 630-13(4): Minister's Statement on Transition Planning

MR. PICCO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Minister mentioned in his statement earlier that he had already spoken to the Minister for Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development about this \$136 million that we seem to be short of. I wonder if the Minister could update this House what the Minister's reaction has been to this development. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 630-13(4): Minister's Statement on Transition Planning

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, well there are two things we have asked the federal Minister to consider. One is we have asked the federal Minister to consider re-examining the original \$150 million submission to see where that money is being spent, what is left over and if they are prepared to reprofile it, if you want, in some of the new priorities that have been identified in our report. That is on the one side and that is existing dollars that have been voted by the federal cabinet. On the other side, I am pleased to say, as I announced in my statement earlier today, that the Minister of Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Ms. Stewart, has agreed to put forward a table, if you want, of the interested parties to discuss the additional and some of the additional transitional costs that are necessary. I am reasonably content, Mr. Speaker, if I could say that, that we have a commitment on the part of the federal government to one, re-examine the \$150 million submission to determine, as I said, if there is any ability to reprofile those dollars and two, to sit down with our partners in the process to determine what would be an appropriate level of additional dollars required over a period of time. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral question. Final supplementary, Mr. Picco.

Supplementary To Question 630-13(4): Minister's Statement on Transition Planning

MR. PICCO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think there is probably quite a bit of anxiety out there now, especially in my community and many communities affected by this shortfall. I think we all understand that the federal government has come up with the money. I wonder if the Finance Minister would be able to tell us today in this House if the federal Cabinet actually has to agree to meet to make up, to approve the extra funding of \$100 million, \$120 million, \$136 million or whatever these transition costs are. Is that a federal government decision to come up with that, from the federal Cabinet itself? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd

Further Return To Question 630-13(4): Minister's Statement on Transition Planning

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think it is important to put it into a bit of historical context. The Premier actually wrote to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development in March, 1996 and indicated in the original Cabinet submission of \$150 million. We fundamentally believed that there were significant gaps in the transitional costs. That is clear, well documented. Our position is unequivocal. That is what we said at the time. We have now identified, as I said, what we believe are some of the shortfalls of the original document and identified what we think is now required to move forward in an orderly way towards division. I cannot determine yet whether or not Ms. Stewart will decide to seek a new Cabinet document to find this money or some of this money or whether in fact whether she will find it inside. I can commit to you publicly in discussions with her is she has committed to put a table together to assess the shortfall of funding and the additional requirements of transitional dollars with all the parties at the table hopefully in the not too distant future. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Enuaraq.

Question 631-13(4): Decentralized Nunavut Government

MR. ENUARAQ:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, decentralization of future government has always been a concern to me with this Nunavut government to be. I have a question for the Minister responsible for Nunavut Transition Planning, Mr. Arlooktoo, regarding Mr. Todd's statement earlier today on the government's Transition Action Plan. One issue that Mr. Todd made mention in his statement is decentralization. As the Deputy Premier is well aware, this is a very big issue in Nunavut, particularly for communities such as Pangnirtung, in my riding. Could he explain how this report impacts on decentralization given its importance to the people of Nunavut? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Deputy Premier, Mr. Arlooktoo.

Return to Question 631-13(4): Decentralized Nunavut Government

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Member is correct that decentralization is critical and an important issue to the people of Nunavut, to the Members of the Nunavut Caucus and for specific MLA's especially. For example, in my constituency, Cape Dorset is slated to be one of the recipients of some regional offices. It is still an important issue, as Mr. Todd indicated earlier. The government is very committed to decentralization going ahead. I think I can clearly say that we will be pushing all parties to make decentralization happen. What we have done is identify how much it would cost to decentralize, and I believe the numbers are around \$18 million. I certainly see this as a step towards decentralization. That is, we have taken a further step by identifying how much it will cost.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Enuaraq.

Supplementary To Question 631-13(4): Decentralized Nunavut Government

MR. ENUARAQ:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that Mr. Todd stated that we are committed to the principle of

decentralization, and that is all well and good. However, Mr. Speaker, for the people in the communities, the issue of decentralization is more than a concept which means jobs and economic opportunities. What I would like to know from Mr. Arlooktoo, is when and how this will occur? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Arlooktoo.

Further Return To Question 631-13(4): Decentralized Nunavut Government

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Once again, the message is very clear, that we are in support of decentralization. The Government of the Northwest Territories wants to see it happen, and we will be there assisting the federal government and the Interim Commissioner to making it happen, once a couple of conditions are met. Those are somewhat outside our control. One is the government of the Northwest Territories is not responsible for the construction of infrastructure, the Nunavut Construction Corporation is. I understand that they are several months behind schedule. The other is the federal government coming up with the funding for decentralization. So, once we have those, the GNWT will be there doing whatever it can to make sure decentralization happens.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Enuaraq.

Supplementary To Question 631-13(4): Decentralized Nunavut Government

MR. ENUARAQ:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand in order to decentralize the Nunavut government would cost about \$18 million. We know we have been to speak to the federal government to get the \$18 million to make sure that decentralization goes ahead. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Arlooktoo.

Further Return To Question 631-13(4): Decentralized Nunavut Government

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think it is important to clarify that the \$18 million that we have identified is a one time cost for the movement of bodies, severance pay and whatever needs to be paid out for decentralization. Mr. Todd and his officials have had some meetings with the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and her staff, and our own dividend secretariat staff and members of our division planning committee. Members have met with other federal government representatives, and there are other meetings scheduled in the next few weeks.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Ootes.

Question 632-13(4): Housing Corporation Agreement with YWCA

MR. OOTES:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Deputy Premier, Mr. Arlooktoo. Earlier today I spoke about the transition of Northern United Place to Rockhill Apartments and the fact that this is to provide transitional housing for individuals, both in Yellowknife and families that come to our community. I wonder if the Premier or the Deputy Premier could tell us if he could confirm that this has saved the housing corporation a substantial amount of money? Previously the support program was around \$350,000, and it is now costing \$120,000, I believe. Could the Premier tell us about that please?

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister responsible for the NWT Housing Corporation, Mr. Arlooktoo.

Return To Question 632-13(4): Housing Corporation Agreement with YWCA

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The issue of the government support for the YWCA and the Northern United Place is one that has been ongoing for quite a long time. I am aware that all of the Yellowknife MLAs have had input in the work that has gone on to try to solve some of the problems over the last few months. I do not have the exact numbers, but originally the YWCA was subsidized by the government through the Housing Corporation to the tune of about \$320,000. We have made different arrangements where, rather than

subsidize them directly with money, we now instead, give them access to an apartment building at no cost.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Ootes.

Supplementary To Question 632-13(4): Housing Corporation Agreement with YWCA

MR. OOTES:

I understand that the access to this building is at a cost probably in the neighbourhood of a \$150,000 give or take some dollars. The commitment originally was to the year 2001, therefore the government was committed for another several years for \$350,000. Can the Deputy Premier tell me if he will commit that money to the issue I spoke about the need for similar services and programs and transitional housing programs in Yellowknife? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Arlooktoo.

Further Return To Question 632-13(4): Housing Corporation Agreement with YWCA

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think it is important to remember in this case the fact that the subsidy was originally to allow the YWCA to house its clients. The new arrangement that we have still allows them to achieve that goal. The long term commitment that the GNWT had that the Member speaks of, has been converted, in a sense, to assist Aurora College in renovating Northern United Place for Aurora College functions and students residences. So, in effect we have done both. We have made sure that the YWCA has the space it needs for its clients and the long term commitment that the GNWT had is still being followed.

Page 1471

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Ootes.

Supplementary To Question 632-13(4): Housing Corporation Agreement with YWCA

MR. OOTES:

I understand that Aurora College is utilizing Northern United Place now, but that is a program of the Department of Education, Culture and Employment, not the Housing Corporation. I wonder if the Deputy Premier would undertake to let us know what the difference in cost is to accommodate the YWCA in the present accommodation versus what it was when they were in the Northern United Place building? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Arlooktoo.

Further Return To Question 632-13(4): Housing Corporation Agreement with YWCA

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can certainly find out that information. What is important to remember is that the YWCA now has full access to an apartment building in Yellowknife, the Rockhill Apartments for \$1 per year and they are in fact allowed to keep any revenues they raise in rents. I will get the information, but from what I have seen, I think we have been as fair as possible to all those involved.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Final supplementary, Mr. Ootes.

Supplementary To Question 632-13(4): Housing Corporation Agreement with YWCA

MR. OOTES:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the Minister, Mr. Arlooktoo, tell me if the availability of amount of accommodation is similar or larger at the Rockhill Apartments?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Arlooktoo.

Further Return To Question 632-13(4): Housing Corporation Agreement with YWCA

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will include that information with the other ones that I have promised. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I reserve my question for now.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mr. Henry.

Question 633-13(4): Changes to Hunting Regulations

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is to Mr. Kakfwi, the Minister for Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development. I have some questions for the Minister related to the status of hunting regulations and the current Wildlife Act. As the Minister is aware, last spring I had a request of clarification on changes to the hunting regulations on behalf of several individuals and groups, such as the Canadian Armed Forces.

Last July, Mr. Speaker, the Minister advised me that the Canadian Forces northern area, their request would be considered and they would have equal opportunity into the public consultation. Both myself and the Member for Frame Lake and Yellowknife Centre also wrote to the Minister in support of the Canadian Armed Forces' request. Neither myself nor the commander of the Canadian Armed Forces have been updated on this outstanding issue. My question is, could the Minister advise the House what public consultations have taken place in my community relating to changes in hunting regulations and the Wildlife Act? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister responsible for Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development, Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question 633-13(4): Changes to Hunting Regulations

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Mr. Speaker, I will have to take that question as notice. I have no idea of how much, if any, consultation has taken place in the constituency of the Member that is asking the question. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mr Barnabas.

Question 634-13(4): Role as Minister for Nunavut Transition Planning

MR. BARNABAS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Premier announced last week that he was appointing separate Ministers responsible for transition planning in Nunavut and the Western Territory. I also understand that from the Premier's statement that Mr. Todd as the chairman of division and planning committee that includes both Cabinet and Ordinary Members to retain overall responsibility for the division. My question is for the Minister responsible for Nunavut transition planning, Mr. Arlooktoo. What responsibility does he have in this new role? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Deputy Premier, Mr. Arlooktoo.

Return To Question 634-13(4): Role as Minister for Nunavut Transition Planning

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is a good question. It is one that we have been trying to work with or struggle with in the last little while. But as Mr. Todd had talked about earlier, there are many, many issues and areas of concern, initiatives around the whole, around division, and there are difficult decisions that have to be made. There are very tight deadlines, and a very full plate of work that has to be done.

So I believe the Cabinet and the Premier recognize that it was important to make sure that the workload was spread evenly.

Page 1472

Therefore, they appointed me to take care of those types of operational and day to day issues for Nunavut and Mr. Dent for the Western Arctic under the able leadership of Mr. Todd. Just as a side, we are putting as much information together as possible about all of those issues and will be presenting them to the House next week.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

Supplementary To Question 634-13(4): Role as Minister for Nunavut Transition Planning

MR. BARNABAS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the Minister for the response. Perhaps he could outline in a little more detail, the types of issues he will be addressing in his statements next week. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Arlooktoo. I did not hear a question but ...

Further Return To Question 634-13(4): Role as Minister for Nunavut Transition Planning

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe the question was on what types of issues that I would be talking about next week. There are many that we need to discuss and need to get the Assembly and the Public informed on and involved in. It includes things like what we are doing on community infrastructure, the work that needs to be done on assisting the federal government on the Nunavut Act amendments, training, staffing key headquarters positions, et cetera. There are a wide range of issues that we will be discussing.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Question period is over. Item 7, written questions. Mr. Miltenberger.

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is not a written question. In accordance with Rule 34(5), I move, seconded by the honourable Member from Natilikmiot that Minister's Statement 110-13(4) Transition Action Plan be moved into committee of the whole for discussion. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. It is not debatable. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried. Minister's Statement 110-13(4) will be put in the committee of the whole.

Item 7, written questions. Item 8, returns to written questions. Item 9, replies to opening address. Item 10, petitions. Item 11, reports of standing and special

committees. Item 12, reports of committees on the review of bills. Item 13, tabling of documents. Mr. Todd.

ITEM 13: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

Tabled Document 108-13(4): Creation of Two New Territories: Transition Action Plan

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following document entitled Creation of Two New Territories: Transition Action Plan, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Tabling of Documents? Item 14, notices of motion. Mr. Todd.

ITEM 14: NOTICES OF MOTIONS

NOTICE OF MOTION 22-13(4): Referral of TD 108-13(4) Transition Action Plan to Committee of the Whole

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice as of Friday, October 10, 1997 I will move the following motion; and therefore I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nahendeh that Tabled Document 108-13(4) Creation of Two New Territories: Transaction Action Plan, be moved into the committee of the whole for discussion.

Mr. Speaker, I will be seeking unanimous consent to deal with this motion today. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

ITEM 16: MOTIONS

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to proceed with the motion to move Tabled Document 108-13(4) to the committee of the whole for discussion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Keewatin Central is seeking unanimous consent to deal with this motion today. Do we have any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Todd you have unanimous consent.

Motion 22-13(4): Referral of TD 108-13(4) Transition Action Plan to Committee of the Whole

HON. JOHN TODD:

Colleagues.

WHEREAS the document "Creation of Two New Territories: Transition Action Plan" has been tabled in this House;

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

NOW THEREFORE, I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member from Nahendeh that Tabled Document 108-13(4) Creation of Two New Territories: Transition Action Plan be moved into the committee of the whole for discussion. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. In regard to the printed version, if you could change it to Nahendeh instead of Tu Nedhe. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried. Motions. Item 17, first reading of

Page 1473

bills. Item 18, second reading of bills. Item 19, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters, Bills 3, 4, 5 and 6; Tabled Document 103-13(4) and Minister's Statement 110-13(4), with Mrs. Groenewegen in the Chair.

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

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

I would like to call committee of the whole to order. There are a number of items before the committee. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Ootes.

MR. OOTES:

Thank you, Madam Chair. That we proceed with Committee Report 8-13(4) a report of the review of

the Family Law Bill in conjunction with Bill 6, Child and Family Services Act.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Agreed? Thank you. If the committee is agreed we will take a short break while the witnesses prepare themselves. Thank you.

--Break

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

The matter before the committee today is Bill 6, Child and Family Services Act, I would like to ask the Minister for Health and Social Services, the Honourable Kelvin Ng, to introduce the bill.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. Bill 6, the Child and Family Services Act is one of the four pieces of family law legislation currently before the Assembly. This legislation arose from the work of the Family Law Review Committee in the early 1990's. This Act builds on the desire to promote healthy communities that deal with child welfare matters using community standards. The proposed Act has the best interests of the child as its central focus. In the Child and Family Services Act we are proposing a community process for dealing with children. This process is designed to be timely, to keep families and communities involved in finding solutions and to allow people to resolve problems as much as possible outside of the formal court process. At the same time there is a safeguard built in allowing issues to go to the court when they are disputed or when there are concerns that the community-based process may not provide for an open and fair hearing for all concerned.

The Act also allows and encourages early intervention work with families. It provides a means whereby parents can access support services that address difficulties affecting their ability to provide a safe, healthy and happy home for their children. Through the plans of care, this Act ensures that there is a well thought out community-based plan developed for each child who is determined to be at risk. It also ensures that there is regular monitoring and review of these plans and of the child's revolving needs. I would like to thank the Standing Committee on Social Programs for the cooperative approach they brought to reviewing this bill. We have had some very productive discussions on the concerns raised during the public hearings. I believe that the amendments

we have agreed to will strengthen the bill as a whole. In addition, I believe that the changes enhance the bill's focus on assuring that the best interests of our children are met by providing the opportunity for greater community involvement. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. At this time I will ask if the Standing Committee on Social Programs would like to make committee's remarks on the bill. Mr. Miltenberger.

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Madam Chair. A number of amendments were made in committee to address issues raised by the public and to correct problems with the bill. A series of amendments were made to deal with apprehension of children. The intent of the bill is to allow the full process including Plan of Care Committees in cases where the child remains in the family home and in cases where the child is apprehended. There were problems with the original bill which would have forced a court hearing in some situations. The definition of abuse has been broadened to include emotional and psychological abuse. Rather than having child protection workers as a chairperson, an amendment was made to allow private care committees to select their own chair persons. An amendment was made to require written notices follow up when oral notice is given. The catch all section of the reasons why a child would be in need of protection was removed. As well, the section referring to alcohol and drug abuse was revised to clarify its application to child's abuse of these substances.

The bill was revised to reflect the importance of the local child and family services committees in partnership with the child protection worker. An amendment was made allowing the parent of a child to make an application to end permanent custody. Protection of the confidentiality of the plan of care process was added to the bill. Unfortunately, the government did not have sufficient time to prepare amendments on many issues of concern to the committee.

We expect a number of areas to be amended in the House. The entire section on plan and care committees needs to be revisited. We believe the proposed membership is too restrictive and does not allow flexibility in ensuring the best interest of the

child. Committees should be allowed to continue even with a change in membership. There is also a need for continuity in plan of care after a child has become a permanent ward.

The plan of care process is one of the key parts of this bill. It is important that it reflect the best interests of the child and true community involvement. There is a need for a broader definition of aboriginal group. At this point only Dene bands are covered. There is no mention of Metis, Inuit and Inuvialuit. Amendments are coming to clarify whether the five days to put the plan of care process in place are working or calendar days.

Under the bill, the plan of care decisions must be unanimous. While unanimity is preferable we would like to see amendments made that would not allow a single individual to hijack a decision. Decision by majority should be possible

Page 1474

to implement. We understand the department is trying to address this concern.

After a child is taken into a permanent custody, the family and community should be kept informed of the child's progress. We recognize there will be some cases where this would not be appropriate, but believe that for most cases it should be done. An amendment is being prepared to deal with this concern. The committee has a concern about the limited access by children or parents to information on their files. We have asked the Minister to take another look at this issue. Many items raised during the public hearings will be addressed by the department through policies, guidelines and regulations. The bill states as a principle that parents should not use force when disciplining their children. We have asked that this be clarified. The bill clearly outlines the obligation of the department to support young people aged 16 and over.

There must be an assurance that this support will not be abused by youth who are looking for a way to leave home because they do not get along with their parents. It must clearly be a case where it is emotionally and physically harmful for the young person to remain in the family home. The committee was very supportive with the idea of working with families before the situation deteriorates. Although the bill lists an impressive list of possible voluntary services, we share the public concern about the availability and cost of these services. We hope the

Minister will work with Health and Social Services Boards to maximize services available for families.

The bill places a strong emphasis on keeping children within the family and extended family. The current foster care rules limit the ability of the families to provide foster placements. The Minister has agreed to revise the guidelines in support of extended family members who can provide a placement for a child. The committee stressed the need to inform families of any investigation processes as soon as possible. Unless there is danger that the child will be harmed, families should not be the last to know.

With a community-based approach, there is a need for involved individuals to have enough information to help children in difficulty. The department has advised that they are developing a protocol to assist and share in relevant information to people like teachers. The child and family services committee in a community will have significant responsibilities. Therefore, it is important that the committee represent a cross section of community residents. The Minister has indicated the regulations will address this concern. The clear responsibilities and time lines in the bill give the basis for an effective way of dealing with children in difficulty. However, success will depend on how well the Legislature and guidelines are followed. Regular monitoring and evaluation are essential to making this work for children. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Is the committee agreeable to ask the Minister at this time if he would like to bring witnesses. Agreed. Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, please bring in the witnesses.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Minister Ng, could you please introduce your witnesses for the record.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. To my right, is deputy Minister David Ramsden, to the far right, Lynn Elkin, director of policy and planning and to my left, Diane Buckland, Legislative Council. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you and welcome. At this time are there any general comments on the bill by Members? General comments. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN:

Thank you, Madam Chair. Madam Chair, I think recognition should be given by all Members for the amount of work that the committee and the witnesses put forward to have this bill brought to this House at this time.

--Applause

Although many hours went into the development of this bill, I am sure there are many in the small communities that would not completely understand the fundamentals of this bill, until they were actually put into place and the communities take part in implementing the bill. Perhaps at that time a lot of community residents would then appreciate the thought and effort in making this a bill, and that the communities could feel part of it.

Madam Chair, just from looking at this bill and the amount of clauses that make up this bill speaks towards the complexity. I, for one, feel that a lot of explanation would be necessary to ensure that I fully understand what I am passing here. Therefore, I would be asking the committee to bear with me as I ask for an explanation on each and every clause. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Steen. Any further general comments on Bill 6, Child and Family Services Act? Mr. O'Brien. Mr. Erasmus.

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I can emphasize with the honourable Member's consternation with not having full explanations of each clause, but if he is going to ask for an explanation of each clause it is going to take a lot of time. Is there any way we can just get an explanation without having to take the time to recognize the Member and have him ask for an explanation for each clause?

It is going to take a lot of time to recognize him every time. What I am saying is, perhaps when we get to each one, maybe the Minister or somebody from his delegation can just explain it and then we can go on from there. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Erasmus. I am not sure if it is in keeping with the procedure or not, but if it is the wish

of the committee, I am sure we can consider it. If it is the wish of the committee it will be fine. Are there any further general comments? Is the committee agreed that we will commence the clause by clause review of the bill?

Page 1475

Is the Minister agreeable to giving a brief explanation of each clause at the time that the clause is called?

HON. KELVIN NG:

Yes, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Mr. Ningark.

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Madam Chair. Traditionally, there is no need for each clause to be explained unless asked by one of the Members for explanation. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Mr. Ningark. Are you ready to proceed? Bill 6, Child and Family Services Act, clause 1. Yes, Mr. Miltenberger.

Committee Motion 57-13(4): Motion to Defer Clause 1 of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. MILTENBERGER:

I move that we defer consideration of clause 1.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. The motion is in order. It is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion? Opposed? The motion is carried. Clause 2. I am sorry. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN:

Madam Chair, I would like a very short explanation from the department on clause 2.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Steen. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. Madam Chair, clause 2 provides the guiding principles for the bill. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Clause 2. Agreed? Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN:

Madam Chair, are we going to go to the procedure of having me call for an explanation or are we agreed that the Minister will put forward an explanation?

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Steen. Actually, you do not have to call for an explanation on each clause. When I call the clause, I will then refer it to the Minister for a brief explanation on each one. Is that okay?

MR. STEEN:

I understand, the Chair will be calling for a brief explanation of these clauses?

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

That is correct, Mr. Steen. Clause 2. Agreed? Clause 3. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. This clause provides a criteria for determining the best interest of the child and it specifically stresses the cultural values and practices, Madam Chair. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 3? Agreed. Clause 3. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Madam Chair, we just did three. Clause 4?

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

I was confused. Clause 4.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. This provides the definitions just for this section of the Act, Madam Chair. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 4? Agreed. Clause 5. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. This allows workers to proactively help parents deal with issues affecting their ability to parent. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Clause 5? Agreed. Clause 6. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. This provides support for youth aged 16 to 18. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 6? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 7? Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you. This identifies the criteria for when a child needs protection and it reinforces the recognition of cultural values and practices, Madam Chair. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Clause 7? Agreed.

Thank you. Clause 8. Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. This section says that when a person thinks a child needs protection, it should be reported. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Clause 8? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 9. Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This section allows for investigation or closure after the initial report. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Is the committee okay with this brief explanation of each clause? Is this what you are looking for? Good. Clause 9? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 10. Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause addresses apprehension where there was a formal report, Madam Chair. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Minister Ng. Mr. Erasmus.

Committee Motion 58-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 10(1)(c) of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that paragraph 10(1)(c) of Bill 6 be amended by

Page 1476

(a) striking out "sections 17 and 18" and by substituting "section 18"; and

(b) striking out "five days" and by substituting "eight days".

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you Mr. Erasmus. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN:

Madam Chairperson, could I ask the mover to give a short explanation for reason for the amendment?

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Steen. Mr. Erasmus.

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Madam Chair. The subclause in the question refers to five days and we wanted to make it clear that the person actually had five working days to respond, by making it eight days. This would include a weekend and a long weekend, if there is a long weekend. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Erasmus. To the motion. Question is being called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Clause 10, as amended. Thank you. Clause 11. Miltenberger.

MR. MILTENBERGER:

I am sorry, Madam Chair, did you want to have the Minister to do his summary first? Sorry.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Sorry. It is a new process for us. Clause 11. Mr. Minister.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. This section deals with apprehending where there is no initiating report. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Minister Ng. Mr. Miltenberger.

Committee Motion 59-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 11(3)(c) of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that paragraph 11(3)(c) of Bill 6 be amended by;

(a) striking out "sections 17 and 18" and by substituting "section 18"; and

(b) striking out "five days" and by substituting "eight days".

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Clause 11, as amended? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 12. Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This section allows an apprehended child to be returned. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Clause 12? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 13. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. This clause describes the process for an investigation report and a potential return of the child or termination of a Plan of Care Committee. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Clause 13? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 14. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you. This section requires the worker to advise a person with lawful custody and a child of both plan of care and court options.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Clause 14? Agreed. Clause 15. The motion to amend clause 15 has been revised, and the one which is in your package should be replaced with one that has been passed out already. Is everybody aware of that? Clause 15. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. This section establishes the Plan of Care Committees with the membership, the replacements, the chair and the responsibilities. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Mr. Roland.

Committee Motion 60-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 15 of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. ROLAND:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that clause 15 of Bill 6 be amended by;

(a) deleting paragraphs (2)(c) to (e) and by substituting the following:

(c) a member of the Child and Family Services Committee, where there is a Child and Family Services Committee in the child's community; and

(d) a Child Protection Worker.

(b) deleting subclause 15(3) and by substituting the following:

(3) Where a member listed in paragraph (2)(a), (c) or (d) is unable or unwilling to continue to sit as a member, the Child and Family Services Committee or the Child Protection Worker, as the case may be, shall invite another person of the same category as that member to sit as a member.

(3.1) A majority of the members of a Plan of Care committee listed in subsection (2);

(a) shall, if there is a member of the child's extended family who lives in the child's community and who the

majority considers suitable, invite a member of the child's extended family to become a member of the committee; and

(b) may agree to invite one or more additional persons to become members of the committee where they believe such persons may be of assistance in developing and entering into a plan of care agreement;

Page 1477

(c) deleting paragraph (7)(a) and by substituting the following:

(a) where the Child and Family Services Committee or a Child Protection Worker, as the case may, is unable to substitute another person for a member listed in paragraph (2)(a), (c) or (d) who has become unable or unwilling to sit as a member.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Roland. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Clause 15, as amended? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 16. Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. This provides a process when no committee is formed or a plan does not get an agreement. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 16. Mr. Erasmus.

Committee Motion 61-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 16 of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that clause 16 of Bill 6 be amended by;

(a) striking out: paragraphs 15(2)(a) to (d) in subclause (1) and by substituting "paragraph 15(2)(a),(c) or (d);

(b) striking out "sections 17 and 18" in subclause (3) and by substituting "section 18";

(c) Striking out "five days" in subclause (3) and by substituting "eight days";

(d) deleting subclause (4) and by substituting the following:

(4) A Child Protection Worker shall, without delay, apply to a court for a declaration that the child needs protection and for an order where;

(a) a person listed in paragraph 15(2)(a), (c) or (d) is unable or unwilling to sit as a member of a Plan of Care Committee and a Plan of Care Committee is not established or if it is established, is terminated as a result; or

(b) the Child and Family Services Committee establishes a Plan of Care Committee and, at the expiration of 15 days after the day on which the Child Protection Worker referred the matter to the Child and Family Services Committee, the Plan of Care Committee has not made a plan of care agreement in respect of the child.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Erasmus. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour of the motion? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Motion 16, as amended? Agreed. Thank you. I am sorry, clause 16, not motion 16. I am getting motion sickness. Clause 17. Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Madam Chair, this clause allows the Plan of Care Committee to continue where there is a charge or a criminal investigation against one of the committee members. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Mr. Miltenberger.

Committee Motion 62-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 17 of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that Bill 6 be amended by deleting clause 17 and by substituting the following.

17(1)A person who is or is to be a member of a Plan of Care Committee is ineligible to sit as a member of the Plan of Care Committee if he or she is a subject of a report or investigation concerning another matter

that is being dealt with under this Act or in respect of which a plan of care agreement or order is in effect;

(2)Where a person who is a member of a Plan of Care Committee becomes ineligible to sit as a member of a Plan of Care Committee, he or she is deemed to have resigned from the Plan of Care Committee;

(3)Where a person referred to in subsection (1) is or is to be a member of a Plan of Care Committee under subsection 15(2), the Child and Family Services Committee or the Child Protection worker, as the case may be, shall invite another person of the same category as that member to sit as a member;

(4)This section does not apply where the person referred to in subsection (1) is a child who is a member of the Plan of Care Committee under paragraph 15(2)(b).

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN:

Thank you, Madam Chair. Could the mover perhaps give a comparison how this amendment would affect what was put forward by the Minister as to the purpose of that clause?

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Steen. Mr. Miltenberger.

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Madam Chair. The Minister is getting a very easy ride here. You notice that we are sitting here justifying his bill for him. We are also outgunned. Look at all the technical staff they have there. Mrs. Chairperson, the intent of this is to address the issue of somebody, as we talked about in Ordinary Members' Caucus this morning, that to do a change in membership if somebody is ineligible because there has been a report or there has been a charge filed against them under this Act, that they are not. It is not appropriate that they continue to sit on this particular committee. This amendment deals with this issue and the

concern of the committee of how to deal with this in the most appropriate way. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. To the motion. The question has been called. We do not have a quorum. We cannot vote on the motion without a quorum. We will have to ring the bells and get a quorum back.

Thank you. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour of the motion? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Clause 17, as amended? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 18, Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. This clause allows a person with lawful custody or a child to move the process to court. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Clause 18. Agreed. Clause 19. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause identifies the content of a plan of care, as well as the resulting responsibilities. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Mr. Roland.

Committee Motion 63-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 19 of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. ROLAND:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that clause 19 of Bill 6 be amended by:

(a) deleting paragraph 19(1)(g) and by substituting the following:

(g) the responsibilities of any of the persons;

(i) listed in paragraphs 15(2)(a), (c), and (d), or;

(ii) who become members of a Plan of Care Committee under subsection 15(3.1);

(b) deleting subclauses (4) and (5) and by substituting the following:

(4) A plan of care agreement must be in writing and signed by a majority of the members of the Plan of Care Committee.

(4.1) The majority of members signing the plan of care agreement, referred to in subsection (4), must include the following members

- (a) the person who has lawful custody of the child;
- (b) the Child Protection Worker.

(5) A child who is the subject of the plan of care agreement and who has attained the age of 12 years may consent to and sign a plan of care agreement and any extension or modification of it.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Roland. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour of the motion? All those opposed? Thank you. The motion is carried. Clause 19, as amended? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 20, Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Madam Chair, this clause allows for the extension or amendment to the plan of care agreement. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Clause 20, Mr. Erasmus.

Committee Motion 64-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 20 of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that clause 20 of Bill 6 be amended by:

(a) deleting subclause (1) and by substituting the following:

20(1) Any person who has signed a plan of care agreement may, on 10 days written notice to all members of the Plan of Care Committee, request the Plan of Care Committee to review the agreement and, on review, the term of the agreement may be extended and any term or condition modified with the consent of a majority of the members of the Plan of Care Committee.

(b) striking out "the consent of all persons who signed the agreement" in subclause (2) and by substituting "the consent of a majority of the members of the Plan of Care Committee";

(c) deleting subclause (3) and by substituting the following:

(3) The majority of persons consenting to an extension or modification, referred to in subsections (1) and (2), must include the following:

- (a) the person who has lawful custody of the child;
- (b) the Child Protection Worker.

(d) striking out "all persons who signed the agreement" in subclause (4) and by substituting "a majority of the members of the Plan of Care Committee"; and

(e) deleting subclause (5) and by substituting the following:

(5) The majority of persons agreeing to an extension, referred to in subsection (4), must include the following:

- (a) the person who has lawful custody of the child;
- (b) the Child Protection Worker.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Erasmus. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Clause 20, as amended? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 21, Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause allows for apprehension where a child is at risk, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Clause 21? Agreed. Clause 22, Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Madam Chair, this allows the person with lawful custody or the worker to end the plan of care at any

time and it also provides a safeguard to ensure the child is never put at risk if the plan is ended. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Clause 22. Agreed. Thank you. How are we doing for pace here, is this okay? Clause 23, Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause allows for deemed termination of a plan of care, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Mr. Enuaraq.

Committee Motion 65-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 23(1)(b) of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. ENUARAQ:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that paragraph 23(1)(b) of Bill 6 be deleted and the following be substituted:

(b) the court makes an order where, on the commencement of the agreement, the child had already been apprehended.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Enuaraq. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called? All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Clause 23, as amended? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 24, Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. This clause provides the process for a court application. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 24. Mr. Enuaraq.

Committee Motion 66-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 24(d) of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. ENUARAQ:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that paragraph 24(d) of Bill 6 be amended by striking out "and the persons mentioned in subsection 17(2)". Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Enuaraq. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called? All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Clause 24, as amended. Agreed. Thank you. Clause 25, Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause says who gets notice of a court application.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Mr. Enuaraq.

Committee Motion 67-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 25 of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. ENUARAQ:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that clause 25 of Bill 6 be amended by

(a) striking out "paragraphs 15(2)(a) to (d);" in paragraph (b) and by substituting "paragraphs 15(2)(a) to (c); and"; and

(b) deleting paragraphs (c) and (d) and by substituting the following:

(c) the applicable aboriginal organization set out in the regulations, if the child is an aboriginal child.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Clause 25, as amended? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 26, Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. This clause outlines the timing for hearings. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 26? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 27, Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause identifies what the court's duty is and who can be heard from. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 27? Agreed. Clause 28. Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause lists the kinds of orders a court can make and the terms and conditions which can be imposed. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Mr. Enuaraq.

Committee Motion 68-13(4): Motion to Delete Subclause 28(3) of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. ENUARAQ:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that sub-clause 28(3) of Bill 6 be deleted. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Enuaraq. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Clause 28 as amended? Thank you. Clause 29. Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause determines who gets the copy of the orders. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 29? Agreed. Clause 30. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause just outlines some specific definitions. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Clause 30? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 31. Mr. Ng.

Page 1480

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause allows for medical treatment to preserve life, and the possible need to apprehend in those situations. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Clause 31? Agreed. Clause 32. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause determines the issuing of orders made to preserve the life of a child under section 31. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 32? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 33. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This allows for 24 hours access to apprehend. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Clause 33? Agreed. Clause 34. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause advised that people that a child has been apprehended and what the next steps are. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Clause 34? Agreed. Clause 35. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause covers the rights and responsibilities of the director, including the delegation of authority.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 35? Agreed. Clause 36. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you. These are the definitions for this part of the section.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Clause 36? Agreed. Clause 37. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This part allows for a mother to give her child to the department without having the child apprehended on the record. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 37? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 38. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause allows for the terms and conditions of the order and also allows for post-placement access. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 38? Agreed. Clause 39. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause ensures that parents are consenting to giving up the child.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Clause 39? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 40. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you. This clause is to make sure that parents are aware of the options prior to the adoption. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 40? Agreed. Clause 41. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This allows a parent to give consent. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 41? Agreed. Clause 42. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause deals with the revocation. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 42? Agreed. Clause 43. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause identifies where the parent's consent is not necessary. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 43? Agreed. Clause 44. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This determines how consent is given.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Clause 44? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 45. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause deals with revoking from outside the Northwest Territories when a child is placed here. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Clause 45? Agreed. Clause 46. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause determines the first steps when a child is placed in care. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Clause 46? Agreed. Clause 47. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause deals with temporary custody, including the limits on the director's rights, maximum time in temporary care and delegating of authority.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 47? Agreed. Clause 48. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause outlines the rights and responsibilities of the department for permanent custody. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Clause 48. Mr. Enuaraq.

Committee Motion 69-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 48 of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

Page 1481

MR. ENUARAQ:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that clause 48 of Bill 6 be amended by;

(a) adding the following after subclause (1):

(1.1.) The Director shall provide information regarding a child who is the permanent custody of the Director, including information respecting their placement, education or health of the child to a person who had lawful custody of the child immediately before the child was placed in the permanent custody of the director, unless the director considers it is not in the best interest of the child to do so.

(b) striking out "affidavit" in subclause (3) and by substituting "affidavit".

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Enuaraq. Motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour of the motion? All those opposed? Thank you. The motion is carried. Clause 48 as amended? Agreed. Clause 49. Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause deals with ending permanent custody. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 49? Agreed. Clause 50. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause outlines the powers of the Minister. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 50? Agreed. Clause 51. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause outlines the powers and duties of the director.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 51? Agreed. Clause 52. Mr. Erasmus.

Committee Motion 70-13(4): Motion to Defer Clause 52 of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that we defer consideration of Clause 52.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Erasmus. Your motion is in order. This is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion? All those opposed? The motion to defer consideration of Clause 52 is carried. Clause 53. Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause allows for the appointment and delegation to assistant directors.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 53. Agreed. Clause 54. Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This allows for the appointment of workers and clarifies their powers and duties.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Clause 54. Mr. Barnabas.

Committee Motion 71-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 54 of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. BARNABAS:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I have a motion. I move that clause 54 of Bill 6 be amended by;

(a) striking out "community" and "community corporation" in subclause (1) and by substituting "community", "community corporation" and "corporate body"; and

(b) deleting paragraphs (3)(a) and (b) and by substituting the following:

(a) if a community corporation is part and party to the agreement, that community corporation; or

(b) if a corporate body is a party to the agreement, that corporate body.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour of the motion? All those opposed? I could not tell by a show of hands if anybody was in support of that except for Mr. Miltenberger. Clause 54, as amended? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 55. Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause allows delegation to an authorized person. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 55. Mr. Barnabas.

Committee Motion 72-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 55 of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. BARNABAS:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that clause 55 of Bill 6 be amended by adding the following after subclause (1):

(1.1) The Director, in writing,

(a) shall authorize the chairperson of child and Family Services Committee to exercise the powers and perform the duties of an authorized person under Sections 60 and 61; and (b) may authorize the chairperson of a Child and Family Services Committee to exercise any other power and perform any other duty of the authorized person under this Act.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

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

Page 1482

being called. All those in favour of the motion? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Clause 55 as

amended. Agreed. Thank you. Clause 56. Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This is the definitions for the community agreement section, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Mr. Miltenberger.

Committee Motion 73-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 56 of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that we defer consideration of clause 56.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Your motion is in order. It is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion? All those opposed? The motion is carried. The consideration of clause 56 is deferred. Clause 57. Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause allows community corporations to enter into an agreement with the Minister to establish Child and Family Service Committees. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 57. Mr. Miltenberger.

Committee Motion 74-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 57 of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that Bill 6 be amended by deleting clause 57 and by substituting the following:

57(1) A community counsel may, by-law, authorize the community corporation to enter into a community agreement with the Minister (a) delegating to the community corporation the authority and responsibility for any matter set out in this Act;

(b) establishing a Child and Family Services Committee and defining its role in the community in addition to its powers and duties under this Act and establishing the term of office of its members and the

procedure by which the Child and Family Services Committee shall conduct its meetings and exercise its powers and perform its duties under this Act; and

(c) setting out the procedure for establishing and amending community standards and making the members of the community aware of community standards.

(2) A community corporation has, subject to terms and conditions of a community agreement, the power and shall perform the duties delegated to the community corporation by the community agreement and, for grater certainty, the exercise of the powers and performance of the duties in accordance with the community agreement is deemed, for the purposes of the Charter Communities Act; the Cities, Towns and Villages Act; the Hamlets Act and the Settlements Act, to be a municipal purpose.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN:

Thank you, Madam Chair. May I ask for a very short comparison between the two?

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Steen. Mr. Miltenberger?

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Madam Chair, if it is agreeable with the Chair, I think we should share this duty. I will ask the law clerk if she would give a technical description. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Is the committee agreed? Okay, Ms. MacPherson.

MS. MACPHERSON:

Thank you, Madam Chair. The purpose of this amendment is to allow community counsels to authorize community corporations to enter into agreements to deliver child protection services through a by-law.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Ms. MacPherson. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN:

Madam Chair, what I wanted was, what did the original allow compared to what it allows now?

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Steen. Ms. MacPherson.

MS. MACPHERSON:

The changes with reference to the entering into of a by-law. I apologize. I think I have not been entirely clear. The existing section provides that the Minister and one or more community corporations may enter into a community agreement.

We have specified that agreement may be authorized pursuant to a by-law that the counsel would pass. That by-law, itself, would then authorize the community corporation to enter into an agreement.

The second change is an amendment saying those duties that the community counsel is entering into are municipal duties for the purposes of municipal legislation. They are deemed to be a municipal purpose. The reason for that amendment is that municipalities can only do what they are authorized clearly to do by statute. It was felt necessary to make it very clear that municipal corporations have the power to enter in to these by-laws and to have the power to pass by-laws allowing a community corporation to enter into an agreement. It is making it very clear that they can exercise these powers.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Ms. MacPherson. Mr. Steen.

Page 1483

MR. STEEN:

Thank you Madam Chair. There is no clause that seems to suggest that the Minister could enter into an agreement directly with the corporations. The amendments suggest that this would have to be through the municipal counsel. Is that correct?

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Steen. Ms. MacPherson.

MS. MACPHERSON:

Yes. Thank you, Madam Chair. The amendment clarifies that, first of all, the community counsel has to

authorize this process by a by-law and then the Minister can enter into an agreement with the community corporation.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Ms. MacPherson. To the motion. Question has been called? All those in favour of the motion? All those opposed? Motion is carried. Clause 57, as amended? Agreed? Thank you. Clause 58. Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause establishes child and family services committees under community counsels.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 58. Mr. Miltenberger.

Committee Motion 75-13(4): Motion to Add Clause 58.1 to Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that Bill 6 be amended by adding the following after clause 58:

58.1(1). A board of directors of a corporate body may authorize the corporate body to enter into a community agreement with the Minister.

(a) delegating to the corporate body the authority and responsibility for any matter set out in this Act;

(b) specifying the community or communities in which the corporate body may act;

(c) specifying the aboriginal children for whom the corporate body may act; and

(d) establishing a Child and Family Services Committee and defining its role in the community or communities in which it may act, in addition to its powers and duties under this Act, and establishing the term of office of its members and the procedures by which the Child and Family Services Committee shall conduct its meetings and exercise its powers and perform its duties under this Act.

2) Delegation to a corporate body under subsection (1) may be made only in respect of aboriginal children represented by the aboriginal organization referred to in the definition "corporate body" in section 56.

(3) A corporate body has, subject to the terms and conditions of a community agreement, the power and shall perform the duties delegated to the corporate body by the community agreement.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN:

Thank you, Madam Chair. Perhaps a short explanation of why this amendment is necessary?

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Steen. Mr. Ng you would like to answer that question?

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair, it basically allows for an aboriginal organization to enter into those Child and Family Service agreements. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN:

As opposed to what? Were they not allowed under clause 51?

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Steen. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. As opposed to the community corporation that was allowed before. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. To the motion. All those in favour of the motion? All those opposed? Motion is carried. Clause 58.1, as added? Agreed? Thank you. Mr. Miltenberger.

Committee Motion 76-13(4): Motion to Add Clause 58.2 to Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Madam chair, I move that Bill 6 be amended by adding the following Clause after 58.1:

58.2(1) A Child and Family Services Committee is a committee of the board of directors of the corporate body and shall exercise its powers and perform its duties in accordance with this Act, the regulations and the community agreement.

(2) The members of a Child and Family Services Committee shall be appointed by the board of directors for the term set out in the community agreement.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Miltenberger. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour of the motion? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Clause 58.2, as added? Agreed? Thank you. Clause 59, Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This Clause allows for the setting of community standards, Madam Chair. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Clause 59. Agreed? Thank you. Mr. Roland.

Page 1484

Committee Motion 77-13(4): Motion to Add Clause 59.1 to Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. ROLAND:

Thank you, Madam Chairperson. I move that Bill 6 be amended by adding the following after clause 59:

Agreements with Boards of Management

59.1 The Minister may, by order, delegate the authority and responsibility for any matter set out in this Act to a Board of Management established under the Hospital Insurance and Health and Social Services Administration Act.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Roland. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour of the motion? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Clause 59.1, as added? Agreed? Thank you. Clause 60. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause allows for spot visits with children in care and investigation of places where they live. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 60. Agreed. Thank you. Clause 61. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause allows for spot visits and inspection of child care facilities in foster homes.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 61? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 62. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause establishes child care facilities in foster homes.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 62? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 63? Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause gives the duties of each person with children in care. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 63? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 64. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause allows for an investigation where the operation of a home or facility seems to be not in the best interest of the child. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 64? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 65. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause deals with former Health and Social Services institutions which may no longer exist. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 65? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 66. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause deals with children in care and their treatment, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 66? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 67. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause limits the number of infants in a foster home. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 67? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 68. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause determines parents who continue to have an obligation to support their children.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Clause 68? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 69. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause protects workers who act in good faith, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 69? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 70. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This section specifies the definitions for the confidentiality disclosure section, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Clause 70? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 71. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause limits the disclosure of information under this Act.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 70. Mr. Enuaraq?

Committee Motion 78-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 71(2) of Bill 6, Child and Family Services Act

MR. ENUARAQ:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that subclause 71(2) of Bill 6 be amended by deleting paragraphs (g) to (i) and by substituting the following:

(g) to a peace officer, if the person believes on reasonable grounds that

(i) failure to disclose the information or record of information is likely to cause physical or emotional harm to a person or serious damage to property, and

(ii) the need for disclosure is urgent;

(h) where a disclosure or communication is required for the purposes of this act or to protect a child;

(i) where necessary for the provision of care, counselling or education to the child;

(j) where, in the opinion of the Minister, the benefit of the release of the information would clearly outweigh any invasion of privacy that could result from the release; or

Page 1485

(k) where it is required for the purposes of this act.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Enuaraq. Motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed? Motion is carried. Clause 71 as amended. Agreed? Thank you. Clause 72. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. This clause determines how information can be used. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. I just want to pause here for a minute. Is the committee still wanting the Minister to speak to each clause? Are you finding the description at the beginning of the clause helpful in each case? Do you want to continue doing that? I was just thinking that we might make a little bit more progress. Mr. Steen.

MR. STEEN:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I believe it is very helpful what the Minister is doing, in describing very shortly what the purpose of the clause is.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Okay. Good. I just wanted to check and make sure. Clause 72? Agreed? Thank you. Clause 73. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This section outlines the offences and fines, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 73? Agreed. Clause 74. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause allows for the sharing of information with other jurisdictions.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 74? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 75. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause determines the court has jurisdiction. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 75. Agreed? Clause 76. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause gives the power to deal with witnesses. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 76? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 77. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause allows for the substitution between justices of the peace. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 77? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 78. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause allows for the transfer between courts, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 78? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 79. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause deals with court orders from outside the Northwest Territories.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Clause 79? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 80. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause allows for the applying rules of the court.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 80? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 81. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause determines how our proceeding gets started.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 81? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 82. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause is for serving original notice and affidavits.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 82? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 83. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause allows for the court to bury times given in the Act.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 83? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 84. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause identifies who should be at a hearing.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 84? Agreed. Clause 85. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause allows a parent or child to have a supportive person with them.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 85? Agreed. Clause 86. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause allows legal counsel to be appointed for a child.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 86? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 87. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause protects the identity of the child.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Clause 87? Thank you. Members agreed? Agreed. Clause 88. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause sets out the process for an appeal. Thank you.

Page 1486

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Mr. Ningark.

Committee Motion 79-13(4): Motion to Amend Subclause 88(3) of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Madam Chair. Madam Chair, I move that subclause 88(3) of Bill 6 be amended by striking out "subsection 31(8)" and by substituting "subsection 31(9)". That is my motion.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour of the motion? All those opposed? Motion is carried. Clause 88 as amended? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 89. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause outlines what cannot be done with a child. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 89? Agreed. Clause 90. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause lists the fines for contravening the Act. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 90? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 91. Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This clause is for regulation making powers. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Mr. Ningark.

Committee Motion 80-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 91 of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Madam Chair. Madam Chair, I move that Clause 91 of Bill 6 be amended by deleting paragraph (d) and by substituting the following:

(d)respecting the applicable aboriginal organizations that must be served with a copy of an originating notice and affidavit under section 25;

That is my motion.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed? Motion is carried. Clause 91 as amended? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 92. Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. For the record, Clause 92, 93, 94 and 95 are all transitional clauses that allow the transitional provisions of bridging the existing Act to this Act, Madam Chair. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Clause 92? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 93? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 94? Mr. Erasmus.

Committee Motion 81-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 94 of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that Clause 94 of Bill 6 be amended by

(a)striking out "subsection 31(8)" in subclause (2) and by substituting "subsection 31(9)";

(b)deleting paragraph (5)(c) and by substituting the following:

(c)a child who was apprehended under the former Act shall continue to be apprehended under this Act on the basis of the grounds set out in the former Act;

(c)striking out "subsection 31(2)" in paragraph (5)(d) and by substituting "subsection 31(3)"; and

(d)adding the following after subclause (5):

(5.1)Section 14 to 23 of this Act do not apply to a child who was apprehended under the former Act.

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Erasmus. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed? Motion is carried. Clause 94, as amended. Agreed. Thank you. Clause 95. Minister Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Still one of the transitional clauses, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Clause 95? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 96. Transitional? Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. This section repeals the old Child and Welfare Act.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Clause 96? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 97. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

This determines when this current Act comes into force, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Clause 97? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 1. Mr. Roland.

Committee Motion 82-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 1 of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

Page 1487

MR. ROLAND:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that clause 1 of Bill 6 be amended by

(a)deleting the definitions "authorized person", "band", "band council" and "community agreement"; and

(b)adding the following definitions in alphabetical order:

"assistant director" means an assistant director appointed under subsection 53(1);

"authorized person" means a person authorized by the director under subsection 55(1) or (1.1);

"community agreement" means an agreement made under section 57 or 58.1;

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Roland. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed? Motion is carried. Clause 1 as amended? Thank you. Clause 52. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. This clause limits the delegation of some duties. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Mr. Enuaraq.

Committee Motion 83-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 52 of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. ENUARAQ:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that clause 52 of Bill 6 be amended by striking out "or 55(1)" and by substituting "or 55(1) or (1.1)". Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Enuaraq. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried. Clause 52, as amended? Agreed. Thank you. Clause 56. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Madam Chair, this is the definition for community agreement section. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Ng. Mr. Enuaraq.

Committee Motion 84-13(4): Motion to Amend Clause 56 of Bill 6, Child & Family Services Act

MR. ENUARAQ:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that clause 56 of Bill 6 amended by

(a) deleting the definition "community" and "community council"; and

(b) adding the following definition in alphabetical order:

"community" means,

(a) in respect of a community agreement made under section 57, a municipality or a settlement in respect of

which a settlement corporation has been established, and

(b) in respect of a community agreement made under section 58.1, any community;

"community council" means the council of a municipal corporation or settlement corporation;

"corporate body" means a not for profit corporate body of an aboriginal organization.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Mr. Enuaraq. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed? Motion is carried. Clause 56, as amended? Agreed. Thank you. Mr. Erasmus.

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I seek unanimous consent to proceed with a motion that, if passed, would add a preamble to Bill 6.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Mr. Erasmus is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with a motion to add a preamble. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Erasmus.

Committee Motion 85-13(4): Motion to Add Preamble to Bill 6, Child and Family Services Act

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that Bill 6 be amended by adding the following immediately after the title "CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES ACT";

Whereas the family is the basic unit of society and its well-being should be supported and promoted;

And whereas children are entitled to protection from abuse, harm and neglect;

And whereas children are entitled to be informed of their rights and involved in decisions affecting those rights and their lives;

And whereas families are entitled to be informed of their rights and to participate in the decisions affecting those rights;

And whereas it is recognized that decisions concerning children should be made in accordance with the best interests of children, with a recognition that differing cultural values and practices must be respected in those determinations;

Page 1488

And whereas each community has a role in supporting and promoting the best interests of the children and the well-being of families in the community;

And whereas it is desirable to provide in law for the timely resolution of matters concerning children;

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Your motion is in order. To the motion. Questions has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried. Bill 6 as a whole as amended. Agreed. Thank you. Does the committee agree that Bill 6 is ready for third reading as amended? Agreed. Thank you. Bill 6 is now ready for third reading as amended.

I would like to thank Minister Ng and his staff for their participation. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Madam Chair. Just in closing I would like to thank the staff both in the departments of Justice and in Health and Social Services, the committee staff as well as the committee members and members of the public who have input into this whole process. It has been time consuming and I think, a very valuable outcome. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you, Minister Ng. What is the wish of the committee at this time? Mr. Miltenberger.

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Madam Chair, I move that given the amount of good work we have done today, we report progress.

CHAIRPERSON (Mrs. Groenewegen):

Thank you. Your motion is in order. It is not debatable. All of those in favour? All of those

opposed? Motion is carried. I will now rise and report progress. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

ITEM 20: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Now I would like to report progress with 29 motions being adopted and that Bill 6, Child and Family Services Act, is ready for third reading as amended. Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the committee of the whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Seconded by the Member for Natilikmiot. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Item 21, third reading of bills. Mr. Thompson.

ITEM 21: THIRD READING OF BILLS

Bill 19-13(4) Municipal Statutes Amending Act, No. 2

HON. MANITOK THOMPSON:

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kitikmeot, that Bill 19, Municipal Statutes Amending Act, No. 2, be read for the third time. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, this bill amends the Charter Communities Act, the Cities, Towns and Villages Act and the Hamlets Act to:

- allow municipalities to borrow from an expanded range of lenders prescribed by regulations;
- remove the restriction that municipalities borrow on a temporary basis from banks only;
- allow municipalities to borrow on a long term basis by means other than by debentures only; and
- remove the requirement that municipalities provide information in the long term borrowing by-law that is usually unknown at the time that the long term borrowing by-law is made.

In respect of a municipal taxing authority:

- remove the requirement for the municipality to forward a long term debt security to the Minister before it is issued or entered into and for the Minister to countersign it;
- clarify that municipality may be required to redeem a long term debt security only where a municipality is borrowing from the Government of the Northwest Territories; and
- clarify other procedural or interpretative difficulties in respect of borrowing in the various Acts.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 19 has had third reading. Third reading of bills. Mr. Clerk, item 22, orders of the day.

ITEM 22: ORDERS OF THE DAY

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):

Mr. Speaker, the meeting of the Management Services Board immediately after adjournment today. Meetings for tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. of the Standing Committee on Government Operations; at 11:00 a.m. of the Ordinary Members Caucus and at 12:00 noon of the Standing Committee on Social Programs.

Orders of the day for Thursday, October 9, 1997:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Page 1489

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 Motion for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
 - Bill 23, An Act to Amend the Elections Act
 - Bill 24, An Act to Amend the Financial Administration Act
 - Bill 25, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1997-1998
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 3, Family Law Act
 - Bill 4, Children's Law Act
 - Bill 5, Adoption Act
 - Bill 15, An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act
 - Committee Report 08-13(4), Report on the Review of the Family Law Bill
 - Minister's Statement 110-13(4), Transition Action Plan
 - Tabled Document 108-13(4), Creation of Two New Territories - Transition Action Plan
20. Report of Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
 - Bill 6, Child and Family Services Act

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned
until Thursday, October 9th, at 1:30 p.m.

--ADJOURNMENT