



**NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

6th Session

Day 1

13th Assembly

HANSARD

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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, Mr. Evaloarjuk, Honourable Sam Gargan, Mrs. Groenewegen, Mr. Henry, Honourable Stephen Kakwi, Mr. Krutko, 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, Mrs. Groenewegen. Good afternoon. Mr. Clerk, would you ascertain if the Deputy Commissioner of the Northwest Territories is prepared to enter the Chamber and open this session of the Legislature.

---O Canada

ITEM 2: OPENING ADDRESS

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MARION:

Mr. Speaker, Members of the Legislative Assembly.

It is my pleasure to be in the Chamber today representing the Honourable Helen Maksagak. The Commissioner asked me to express her appreciation to all Members for the tributes paid to her late husband, John, and for the messages you sent. The Commissioner is representing you all at the opening of the cultural centre in Baker Lake with his Excellency, the Governor General.

I am pleased today to open the Sixth Session of the 13th Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

We are now in the final months of the Northwest Territories. In 301 days, two new territories will be created. Members of this Assembly have already done a great deal of work in preparation for the

creation of two new territories. Still, more work remains to be done.

Over the next ten months, you will concentrate on creating a viable form of government for the new Western Territory. This will include respecting the aspirations of aboriginal peoples who are now in self-government negotiations. It will include working toward a constitution for the Western Territory.

Although your efforts will be focused on the smooth transition to two new territories, it will be important not to lose sight of your main goals of improving social conditions and strengthening the northern economy.

This summer, you have an unprecedented opportunity to show the rest of Canada the progress you have made in the life of this 13th Assembly. The Government of the Northwest Territories will host the Western Premiers' Conference from July 2nd to 4th. This annual event allows the leaders of western Canada to discuss and make agreements on issues that affect them. For you, it is also a chance to focus the attention of the country on the north and to share your vision of its future.

Mr. Speaker, Members of the Legislative Assembly, I congratulate you on the progress you have made so far. I encourage you to continue on the path you have taken. In this way, you will fulfil the dream of two successful and prosperous territories that are a viable and self-sufficient part of the Canadian landscape.

Thank you very much.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Orders of the day. Item 3, Ministers' statements. Mr. Todd.

ITEM 3: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement 1-13(6): Hay Job Evaluation System

HON. JOHN TODD:

Mr. Speaker, I received a copy of a letter from a member of the UNW Bargaining Committee stating that the UNW had not conceded that the Hay Job Evaluation System was gender neutral. Mr. Speaker, I was informed by the government negotiator that on May 4, 1998, the PSAC classification spokesperson for the UNW, Mr. Chris Jones, said "the Union had no

objection to the Hay Job Evaluation System in principle". He said that the Union accepts that the system is gender neutral. He then, according to the GNWT negotiator, went on to criticize the process followed by the GNWT.

Mr. Speaker, on May 6, 1998, the GNWT negotiator at collective bargaining, acknowledged the UNW's acceptance that the Hay Job Evaluation System was gender neutral. He then responded that the criticism of the implementation process was based on misunderstanding and misinterpretations. He then proceeded to deal with each of the Union's process concerns. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, Ministers' statements. Mr. Arlooktoo.

Minister's Statement 2-13(6): Community Justice

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Mr. Speaker, I would like to update

Page 2

the House on some of the positive directions being taken by the Department of Justice in the area of community justice. Community justice is about placing more capacity and control into the hands of the community to deal with offenders and victims. This government is committed to finding innovative approaches to the administration of justice services. In response to community requests, the department is promoting a shift in the way that justice services are delivered. The aim is to develop a system that is more responsive to the realities in our communities. We need to increase community control of the administration of justice and, in partnership with communities, move toward a restorative justice approach. Such an approach is aimed at healing the offender, victim and community, viewing crime as a symptom of another problem affecting the overall health of a community.

A community driven process is often more likely to produce a satisfactory outcome for everyone than a court-based process. When the community is involved with the offender directly in the justice process, there is an opportunity for an offender to accept responsibility for the act committed and a chance for victims concerns to be addressed, perhaps through a reconciliation between victim and offender. There is also an opportunity to identify and address any underlying factors that have caused the crime.

Efforts in this area are starting to show some effect. The number of criminal cases diverted to community justice committees in 1997 was up 30 percent compared to the previous year. We are aiming to build on this success in the current year.

Recently, new funding arrangements with the department were introduced to ensure that more community justice committees are receiving funding than ever before. New training material and resources have been made available for committee use and development.

Community justice workers play an important part in this process by encouraging and supporting communities in developing an interest and capacity to deal with justice issues locally. I believe that experience, self-confidence and capacity are being developed every time an offence is handled by the community.

In the area of training, a joint effort by the department, RCMP and communities has resulted in three successful regional training workshops this spring. In Iqaluit, Cambridge Bay and Inuvik, members of Community Justice Committees from across the Arctic have been learning to use family group conferencing techniques. These techniques help the committee work with offenders, victims and their families in order to restore balance within the community after a crime has occurred. Further plans are being worked on to have similar workshops in the Sattu and South Slave regions.

There is also an important place for community involvement in dealing with offenders who have been dealt within the formal justice system and sentenced to custody. Earlier this session, I spoke about camps which were in place and were being developed for adult offenders. Currently, there are 42 offenders living in camps and community residential centres.

Mr. Speaker, a solid base now exists in the west and we are focusing our attention on developing resources in Nunavut. All camps are operated by community members on a contract basis and training sessions for contractors and potential contractors have taken place.

Discussions with potential camp operators are currently taking place with community members from Pond Inlet, Pangnirtung, Kimmirut, Hall Beach, Cape Dorset, Iqaluit and Clyde River. It is this government's expectation that, out of this process,

more camps for adult offenders will be opening soon in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I believe there is great potential for a growing role for community members to be more involved and in control of the justice process. I strongly support all efforts to develop this potential and I believe we are making headway in this area. As Minister of Justice, I plan to continue to make community justice a priority. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Ministers' statements. Mr. Kakfwi.

Minister's Statement 3-13(6): Regulatory Reform Measures Act

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, an efficient, effective regulatory environment is one of the key ingredients in a strong economy. Many northern stakeholders have commented that some of our current regulatory practices result in increased program costs, put unnecessary burdens on business and create barriers to development.

A small, specialized Secretariat was established in March, 1997, with a mandate to reform outdated or cumbersome regulatory processes which are creating impediments to the growth of northern industry and business.

Today, along with my honourable colleague, the Minister of Finance, I am pleased to advise Members that later today I will be giving notice of motion for first reading of the Regulatory Reform Measures Act. This omnibus bill seeks to amend 16 regulatory acts and to repeal three others. It includes reforms that will make a start toward building a regulatory framework that will continue to protect northerners effectively, while

Page 3

streamlining government procedures and eliminating unnecessary red tape.

Proposed reforms would, for instance, remove roadblocks that have existed in some property acquisitions by eliminating unnecessary requirements for the Commissioner's approval. Matters coming before the Public Utilities Board could, in many cases, be dealt with faster, and with less cost, through

negotiated settlement procedures that would be clearly established in legislation. Clearer and fairer appeal processes would be established in several of the statutes that would be amended by the Regulatory Reform Measures Act, and outdated licensing requirements for motion picture theatres would be eliminated. Rules and procedures that must be followed by door-to-door salespersons would be clarified and harmonized with the rest of Canada.

The Regulatory Reform Measures Act also proposes a new voluntary compliance mechanism that would substantially strengthen environmental protection practices by allowing a company or property owner to undertake their own environmental audit or environmental site assessment.

During consultations, the Regulatory Reform Secretariat heard that some northern youth and others have trouble doing business or writing cheques because it is difficult to obtain personal identification. Frequently, businesses that sell liquor or cigarettes have commented that establishing proof of age can be one of their biggest problems. The Regulatory Reform Measures Act contains amendments that would allow for a general identification card to be issued through existing motor vehicles licensing offices.

Mr. Speaker, I want to emphasize that the reforms we are bringing forward in this bill are structured in such a manner as to ensure that the health, safety and environmental quality of northerners are not adversely affected. In fact, by addressing areas where regulatory requirements have become ineffective, cumbersome or excessive, we are actually strengthening our regulatory capacity.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would stress that the Regulatory Reform Measures Act, is only one of several initiatives underway in the Secretariat. Work is proceeding on the reform of regulations and policy in several program areas. A major interdepartmental review of the regulatory framework for child daycare is being coordinated and the Secretariat is collaborating with the Department of Transportation to improve regulatory requirements that impact the trucking industry. Work has already begun on a second Regulatory Reform Measures Act, which is on the legislative agenda for possible introduction in the fall of 1998. It is anticipated that this second bill would include several of the suggestions that honourable Members have made with regard to needed amendments to other regulatory acts. Thank you.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Ministers' statements. Mr. Ng.

Minister's Statement 4-13(6): Improving
Accountability

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there has been a lot of discussion over the past year about health and social services, and particularly, about the performance of our boards. Over the past year, as we consulted people about our strategic plan, we heard a common message from the public about the accountability of the service delivery system. People want reassurance that programs and services are being delivered in the right way, by the right people, and that those services are there when needed. Therefore, I have asked the department to examine and adjust its approach and to work closely with the boards to meet that public expectation.

Mr. Speaker, we know that if boards are to succeed, they need strong and committed trustees, supported by capable staff. We are working hard to maintain strength on all boards, filling vacant positions quickly and supporting ongoing training activity. In the Deh Cho, for example, where we have not had a board in the past, prospective board members have undergone training and have recently taken on their new responsibilities. The role of the chief executive officers for boards is critical to their success. The department and boards are actively involved in recruiting CEOs in the Baffin, Keewatin and Fort Smith. We have also begun the process of recruiting for a CEO for Yellowknife Health and Social Services. Mr. Speaker, with the right people in place, we will turn our attention to undertaking the groundwork necessary for monitoring and evaluating the delivery of programs and services.

Our first step is an agreement between each board and the department. This agreement does a number of things:

- It defines board and departmental responsibility.
- It outlines our core services; that is, the range of programs and services that a board is expected to provide to residents in its service area. Where services cannot be accessed locally, the boards must ensure that services are provided through another board.

- Finally, it provides the legal structure and policies to guide how the programs and services are delivered.

After setting the roles and responsibilities, we have also established outcomes and measures, which will be used to evaluate the overall success of each board.

These outcomes will let us measure the physical, mental and emotional health of the population. They are practical indicators, for which the public can hold the health and social service system accountable. We want to measure and report on such important questions as:

- Are babies being born healthy?
- Are we reducing the rates of preventable diseases?
- Are there fewer children who need special intervention like speech therapy or occupational therapy?

Page 4

- Are the rates of risky behaviours like smoking, excessive alcohol consumption and sexually transmitted diseases declining?

Reporting on these issues will be public. Everyone will be able to see them in our annual health status report. Mr. Speaker, we are near the end of a long period of adjustment, served by committed board trustees, department and board staff and caregivers. We still have problems to solve and work to do. However, with the right people each doing their part, northerners should be able to hold health and social service partners accountable for the appropriate and effective delivery of programs and services, aimed at improving the health and well-being of all northerners. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Ministers' statements. Mr. Dent.

Minister's Statement 5-13(6): Northwest Territories
Power Corporation

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon. In light of some questions and statements made in this House recently, I would like to take this opportunity to clarify

the government's position on the future of the Northwest Territories Power Corporation.

Members will recall a Minister's statement that I made earlier this session. At that time, I advised the House that the government recommended proposed legislation on the continuation of the corporation not proceed at this time. This recommendation was made to allow the parties the opportunity to discuss a number of outstanding issues regarding the continuance of the corporation.

Now, I am pleased to provide further details of the process that the parties have agreed to employ to continue these discussions. All parties have agreed to retain IER Planning Research and Management Services, from Concord, Ontario as the facilitator in the process. The first face-to-face meeting with all the parties is scheduled for June 20th. At that time, the positions of the parties will be reviewed and discussed. In preparation for this meeting, the facilitator will be speaking with representatives of each party individually. It is hoped that common ground will emerge from this and from subsequent meetings in July.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of the Northwest Territories remains fully committed to furthering this process. The support is based on a belief that any future arrangement for the delivery of electrical power to NWT residents must continue to be reliable and at the lowest possible cost. I would also like to respond to two specific issues relating to the Power Corporation raised in the Assembly last week. While these matters are not new to Members, I am concerned that certain statements in this House may once again have confused the issues. I would like to take this opportunity to set the record straight.

Mr. Speaker, the first issue of concern is the claim of cross-subsidization of power rates. This very issue was a focus of extensive Public Utility Board hearings. The conclusions were very clear. Western communities do not subsidize the power rates of communities in the east. Likewise, eastern communities do not subsidize rates paid by communities in the west. I have said this before, and unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, it is apparently necessary to say it again.

The second issue is tied to what happens if a consensus is not reached to continue one Power Corporation. The results of several studies on the impact of dividing the corporation have reached the same conclusions - no matter whether we are talking

about a homeowner in Iqaluit or Fort Smith, or a small business operator in Aklavik or Broughton Island - power rates will rise. Unless we can come to a consensus on how to keep the Power Corporation together, we will all pay more. There are obviously some people who continue to doubt this. I want to assure Members of this House and members of the public that I have spent a lot of time examining this issue, and I assure you it is true. If we wind up with two Power Corporations, we will all pay more for electricity.

This is an important issue, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask Members how they will explain to their constituents the increase in power rates? Higher power rates will slow down and hurt the already fragile economies of both territories. How will we explain that to northerners? Since both governments will pay more for power, how will we explain that there is less money for education, health and other important government services. This will be the case if we cannot agree on a plan to keep the Power Corporation whole and operating at peak efficiency.

Mr. Speaker, I would hope all Members agree that it is essential to avoid such an occurrence. Time is running out on opportunities to provide a workable continuance plan, and idle rhetoric does not assist this process. I ask that all Members provide their support for the facilitation process now underway and encourage all parties to put their best efforts into achieving an acceptable agreement for the continuance of the Power Corporation. Mahsi, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Ministers' statements. Ms. Thompson.

HON. MANITOK THOMPSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to waive rule 34(6), so that all Ministers' statements filed with the clerk can be delivered today.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Aivilik is seeking unanimous consent to waive rule 34(6). Do we have any nays? Ms. Thompson, you have unanimous consent. Ministers' statements.

Minister's Statement 6-13(6): Measuring Up,
Community Empowerment Initiative

HON. MANITOK THOMPSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, colleagues.
Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to share with Members the tremendous success and progress of the Community Empowerment Initiative. Our government's effort to embrace community empowerment through development

Page 5

has not been an easy task. It presents many challenges.

Mr. Speaker, MACA is responsible for coordinating training programs in sports and recreation, public safety and community governance. I am pleased to provide you with the results in these important community development areas. They are as follows:

- 113 community-based sports and recreation coaches were trained and certified in 1997.
- 612 community residents were trained in public safety areas such as search and rescue, fire services, community policing and emergency services.
- 160 community councillors received governance training during 1997 and 39 senior administrative officers are enrolled in the SAO certificate program.

Mr. Speaker, this totals 1,194 community residents being provided with training in these areas.

We would not have been as successful in measuring up without developing partnerships. MACA invested \$547,000 in these community development training initiatives. Our partners assisted by contributing over \$1 million toward these initiatives. Mr. Speaker, without the contribution of organizations such as Sport North, the NWT Fire Chief's Association and the RCMP, we would not have been able to achieve what we did. These are just a few of our valued partner organizations and my thanks to these, and all of the other organizations who contributed to this success.

This Legislative Assembly is one of MACA's most important partners. Members of this House continue to support the principles of community development. It has not been an easy task adapting to the significant changes to government because of community empowerment, but this is what community residents have wanted. This was the right thing to do,

and this House has measured up in meeting the demands of communities. I thank you for your support.

Mr. Speaker, many regions and communities are now interested in the next community development step. This involves building capacity, organizing and planning for the transfer of government assets and capital planning. Mr. Speaker, MACA's staff has clearly demonstrated their commitment to make a positive change in the quality of life for NWT residents and I am very proud of their achievements. My department had to chart a new and focused course that provides clear direction. At the same time, we have had to monitor how well we are progressing, tell the public how we are doing, stop the thing that did not work, do more with less and never stop improving the community development approach. I look forward to working with our communities and Members of this House, to continue this government's community development and empowerment efforts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Ministers' statements. Mr. Antoine.

Minister's Statement 7-13(6): National Aboriginal Day

HON. JIM ANTOINE:

Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, two years ago, I had the pleasure of announcing to this Assembly that the federal government had declared June 21st to be National Aboriginal Day. This day is intended to celebrate the contributions of the First Nations of Canada. It is a day to honour the richness and diversity of aboriginal culture.

The Northwest Territories is an example to the rest of the country. People who come here from southern Canada find a society that respects the history and values of aboriginal peoples while it welcomes people from the rest of the world. Dene, Metis and Inuit have a strong presence at all levels, whether they are members of their hamlet council, this Assembly or the federal government. Their values are reflected in everything from the educational curriculum to our consensus form of government.

In the year to come, Mr. Speaker, all Canadians will recognize the contributions of aboriginal people as they welcome the new territory of Nunavut. This is

the only time the map of Canada has changed because of a land claim settlement.

This is the third National Aboriginal Day. It has grown in both size and spirit. The Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs is proud to support this special day. We have placed information about it on the government website. We are also providing funding to aboriginal organizations so they can hold events to celebrate the day.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to encourage my colleagues, when they go back to their home communities, to participate in this very important occasion. This is a day for everyone to celebrate. Mahsi, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Ministers' statements. Mr. Arlooktoo.

Minister's Statement 8-13(6): Nunavut Transition Update

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, recognizing that the House will be recessing today for

Page 6

its summer break, I would like to provide a very brief update on a number of the key transition activities that will be ongoing during the course of the summer.

The first, and perhaps the most important, milestone this summer is the Nunavut Leaders meeting that is tentatively planned for July 7th to 9th. At this meeting, the three parties to the Nunavut Political Accord will, in conjunction with the Interim Commissioner of Nunavut, have the opportunity to assess the progress that has been made on the implementation of the Nunavut government model.

Secondly, a great deal of work will be ongoing at the official's level to ensure a seamless transition to the new Nunavut government. In May, a joint meeting of the Deputy Minister teams from the GNWT and Nunavut was held in Iqaluit to begin discussing transition issues. This meeting resulted in an agreement on the need for a joint business planning process in the lead up to division. Officials from both organizations will be meeting again later this month in Iqaluit to begin to outline this planning process. Mr.

Speaker, we are very encouraged about the productive working relationships that have emerged at the Deputy Minister level. These relationships are key to a smooth hand-off to the Nunavut government and, more importantly, to ensuring that there is no disruption in the level of service to the people of Nunavut on April 1, 1999.

Mr. Speaker, there are a number of other critical negotiations that will be ongoing over the summer months on critical issues such as the NWT Power Corporation and Workers' Compensation Board. While discussions on these matters have been difficult and there are many challenges to overcome to come to a final resolution, the Government of the Northwest Territories is committed to working with the other partners in the process to find a resolution that is acceptable to both new territories.

Mr. Speaker, before I end, I would like to wish all Members a safe trip home and a very pleasant summer in their constituencies. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Ministers' statements. Mr. Ng.

Minister's Statement 9-13(6): Federal Agreement For Replacement of Hospitals

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, when the majority of health services were transferred from federal to territorial responsibility in 1988, the federal government committed to paying part of the cost to replace the Inuvik hospital and to renovate the Baffin hospital. The federal share of the projects was to be based on the percentage of status Indian and Inuit living in each region. Health Canada will provide funding assistance to a level needed to replace the Inuvik hospital and to renovate the Baffin facility. It has now become clear that both facilities must be replaced, and the Government of the Northwest Territories is committed to doing this.

The Department of Health and Social Services and Health Canada have reached an agreement on federal funding for these two facilities. Over the next five years, the federal government will provide \$18,600,000 in new funding in addition to \$ 18.9 million in base transfers. Of the \$18.9 million in base transfers, \$12.2 million has been received. With this

new agreement, total federal funding for these two projects will be \$37.5 million. This agreement represents a sound business decision. Settling this matter now increases our ability to complete these projects quickly. We have secured funding and flexibility to build two facilities best suited to our needs.

Mr. Speaker, we believe that this is a solid agreement. It provides the GNWT with greater flexibility and fiscal certainty as we proceed with these major health facilities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Ministers' statements. Mr. Dent.

Minister's Statement 10-13(6): Dogrib Caribou Skin Tipi Exhibition

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to inform the Members of this Assembly that the official opening of the Dogrib Caribou Skin Tipi Exhibit will take place on Saturday, June 13th at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre. Everyone is invited to attend the opening ceremony which begins at 1:00 p.m., outside the Heritage Centre.

The exhibition features a caribou skin tipi that was returned to the Northwest Territories last September. It had been out of the North for more than 100 years. A ceremony was held last fall at the Heritage Centre to celebrate the tent's return. The tipi was originally purchased in 1894 from Bear Lake Chief, who was an important Dogrib trading chief. The purchaser was a University of Iowa student, and for the past century, it has been a part of the collection of the University of Iowa's Natural History Museum. The tipi is made from the tanned hides of 30 caribou. It has never been displayed. In April 1997, a delegation from Rae and Yellowknife, including three descendants of Bear Lake Chief, travelled to Iowa City to accept the tipi from the staff of the Natural History Museum.

The opening ceremony will include the Chief Jimmy Bruneau School Drummers, members of the delegation that travelled to Iowa City. Grand Chief Joe Rabesca and other dignitaries will speak. The ceremony will also include the signing of a symbolic agreement, a feeding the fire ceremony and a tea dance. A feast will be held afterwards.

The tipi will be displayed in the Feature Gallery of the Heritage Centre and will be open to the public until the end of September. I encourage all Members of this Assembly to come out and join the celebration at the Heritage Centre on June 13th. Mahsi.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Ministers' statements. Ms. Thompson.

Page 7

Minister's Statement 11-13(6): Manitoba Rural Forum 1998

HON. MANITOK THOMPSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, similar to the territorial government, governments throughout Canada and the United States are adopting community development approaches. This is in response to difficult social and economic conditions. Government budgets are shrinking and communities are demanding more say over priorities, programs and services. We are not the only government to have embraced this change in how we do business.

Mr. Speaker, I recently saw first-hand how the province of Manitoba has approached community development. I was proud to lead an NWT delegation to Brandon, Manitoba to attend the Department of Rural Development's Rural Forum 1998.

This forum was a celebration of community development success. It showcased the community development efforts of rural Manitoba. There were over 350 small business and food product displays, a youth and northern forum, seminars, conferences, workshops, guest speakers and special events.

A northern committee of NWT, Nunavut and northern Manitoba elected officials and staff met for over a day to discuss community development issues and practices in remote communities. This meeting was very positive. The committee has decided to meet again to discuss developing a northern Manitoba/NWT/Nunavut rural forum.

As a result of attending the rural forum, Manitoba is now providing technical expertise to Coral Harbour in country food processing. It is assisting Keewatin communities in developing community-based planning programs. Manitoba is also considering an

investment in the Kivalliq Partners in Development, to cost share a trade and investment specialist position.

Mr. Speaker, the NWT is developing a memorandum of understanding with the Province of Manitoba to consider partnership and exchange opportunities that benefit both places. I am glad to say that this partnership is off to a great start. Mr. Speaker, our attendance was organized by the Kivalliq Partners in Development. They provided the support for Keewatin businesses, residents and mayors to attend. They are to be congratulated for developing a partnership with Manitoba that clearly benefits their clients. Mr. Speaker, the Province of Manitoba and community of Brandon provided wonderful hospitality to our delegation. My special thanks to Premier Filmon, Minister Derkach, Brandon's Mayor Atkinson and the people of Manitoba for allowing us to share and experience their rural forum and community development success. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Ministers' statements. Mr. Todd.

Minister's Statement 12-13(6): 1997 Workers' Compensation Board Annual Report

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, subsection 100 of the Financial Administration Act requires the Workers' Compensation Board to prepare an annual report of its operations for the Minister responsible to approve and bring to this House. I rise today to table the Annual Report of the NWT Workers' Compensation Board for the period January 1 to December 31, 1997.

At the same time, Mr. Speaker, the WCB worked hard in 1997 to balance its responsibilities for accident prevention and safety enforcement:

Safety Education Programs were revised and delivered to workers and employers across the NWT. Safety seminars and examinations were provided at all NWT mine sites. Regular inspections were conducted at all NWT mines and major work sites. The Mine Occupational Health and Safety Legislation Committee produced a very comprehensive and virtually unanimous report. Events were organized to mark both the North American Occupational Safety and Health Week and the Annual Mine Rescue Competition.

Mr. Speaker, the numbers shown in this Annual Report reflects the success of the WCB's many programs and initiatives. Perhaps the most significant influence on the financial health of this organization has been the success of the WCB's investment portfolio. This, again, is no accident. In 1995 and 1996, the WCB made significant changes to its investment policies and assets mix model. A more aggressive and better balanced investment strategy has resulted in three successive years of solid investment performance. Despite high expectations and ambitious targets, the WCB's investment managers met their objectives in 1997 with another exceptional year in the equity markets. The WCB's investment success, low interest rates and liabilities below actuarial projections, combined to create a \$20 million operating surplus in 1997.

Page 8

The NWT Workers' Compensation Board took advantage of this financial position and once again moved to protect its accident fund for the future. The catastrophe reserve, set aside to provide for unforeseen workplace disasters, was doubled and now totals almost \$10 million. The WCB created a special reserve of \$4.5 million to cover the one-time impact of events which are beyond the board's control. Finally, Mr. Speaker, \$10.5 million was added to the WCB's operating reserve to safeguard employer assessment rates during the periods of increased claims of low revenue. Through it all, Mr. Speaker, the commitment of the NWT Workers' Compensation Board remains to its stakeholders. Since 1996, the WCB has consistently reflected its financial success by decreasing employer assessment rates and increasing benefits to injured workers.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Ministers' statements. Mr. Kakfwi.

Minister's Statement 13-13(6): Forest Conditions

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the early arrival of spring in the western Arctic also brought an early fire season. We have experienced warm temperatures, less than normal winter snowfall and little spring rainfall. This has resulted in dry forest conditions in the Deh Cho, North Slave and South

Slave regions. These conditions are ideal for the start and rapid spread of forest fires. We have already had several forest fires to date this year. There are currently 24 fires burning in the Sahtu, Deh Cho, North Slave and South Slave regions. Twelve fires were caused by people and 12 were started by lightning. Only 14 of these fires remain active with crews from local communities being used to suppress critical locations. The forest fire activity in Alberta has also been keeping us busy. Through the Mutual Aid Resources Sharing Agreement, the NWT has loaned supervisors, technical staff, air tanker groups and firefighting equipment to Alberta to assist in fighting their fires.

Mr. Speaker, the Forest Management Division of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development monitors the weather and condition of our forests daily. They provide all western communities within the treeline area with daily status reports. We have taken steps to be prepared for further forest fires in the north by starting the air tanker contract earlier than normal, as well as some fire crews. The condition of our forests and safety are important issues to this department. All efforts will be made to extinguish forest fires which endanger human life, property and renewable resources. Mahsi cho.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Ministers' statements. Item 4, Members' statements. Mr. O'Brien.

ITEM 4: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement 1-13(6): Noteworthy Events in the Kivallivik Constituency

MR. O'BRIEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to speak briefly about both the communities I have the honour of representing, they are of course, Arviat and Baker Lake. Mr. Speaker, I attended the official opening of the new Inuit Heritage Centre in Baker Lake yesterday. The Governor General of Canada and his wife, along with Mr. Jose Kusugak, Senator Willy Adams, Peter Ernerk and Mayor David Tagoona were just a few of the guests who attended the opening. Mr. Speaker, this was an historic day for the people of Baker Lake. I hope some day my colleagues will have the opportunity to visit this magnificent centre.

Mr. Speaker, I am also pleased to state that Ms. Roxanne Baker, the daughter of Simona Baker, my constituency assistant and also Abbygail Noah of Baker Lake are two of ten young adults selected to participate in a pilot project known as the Nunavut Youth Abroad Program. This program is aimed at cultivating leadership, cross cultural awareness, individual career goals and international citizenship. In an effort to enhance student participation in education, the program offers life changing work and travel experiences. Roxanne and Abbygail will travel to southern Canada this summer where they will both earn credits in the work placement while gaining general exposure to southern work and life styles. This program will also provide Roxanne, Abbygail and other youngsters with a window to the world through direct experience. Mr. Speaker, I wish both Roxanne and Abbygail and the other students well and hope that they have an excellent time this summer travelling southern Canada. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to wish my colleagues and the residents of Arviat and Baker Lake a pleasant and safe summer. Thank you.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Krutko.

Member's Statement 2-13(6): Graduating Students

MR. KRUTKO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make a general statement in reference to all the graduating students across the NWT now and over the next few weeks. The next few weeks will see many young adults graduating from our high schools across the NWT and making the transition for the next educational stage of their lives. Some may not take the challenge right away, but a majority will move onto college/university to begin preparing for their chosen career. Mr. Speaker, today's youth who are progressing through the education system face many challenges as they move forward in their education. I believe there is more preparation now needed for these students across the territories and around the north than in the past to take up that challenge and become successful, productive contributors to our societies the cultural. Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations to all students

completing high school and looking forward to the future. I especially offer my congratulation to those who are now just finishing college and university programs. Those individuals are prepared now to enter the various workforce in the Northwest Territories and elsewhere in Canada. The job markets are tough and competitive as well as lacking opportunities at times for fresh graduates. At this time, Mr. Speaker, I ask the business community of the north, industry, the private sector and this government if they can help assist those graduating students into the workforce.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that our government and business across the territories will make all efforts to welcome these students into the important workforce of the north. I would like to acknowledge from my constituency, three ladies from the Delta who have just completed the Alcohol and Drug Counselling Program in Hay River. I am positive that they will assist in the development of healing people of the north and the Mackenzie Delta. These ladies are Mary Ross and Anne Firth-Jones of Fort McPherson and Violet Doolittle from Inuvik. We have prepared these students for the workforce and to assist this government in preparing our communities. I would like to wish them all the best in moving on with their efforts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Members' statements. Mr. Enuaraq.

Member's Statement 3-13(6): Broughton Island's Walk for Love

MR. ENUARAQ:

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On May 30th and 31st in Broughton Island, there was a young person who walked for love. There were a few young people who walked about 80 to 85 miles and these young people are: Laz Koksiak, Monica Audlakiak, Jimmy Audlakiak, Danny Audlakiak, Lucy Anne Kuniliusie and Alice Keyutak. I would like to congratulate them for the work they have done for their communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (Translation ends)

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Erasmus.

Member's Statement 4-13(6): Forced Sterilization Programs

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak about forced sterilization. Mr. Speaker, recently we have seen headlines in the Edmonton Journal about the Alberta government compensating women who had been sterilized without their consent. Apparently, Alberta and British Columbia were the only Canadian provinces having this type of program. People have called these acts barbaric and horrific. They want to know how this could have happened in Canada? Mr. Speaker, this was not the only sterilization program in the world. There were similar programs in Austria, Norway, Switzerland, Finland, Belgium and Sweden. In fact, in Sweden from 1934 to 1974, almost 63,000 people were sterilized and the Swedish government said it was because they were unable to raise children. In the U.S.A. from 1972 to 1978, over 3,400 native women were sterilized without their consent. This was to control populations on the reservations. Native American women during that same time period had rates of induced abortions which were increased from 34 to 77 for 1,000, which is over double. In Canada, sterilizations were authorized through the Sexual Sterilization Act, which was later repealed in 1972. In British Columbia, 400 people were sterilized, but in Alberta, they went all out. At least 2,800 people were sterilized between 1928 and 1972, probably some from the north as well. They were sterilized if they had mental deficiencies, were retarded or if they were bad parents. The patients were from all over western Canada and they were sterilized at the Charles Camsell Hospital in Edmonton or in Red Deer.

We know that our native people have been sent to the Charles Camsell Hospital for years and years and many still are. Some of those women were sterilized. It seems native women were sterilized even if they were not sick or retarded or in any other dangerous situation. I have been informed that in the 1960s and 70s, women from Dettah asked their local priests why they did not have any children for the past three or four years. They had found out later that they had been sent to and delivered their children at the Charles Camsell Hospital and were sterilized afterwards. Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Yellowknife North is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Do we have any nays? Mr. Erasmus, you have unanimous consent.

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I was saying, these women found out that they had been sterilized at the Charles Camsell Hospital and in 1996, a woman sued the Alberta government for this very same thing and she won close to \$1 million. Since then, the Alberta government has been dealing with such people on a case-by-case basis. In March, they started a bill to compensate victims of up to \$150,000 each, but that was later withdrawn because of complaints that they should not limit it to that amount. Mr. Speaker, the question is, will NWT women who were sterilized without their consent also be compensated. At the appropriate time, I will be asking the appropriate Minister questions in this area. Thank you.

--Applause.

MR. SPEAKER:

Members' statements. Mr. Rabesca.

Member's Statement 5-13(6): Resolution of Important Western Issues

MR. RABESCA:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, while I reviewed my schedule for this summer, I realized how busy the western NWT will be. We have many important issues that must be settled. The different aboriginal groups will all have their assemblies and without a doubt, one of the big topics of these will be the division/boundary issue. The western constitutional talks are under way and all western communities must get involved in these discussions, as well as the residents of the western NWT. This is very important to all of us. We need public input to ensure the constitution is set up the way we all collectively want it.

Page 10

We now have the boundary commission established, which needs to get moving and discuss the boundary issue with all of our residents. I feel this commission must finalize this once and for all. All residents must have a fair and equitable representation. It is their right as Canadian residents. We must find a way to ensure we have full aboriginal support and input for

this to succeed. Our government cannot be perceived to be favouring the larger centres because of the higher population basis. Finally, I would like to wish all of my colleagues a safe and relaxing journey to your families and communities and have a good summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Roland.

Member's Statement 6-13(6): Appreciation for the Efforts of Staff

MR. ROLAND:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, before I start, I would like to send greetings back to my children and let them know I will be home tomorrow. Mr. Speaker, it has been a long Fifth Session and we are just starting the Sixth. We are looking forward to heading home for the summer, as many of us will be doing so tomorrow; but, I think, with all the work we do while we are here in trying to deal with constituency issues and phone calls while we are away from our homes, we sometimes forget that there is a lot of support for us here while we are working. I know they will probably be happy to see us go, and things will relax right from the Ministers' departments, who are listening now, to our own staff in the Assembly. They put forward a lot in their days to make sure the wheel of government continues to roll. I would like to say to all of them, I wish them a good summer and a safe one, but never let your guard down because the phone will ring and there will be somebody asking for something by 5:00 p.m. today.

In closing, I would like to say to all the Members, I hope you have safe journeys in your work this summer and to all the staff of the Assembly and the Ministers' departments to keep your heads up and keep up the good effort. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Members' statements. Mrs. Groenewegen.

Member's Statement 7-13(6): 1998 Track and Field Championships

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, approximately 600 young athletes and coaches converged on Hay River for the 1998 Northwest Territories Track and Field Championships. They will join the almost 400 registered participants from Hay River schools bringing the total record number of registered athletes to over 900.

These athletes come from as far away from Inuvik and from communities as small as Jean Marie and Wrigley. Last night at the opening ceremonies, each school marched in carrying their school banner. I have had the privilege of attending these ceremonies in the past, but unfortunately, missed last night's opening ceremonies due to the schedule of our session here in Yellowknife.

I have only watched the opening ceremonies of the Olympics on television and this year for only the second time, I attended the Opening Ceremonies of the Arctic Winter Games, but the times I have attended the Track and Field Opening Ceremonies in Hay River, I have been so moved by the school pride and spirit, which was so evident as each team comes in under the banner bearing their school's name. From the smaller communities, sometimes just a little flock with their teacher and their coach, but oh so proud. As tradition has it, Johnny Landry usually sings He Na Na Ho Ho, and the Games begin.

If this House is not sitting next year at the time of the Track and Field Championship, I will invite all MLAs with communities and schools represented to come and join us for the Track and Field Meet because it is very exciting. I dare not start thanking the many, many dedicated volunteers, teachers, parents, coaches for fear that I miss someone key, but I would like to especially thank today, coordinator Guy Turvey and his crew for this year, again, making the meet what I am sure will be the biggest and best yet. Good luck to all the athletes, and I would like to offer them that time honoured advice. It is not whether you win or lose, it is how you play game. I am sure that to all of us, these young athletes are all winners and we are all very proud of them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Members' statements. Mr. Miltenberger.

Member's Statement 8-13(6): Division Plans for the NWT Power Corporation

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have just sifted through the blizzard of Ministers' statements and the one I would like to respond to and speak to the issues are in relation to the Power Corporation, which is a very important issue to the people in my constituency. In his statement, the Minister made a comment about idle rhetoric not adding to this debate and I agree. I do not consider putting forward the views of your constituents in a forum such as this as idle rhetoric. I do it in all seriousness. I would also like to point out when we talk about economies that when we look at the whole issue of division, it makes not one jot or iota of economic sense. It is costing hundreds of millions dollars to set up two new territories. NTPC is part of that mix. To separate it out and to say it is okay to spend \$200 million, \$150 million or \$180 million, but on this particular issue, it is not part of the equation. It makes little sense to me, Mr. Speaker.

I would also suggest that the Minister's fact and figures are in question or he would not, at this point, be in a facilitation process and we would have reached an agreement at this juncture. Clearly, there are other schools of thought on this particular issue. The government has chosen to put forward a position to continue the Power Corporation on a 60/40 split. Many people in Thebacha have a different view and I would suggest across the Western Territory and probably in Nunavut.

Page 11

I was also still under the impression that we are in a democracy and it is the people's right to raise these concerns in forums such as this with their duly elected political representatives. I believe it adds to the debate.

I also believe the Minister is splitting hairs when we are talking about the subsidy. My understanding is, the GNWT owns the Power Corporation, one shareholder. The GNWT takes the Power Corporation dividends and hands out a power subsidy. Technically, the Power Corporation does not cross-subsidize power rates, but very clearly when 68 percent of the revenues are generated in the west and only a fraction of that amount is actually spent on the power subsidy in the west, the issue of cross-subsidization exists. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Thebacha is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Do we have any nays? You have unanimous consent to conclude your statement, Mr. Miltenberger.

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, my colleagues on both sides of this House. I know it was a real test for the Minister of the Power Corporation, he had the power to nay me, but he did not. As I was saying, Mr. Speaker, 68 percent of the revenues are generated in the west, but only a fraction of those revenues of the power subsidy stay in the west. The issue of cross-subsidization in the minds of the people exists. It is up to this process to try to address that particular issue. This is an important issue. I believe that it requires close scrutiny and discussion as we try to reach some sort of satisfactory agreement. If I could slightly paraphrase the Minister's closing paragraph in his statement, I also ask that all Members provide their support for the facilitation process now underway and encourage all parties to put their best efforts into achieving an acceptable agreement in regard to the future of the Power Corporation in the two new territories. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Ootes.

Member's Statement 9-13(6): Constitutional Working Group Process

MR. OOTES:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to talk about the Constitutional Working Group process to develop a new constitution for the western Arctic. Many of us have been involved in this process and recently, once the redrafted document was released, the public meetings started and constitutional workshops also started. We have held one general meeting with the public in Yellowknife and three workshops, of which the four Yellowknife MLAs participated in this one public meeting and the workshops.

The idea of developing the constitution is a very important agenda item. Sometimes though, I fear the process may seem dry and abstract to a lot of people, but is very important because it is the foundation of

which our future western government is going to be built. As we learned through the workshops and the public hearings that were held, there are a number of emotional and sensitive areas. Some of them were touched on at these workshops. For instance, the question was raised, should there be gender parity? Should we guarantee representation for aboriginals? Should there be a Social Charter? What is the relationship going to be with self-government? How will the NWT be run day-to-day program wise in the future? Will the self-government groups of the aboriginal governments run education or will it be the central government? Some of the people at the workshops suggested holding off on a new constitution until all land claims are settled. These are some of the kinds of questions, comments and concerns that were raised so far at the hearings that we have held, Mr. Speaker. We need input from the public to tell us how they feel about these many issues. The people can establish the values and I hope over the summer, Mr. Speaker, that the Constitutional Working Group and their staff will continue to promote workshops well through the summer and into the fall. I would encourage the public to attend these. It is important. We need to know people's thoughts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Members' statements. Ms. Thompson.

Member's Statement 10-13(6): Proper Pronunciation of Her First Name

HON. MANITOK THOMPSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. More than once, some of my constituents and also my husband have brought it to my attention that the reporters on the radio and the TV are mispronouncing my first name, and this is really bothering my husband. It is not ManitoK. It is ManitoK with a double E sound in the middle. I wish to thank my constituents and my husband for bringing this to my attention, and I hope that everybody in Repulse Bay, Chesterfield and Coral Harbour have a great spring and summer. Thank you.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Members' statements. Mr. Picco.

Member's Statement 11-13(6): Federal Agreement for Replacement of Hospitals

MR. PICCO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, fans. Mr. Speaker, there are a lot of ministerial statements today but none in this honourable Member's mind more important than the announcements regarding the conclusion of the negotiations to replace the Inuvik and Baffin hospitals. The conclusion of this file goes back to the Health and Welfare Canada transfer of health programs to the GNWT in 1988. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Minister and his staff for the work on this file. However, the completion of the successful negotiations raises some questions on the impact of the federal fund transfer on the P3 schedule construction project of the Baffin Regional Hospital in Iqaluit. Mr. Speaker, later today I will ask the Minister for Health some questions on this transfer. I, too, would also like to take this opportunity, in conclusion, to thank the Iqaluit Pages in the Legislative Assembly and yourself, Mr. Speaker, for the lunch.

I would like to reply to Mr. Miltenberger's bait he threw me today

Page 12

on the Power Corporation, but I will not. I would like to wish the Members and all the residents of Iqaluit a happy and safe summer. Thank you for your indulgence, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Henry.

Member's Statement 12-13(6): Heroic Attributes of Vital Manuel

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think it is fair to say that most people have heroes, people that they look up to. For the young person, that may be a hockey player, a ball player or a movie star. Up until a few minutes ago, I thought Members of this House thought I was their hero, but I find out now that is Mr. Picco. Anyway, Mr. Speaker, there is a young individual whom I have come to know here in the last couple of years in Yellowknife, and I would suggest that he is probably one of my biggest heroes. Most

Members may not know his name, but you certainly saw him in the Legislative Assembly lobby a number of times. He is the young gentleman who is in a wheelchair with a big smile on his face, Vital Manuel. On a number of occasions, Mr. Speaker, on the way to the Legislative Assembly in the mornings, I saw this young man out in his wheelchair shovelling snow. Today, on my way to work, I saw him out cleaning the sidewalks with a broom. I think it is individuals such as this that can give us all inspiration to get up off our rear ends and do things when we see people who may not have the same attributes as ourselves, going up and above and beyond. I would ask the Members of this Legislature to congratulate this young man for being my hero.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Members' statements. Mr. Antoine.

Member's Statement 13-13(6): Fort Simpson High School Graduates

HON. JIM ANTOINE:

Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we are going to be breaking here after today and going our respective ways. This weekend there is an event in Fort Simpson, which is the graduation of the high school students, who I just wanted to mention. There are ten young people there: Lori McKenzie, Wesley Hardisty, Lionel Nadia, Camille Nayally, Adeline Sanguetz, Laurie Sibbeston, Thelma Squirrel, T.G. Wilson, Mark Robertson, and Alexa Tsetso. They will be moving on from a high school education and next year some of them will even be going to college or university. I would like to congratulate them and to carry on with the work, and all the other students within the system, I would like to encourage you to stay in school and get an education. Through the debate here in this Legislative Assembly, an environmental scan and the trends that are happening in the north, indicated that in order to get ahead, we need more than grade 12. You need to go on to college or university and so forth. That is the kind of direction that we would like to have. The education system is there, and it is doing the best it can under the circumstances. I would like to encourage the teachers who are providing this service to us through our students to carry on with the good work and the parents to keep encouraging their kids to keep on going to school. I just want to give that message to my constituents whom I represent. I represent six communities, and I would like to say hi

to all of them and that with this break, we will be going into the communities again, hopefully, to see everybody. For the members of the Legislative Assembly, I would like to wish you a good summer and we will see you in the fall. Mahsi.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Members' statements. Mr. Ningark.

Member's Statement 14-13(6): Location of Camps for Adult Offenders

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, looking through Mr. Arlooktoo's Minister's statement about community justice, I would like to applaud and salute the Minister for recognizing the need to have more community control for administration of justice, Mr. Speaker. However, I have some very serious questions as to the locations of the potential camp dealing with offenders. When you look through the pages of the Minister's statement, on the last page, page five, the Minister talks about, and I quote "Discussion with potential camp operators are currently taking place with community members from Pond Inlet, Pangnirtung, Kimmirut" - that is his home community - "Hall Beach, Cape Dorset, Iqaluit and Clyde River". All are the Baffin region. What about regions like the Keewatin, more importantly, the Kitikmeot? At the appropriate time, Mr. Speaker, I will be asking the Minister as to who decides where the location of the camps should be. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Members' statements. Item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Arlooktoo.

ITEM 5: RECOGNITION OF VISITORS IN THE GALLERY

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased today to recognize some very busy people, first Mary Sue Maloughney is my executive assistant and has helped me over the past year in dealing with some very difficult issues. Mary Sue is leaving my office to move onto bigger and better places very soon, and I thank her very much. With her is Mr. Richard Bargery, Assistant Deputy Minister for our Division Secretariat. Also with them is Laura Gauthier, who is ADM, I

believe, of the Intergovernmental Affairs Department of the new Nunavut government. Finally, Mr. Speaker, Miss Rhoda Perkison is the Deputy Clerk Designate for the new Nunavut legislature.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

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

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize Pat Thomas, who has recently been chosen as the aboriginal delegate for the Canadian Teachers' Federation delegation to the annual general meeting of Education International. This organization represents 23 million teachers from around the world, and Pat will be going down to Washington, DC to be a delegate there for the Canadian Teachers' Association. Also, with Pat in the

Page 13

gallery today are two long-term educators, Pat Burnstad, who is my neighbour and a teacher from the high school and Dana Anlunis. Welcome.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

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

MR. RABESCA:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Recognition of visitors in the gallery, although I understand they just left the gallery, I had wanted to recognize 13 members of the grade seven class which included my adopted son, Ronald J. Rabesca, from Elizabeth MacKenzie Elementary School in Rae. Along with the students were their teachers, Leon Weyallon and Jerry Baron, as well as the bus driver, Manuel Bishop. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Henry.

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize someone whom I have known for a long time in Yellowknife, Mr. Don Kindt. He is the assistant superintendent of Education for Yellowknife Education District Number Two.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Recognition of visitors in the gallery, Mr. Picco.

MR. PICCO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome in the gallery today from Iqaluit, Mr. Ed McKenna. His daughter, Meghan, is one of the Pages today here. Also, Goo stole my thunder. Laura Gauthier is here, a resident of Iqaluit and a constituent, and Mr. Rick Bargery, the DM, who is a wannabe resident of Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Ningark.

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a lady who spent part of the summer in Pelly Bay many years ago, Pat Thomas. Thank you.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Before we go on to questions, we will take a short break. The Minister has been sending me notes about students who have been out there. The Minister is going to explain. This will also give the Members time to think about good questions before question period. We will take a short, 15-minute break.

--Break

MR. SPEAKER:

The House will come back to order. We are on item 6, oral questions. Mr. Miltenberger.

ITEM 6: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 1-13(6): Strengthening Environmental Protection Practices

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of RWED. It is in regard to his statement on the Regulatory Reform Measures Act. I would like to refer to page 2 of 2 where he refers to a new voluntary compliance mechanism that would substantially strengthen environmental protection and it allows companies and property owners to undertake their own environmental audits or environmental site assessments. I was wondering if the Minister could elaborate on how this would strengthen environmental protection practices? It seems more to me like putting the fox in the hen house. Could the Minister elaborate on how that, in fact, would strengthen the environmental protection? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development, Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question 1-13(6): Strengthening Environmental Protection Practices

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would have to take the question as notice.

MR. SPEAKER:

The question has been taken as notice. Oral questions. Mr. Roland.

Question 2-13(6): Settlement of Collective Agreement

MR. ROLAND:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, a couple of days ago I asked a question to the Minister of FMBS about the pay equity situation. It seems that we are moving on to the Sixth Session and before we break for the summer, I would like to get an answer out of him. The last time he tried to answer this question, he did not come close to it. My question is, in the event that the process between the UNW and the GNWT comes to a halt that it goes for mediation and there is no agreement, will the Minister, over the summer before any other action happens, wait until this House reconvenes in the fall? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister responsible for the Financial Management Board, Mr. Todd.

Return To Question 2-13(6): Settlement of Collective Agreement

HON. JOHN TODD:

I have said consistently, Mr. Speaker, that we have laid our final settlement offer on the table. It is now up to the UNW and the membership to take the next course of action.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Roland.

Supplementary To Question 2-13(6): Settlement of Collective Agreement

MR. ROLAND:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the event that nobody moves, this will stay out there. You, as the Minister

Page 14

responsible for FMBS will not write a new contract, at the end of the day, so to speak? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 2-13(6): Settlement of Collective Agreement

HON. JOHN TODD:

Mr. Speaker, my honourable colleague is correct.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Roland.

Supplementary To Question 2-13(6): Settlement of Collective Agreement

MR. ROLAND:

Can the Minister provide a little more information? Which part of the answer am I correct on? The fact that it will stay out there indefinitely or the fact that you will not, at the end of the day, write a new contract? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 2-13(6): Settlement of Collective Agreement

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I cannot write a new contract if the membership of the UNW has not voted on it. I will not be writing a new contract. I cannot make the next move. I have done the final move. I have presented the final settlement. I have said consistently it is now up to the union and its members to take an appropriate course of action that they see fit. Our final offer is on the table. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Picco.

Question 3-13(6): Federal Funding for Baffin Hospital

MR. PICCO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That excellent statement by Mr. Ng on the federal agreement for replacement of the Baffin and Inuvik hospitals, my question is for the Minister of Health. How will the federal transfer of funds affect the P3 project for the Iqaluit hospital, the Baffin Regional Hospital in Iqaluit? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Return To Question 3-13(6): Federal Funding for Baffin Hospital

HON. KELVIN NG:

Mr. Speaker, at this stage it has no impact in respect to the work that is being carried out under the P3 initiative in trying to bring the Iqaluit hospital on stream. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Picco.

Supplementary To Question 3-13(6): Federal Funding for Baffin Hospital

MR. PICCO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, of the \$18.9 million in base transfers, \$12.2 million has been received and we found that out earlier in questioning this House. I am wondering, of the \$6 million in base transfers, would the Minister and the government be diverting that money to the Inuvik facility and to the Baffin facility to hopefully, lessen the lease cost on the P3? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Ng.

Further Return To Question 3-13(6): Federal Funding for Baffin Hospital

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it has not been decided yet as to where those funds are going to go. As it stands now, the agreement provides a base transfer of funds to this government from the federal government in respect to both capital projects. The future government of both Nunavut and the Western Territory will have to determine where those proceeds will be utilized, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Supplementary To Question 3-13(6): Federal Funding for Baffin Hospital

MR. PICCO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I do know that, of course, future governments will be involved in the \$18.6 million in new funding. My question was on the \$6 million in base funding that will be coming to this government not another government. Again, Mr. Speaker, the \$6 million in base funding, will that be dedicated to the Inuvik and Baffin facilities? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Ng.

Further Return To Question 3-13(6): Federal Funding for Baffin Hospital

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, both in respect to the \$6.5 million of ongoing base transfers and plus

the additional \$18.6 million of additional funding over the next five years. Both of those revenue streams will be allocated to two new governments. It will be up to those two new governments to determine their budgets on where they want to appropriate those funds, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Supplementary To Question 3-13(6): Federal Funding for Baffin Hospital

MR. PICCO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not getting much of a level of comfort. How much of the base transfer will be received by this government in this fiscal year and will that be given to the Baffin and Inuvik hospital projects? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Ng.

Further Return To Question 3-13(6): Federal Funding for Baffin Hospital

Page 15

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, none of the base transfer amounts will be received in this fiscal year. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Ningark.

Question 4-13(6): Location of Adult Offender Camp Facilities

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to my honourable friend, Mr. Arlooktoo, Minister of Justice. Again, in my Member's statement, I salute the Minister for recognizing the need for community justice in the communities across the Nunavut area. I have a serious question as to the location of several potential camps for adult offenders. I wish I could say that there is no crime at all in the Kitikmeot, or in the Keewatin for that matter, but the point is, every region has crime and there is a need

for facilities in every region and community across the NWT. My question is, who determines where those facilities should be located in the Nunavut area? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of Justice, Mr. Arlooktoo.

Return To Question 4-13(6): Location of Adult Offender Camp Facilities

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The new and potential camps that I spoke about came about as a result of interested potential contractors approaching the department and the department expressing interest. I did make a statement this winter encouraging community members that were interested in opening up these adult camp facilities. As I stated during that time, there were a number of facilities already opened. I believe there were just under 20 camps around the Northwest Territories before these new initiatives came about. The fact of the matter is, there are camps in all the regions at this point in time, including the Kitikmeot, the Keewatin, but predominately in the western Northwest Territories. In order for a new camp to open, the potential contractors must express interest and show that they are capable and suitable to operate these bush camps. We will work with them to open up these bush camps. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Ningark.

Supplementary To Question 4-13(6): Location of Adult Offender Camp Facilities

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to the same honourable Minister, Mr. Arlooktoo. My supplementary, Mr. Speaker, is if the Minister, has the information at hand, how many such facilities are there in each of the three regions? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Arlooktoo.

Further Return To Question 4-13(6): Location of Adult Offender Camp Facilities

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not have that information at my fingertips, but I will pass it onto the Member. I think the important thing to point out at this stage is that if there are communities that are interested in participating in this program, we do encourage them to contact the department. We have a fairly limited amount of capital dollars that we can use to assist these potential operators. We are not talking about large amounts of money here. Some money has been used to fix up cabins for equipment and training and generally these are not large lucrative contracts. A typical bush camp may have anywhere from two to six offenders who are taking care of that camp and the way we pay them is on a per diem basis of \$88 per day. I will give the information to the Member, but at the same time know we should work together in encouraging community members who may be interested in pursuing this line of work. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Supplementary To Question 4-13(6): Location of Adult Offender Camp Facilities

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the honourable Minister indicated we have a fairly limited amount of dollars. In that respect, that limited amount of dollars should be shared among the three regions. Every region has need; every region made a request. Will the Minister consider cancelling Kitikmeot or Keewatin, would he give two regions the same consideration as he did for the Baffin region? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Arlooktoo.

Further Return To Question 4-13(6): Location of Adult Offender Camp Facilities

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to assure the Member that we already do give equal consideration to all the regions. The capital dollars, which I indicated, is a relatively small amount that the Department of Justice has, and it is for all of the Northwest Territories. The

large majority of camps at this point in time are in the western NWT, and that is not the result of the department pushing this program in any particular part, but it shows more the amount of interest that communities have expressed. We are now trying to spread the work around to ensure all the other regions have an equal opportunity to be part of the program. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Henry.

Question 5-13(6): Examination of Northern Allowance

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of FMBS, Mr. Todd, regarding the pay equity issue. Earlier on in the session which just finished yesterday, Mr. Speaker, I had brought to the Minister's attention the unfairness in what some of our Government of the Northwest Territories employees were receiving compared to other ones in other communities. The Minister made a commitment that he would revisit that particular topic. That was on May 22nd. On May 25th, he also made the same commitment to my colleague, Mr. Erasmus. I am wondering if the Minister could tell us if he has had the opportunity to re-evaluate the position with regard to the payments made in the Northern Living Allowance to the

Page 16

employees who are living in Yellowknife? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of Finance, Mr. Todd.

Return To Question 5-13(6): Examination of Northern Allowance

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have not had the opportunity to review the request put forward by my honourable colleague, but it is on my calendar to deal with this as soon as we can get to it. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Henry.

Supplementary To Question 5-13(6): Examination of Northern Allowance

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The honourable Minister has told me that it is on his calendar. There are usually dates on his calendar. Could the Minister maybe advise us when he will be looking at that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 5-13(6): Examination of Northern Allowance

HON. JOHN TODD:

I will leap right to it, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I believe I have indicated to my colleague that I am prepared to look at it. It is a complicated question. There are taxation components to it, et cetera. I was talking to my Deputy Minister of Finance earlier today, who has some concerns in terms of tax implications when we evaluate this thing, so we are looking at it. I would not want you to think we are not. I will try to get it as quickly as I can and let everybody know. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Ootes.

Question 6-13(6): Update on Great Slave Fishery Viability

MR. OOTES:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I raised some questions previously in the House with the Minister of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development, Mr. Kakwi, on the Great Slave Fisheries. The concern I have is, this has traditionally been a difficult situation for the fishermen to make any kind of income from the fishery these days. I understand the Minister met with the fishermen just recently at their annual meeting, I believe. I wonder if the Minister could update us as to what has transpired with support for the fishery and for the fishermen federation? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

That is a detailed question. The Minister of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development, Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question 6-13(6): Update on Great Slave Fishery Viability

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I met with the fishermen and reassured them that whenever they were ready to make recommendations and suggestions as to how I could, as a Minister and as a government, assist them in making fishing more economically viable, then I am ready as I was a year ago and two years ago to do that. They still require some time to formulate their recommendations, organize them and put them to myself as a Minister. They are working with the Member for Hay River, Mrs. Groenewegen, and when they are ready they will be coming forward with some suggestions on what I could do as a Minister to help them in pursuing their livelihood on a more economic basis. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Ootes.

Supplementary To Question 6-13(6): Update on Great Slave Fishery Viability

MR. OOTES:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like most organizations, they naturally have difficulty in supporting their resources that sometimes are required to develop business plans and so forth for their particular industry to progress. I am wondering if the Minister could tell us if funding support has been provided to the fishermen's organizations, fisherpersons' organization?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return To Question 6-13(6): Update on Great Slave Fishery Viability

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have provided funding to assist the fishermen in putting together an assessment of the situation that they see themselves in and to do the study on what it is that they think can be done to make their industry more economically

viable. We have provided funding and assistance also by providing some staff in the department that have lent some support to them in organizing their meetings and providing information and advice as they have been completing their study. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Ootes.

Supplementary To Question 6-13(6): Update on Great Slave Fishery Viability

MR. OOTES:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the Minister indicate if there is some time frame that possibly can be looked at for a report to come forward from the association?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return To Question 6-13(6): Update on Great Slave Fishery Viability

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Mr. Speaker, I would not commit the fishermen or decide for them at what time they would be prepared to come forward with recommendations. I think they are working on it, and in the end, it is their livelihood and they will choose the time when they will come forward with the recommendations. I am sure it will be in the next few months. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mr. Steen.

Question 7-13(6): Replacement of Inuvik Hospital

Page 17

MR. STEEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Honourable Kelvin Ng, the Minister of Health and Social Services. Mr. Speaker, my question is in regard to the replacement of hospitals in the Inuvik region. I refer, Mr. Speaker, to the statement from the Minister where he says a federal share of these projects is based on the percentage of status Indians and Inuit living in the region. I would like to ask the Minister if Holman residents are included in the Inuvik estimates?

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Return To Question 7-13(6): Replacement of Inuvik Hospital

HON. KELVIN NG:

Mr. Speaker, it would have been based on the historical service area at the time of the transfer. I do not believe, but I will check to make sure that Holman was a part of the Inuvik hospital services area. I will confirm that for the honourable Member. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Steen.

Supplementary To Question 7-13(6): Replacement of Inuvik Hospital

MR. STEEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister will confirm that Holman was not a part of...what is it, was or was not?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Ng.

Further Return To Question 7-13(6): Replacement of Inuvik Hospital

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I said that I did not think it was a part of the Inuvik Hospital Service Area and that I would confirm that for the Member. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Steen.

Supplementary To Question 7-13(6): Replacement of Inuvik Hospital

MR. STEEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there obviously was a certain amount of planning for this hospital. It must have been a well-known fact that Holman is going to be in the western Arctic, and it would be in the Inuvik region. Why would Holman not be included in the hospital estimates for Inuvik, with the number of Inuit in that region?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Ng.

Further Return To Question 7-13(6): Replacement of Inuvik Hospital

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, if the honourable Member is referring to the negotiations on the funding with the federal government, it was based on the historic service area of the Inuvik hospital and the percentage of aboriginal people who were served by that hospital, the federal government's per capita share would be based on that percentage, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Final supplementary, Mr. Steen.

Supplementary To Question 7-13(6): Replacement of Inuvik Hospital

MR. STEEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I will ask the Minister, would it not have been advantageous to the government to put in the number of residents from Holman in the estimates or the negotiations with the federal government? Without that, are we saying then that Holman, in the future, will continue to receive medical services from Yellowknife, Kitikmeot, where?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Ng.

Further Return To Question 7-13(6): Replacement of Inuvik Hospital

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it certainly would have been an advantage based on the high percentage of the aboriginal population in Holman to have them as part of the service area in respect to the negotiations with the federal government, but as I indicated it was based on a historic service area of the Inuvik hospital at the time of the health transfer in 1988. In respect to the second question on where residents of Holman are going to be receiving their health care, I cannot, at this time, determine that. It is going to be up to the new western government where their jurisdiction lies on any agreements that they

work out with the residents of Holman and where they are going to be receiving their services, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Erasmus.

Question 8-13(6): Sterilization of Aboriginal Women

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Health and Social Services. Earlier today in my statement, I had talked about the fact that there had been native women from the Northwest Territories who had been sterilized without their consent in Alberta during a period when there was an act making this legal and that many women in Alberta were now being compensated by the Government of Alberta for doing that. What I would like to know is if this government is aware of this situation in Alberta and about the women getting compensated for being sterilized without their approval? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Return To Question 8-13(6): Sterilization of Aboriginal Women

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we are certainly aware of the situation. As many Members know, it has been a fairly high profile issue in the province of Alberta over the past few months, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Page 18

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Supplementary To Question 8-13(6): Sterilization of Aboriginal Women

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the Minister indicate if he knows whether this offer to compensate women also includes women who may have been sterilized from the Northwest Territories, whether they had gone

to Charles Camshell Hospital or to Red Deer? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Ng.

Further Return To Question 8-13(6): Sterilization of Aboriginal Women

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that this offer of compensation from the Government of Alberta would be any individual who may have been impacted as a result of some of those sterilization programs that the government had carried out. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Erasmus.

Supplementary To Question 8-13(6): Sterilization of Aboriginal Women

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the Minister indicate what his department is doing to ensure that women or families of women who may be deceased, who may have been sterilized to ensure that they do get compensation? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Ng.

Further Return To Question 8-13(6): Sterilization of Aboriginal Women

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we are not, in respect to this issue, doing anything proactively. I am not aware of any cases of individuals from the Northwest Territories. However, having said that, there may be that possibility there. The honourable Member brings up a good point that if there are individuals or people who know of individuals who may have been impacted as a result of having stayed in facilities in Alberta, then certainly we would be more than willing to assist them or direct them to the appropriate officials, if that were the case, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Supplementary To Question 8-13(6): Sterilization of Aboriginal Women

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Would the Minister undertake to perhaps put out something to make people aware of this situation? There may be some aboriginal people who, perhaps, may not even be able to read or do not pay that much attention to the news? Could the Minister undertake to somehow make people more aware of the situation and to offer to assist those people to ensure they are compensated? Thank you.

Further Return To Question 8-13(6): Sterilization of Aboriginal Women

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we can certainly check our files to see if there were any individuals who might have been out in Alberta for any extended period of time that might have been impacted. We will try to figure out some way to give the issue some profile. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mr. Krutko.

Question 9-13(6): Expanding Community Justice in Mackenzie Delta

MR. KRUTKO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Justice. It is in regard to the statement that was made today regarding community justice. I would like to thank the Minister for such an endeavour, but I would like to ask the Minister, are there any efforts being made to expand the program, especially in the Mackenzie Delta region, to allow more people to take advantage of this program, and also deal with the community justice issues closer to home? I would like to ask the Minister, are there any attempts to expand that program in the Mackenzie Delta region?

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of Justice, Mr. Arlooktoo.

Return To Question 9-13(6): Expanding Community Justice in Mackenzie Delta

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said in the statement, the area of community justice is a priority for the department and for myself. We are working on the issue on several fronts, including encouraging community policing with the Department of MACA, and including the training and recruitment of JPs from the communities. We have expanded and increased the level of funding for community justice committees. We also transferred about a million and a half dollars to the health boards to help deal with community supervision, in particular in trying to find alternatives to incarceration. The bush camp program has worked very well in many communities, and we are encouraging individuals to contact the department to see if they might be suitable candidates to open such facilities. As I indicated, we have a very limited amount of money to assist these camps, but it is something we are working on, which includes educating the public and educating government on how important community justice is and what results can come out of it. We, in the Department of Justice and the government, are very interested in discussing the issue in all of the regions including the Member's region to see what we can do in this area. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Krutko.

Supplementary To Question 9-13(6): Expanding Community Justice in Mackenzie Delta

MR. KRUTKO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, believe that there should be a deterrent to institutionalizing people opposed

Page 19

to dealing with the problems at home. That is why I would like to ask the Minister, have the funds been allocated based on a regional breakdown or is it just on an as and when basis, whomever prescribes gets the money? Is the department looking at allocating funds through the Department of Justice on a regional basis so everyone has an opportunity to implement this program in all regions?

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Mr. Arlooktoo, I heard two questions.

Further Return To Question 9-13(6): Expanding Community Justice in Mackenzie Delta

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are two very limited pots of money related to this program. One is on the capital side, just a little over \$100,000, I believe. As I indicated earlier, these are small pots of assistance that we give out to individuals for relatively small capital projects. The other pot of money is the per diem of \$88 per inmate that these camp operators take care of. It has traditionally been given out on an as requested basis and up to now, predominantly in the western Arctic. We are just starting to make moves to ensure it is more evenly spread out over the whole of the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Final supplementary, Mr. Krutko.

Supplementary To Question 9-13(6): Expanding Community Justice in Mackenzie Delta

MR. KRUTKO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the Minister tell me how much money has been allocated to each region?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Arlooktoo.

Further Return To Question 9-13(6): Expanding Community Justice in Mackenzie Delta

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be able to give the information to the Member once I get it from the department. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mr. Steen.

Question 10-13(6): Holman and GNWT Meeting on Division

MR. STEEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to honourable Minister Dent, responsible for division issues in the western part of the territory. Mr.

Speaker, yesterday, in my reply to the opening address, I referred to the need for a meeting with the residents of Holman and this government to try and resolve division issues applicable to the community of Holman. I suggested the meetings should happen fairly soon, preferably before the business plans start to be put together. I wonder if Minister Dent could shed some light on whether or not the government is planning a meeting with the community of Holman in general? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister responsible for Western Transition Planning, Mr. Dent.

Return To Question 10-13(6): Holman and GNWT Meeting on Division

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Government of the Northwest Territories' managers from both the Inuvik and Kitikmeot region are working with the hamlet to schedule a meeting. I do not know the dates for that meeting yet, but I agree with the Member that the meeting needs to happen very soon to discuss the process of administration in Holman. The regional superintendents from MACA will probably be leading the process and trying to ensure that the meeting takes place before the summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Supplementary To Question 10-13(6): Holman and GNWT Meeting on Division

MR. STEEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the Minister for that response. I would like to ask the Minister if the government has in place a policy that would govern a decision in regard to what would be the priorities considered when a community is requesting the ability to contract services from another region or another jurisdiction? Does the government have a policy in place in this particular regard?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Dent.

Further Return To Question 10-13(6): Holman and GNWT Meeting on Division

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I do not believe the government has a specific policy to deal with all areas. The government and departments are going to be flexible in trying to respect the wishes of the community, while still ensuring services can be delivered to the community. For instance, if the community were to choose that they wanted education services delivered by the Kitikmeot Division Education Council instead of by the Beaufort Delta Division Education Council, there would have to be negotiations between the two division education councils because this government will be funding the Beaufort Delta Division Education Council for those students in Holman. Unless the Beaufort Delta Council can achieve an understanding with the Kitikmeot Council, there would be no way for the transfer of funds to take place for those students to be educated by the Kitikmeot Council. What we are going to do is take a flexible approach, but money will play an important role in this. We will have to make sure we can, with the available funds, provide the services to the residents of Holman. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Steen.

Supplementary To Question 10-13(6): Holman and GNWT Meeting on Division

MR. STEEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is, is cost effectiveness and efficiency a primary principle or is it the overall benefit to a region, economic benefit, the spinoffs from supplying services to a

Page 20

community? That is my principal concern, Mr. Speaker, is clarification on whether or not government has a policy in this regard. I referred to it yesterday that services be obtained from the territory presently, if it is available, rather than outside the territory. Are we going to continue with this type of policy and take this policy into consideration when we are allowing communities to search for or obtain services from other jurisdictions? That is what my question really is, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Dent.

Further Return To Question 10-13(6): Holman and GNWT Meeting on Division

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I replied earlier, the government does not have a policy specifically dealing with this issue, but it is a policy of government to try and find the most cost-effective way to deliver services to residents. We always take into account the wishes of residents when determining how services are provided. Somehow we have to find a balance and that, Mr. Speaker, will be the goal in our discussions with the people of Holman - finding the balance between serving their needs and finding a way to deliver the services that they need afforded them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Final supplementary, Mr. Steen.

Supplementary To Question 10-13(6): Holman and GNWT Meeting on Division

MR. STEEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, perhaps I could give the Minister an example of what I am talking about here for clarification. Right now, if I was to purchase a HAP house, I would have to purchase all the material for that house from a manufacturer within this territory regardless of where I live in the territories. I believe that applies also to other home ownership programs. It does not matter that I can purchase windows cheaper in Whitehorse. I am obliged to purchase windows and doors from Hay River or wherever. That is the point I am trying to get across here. We seem to have two different standards, one where in one case it applies and in one case it does not. I am asking, if the services are available in the Beaufort region out of Inuvik, for instance, would the community still be allowed to purchase services from Nunavut?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Dent.

Further Return To Question 10-13(6): Holman and GNWT Meeting on Division

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there is no yes or no answer to that question. What I have said is, this government is prepared, through its managers, to meet with the community of Holman, discuss the situation and try to come to an agreement about the best way that the services can be delivered. Cost will be one of the factors on the table we will have to take into account. The intention is to get together with the community and try to work through this. We do not have a strict policy that the community must follow right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Mrs. Groenewegen.

Question 11-13(6): Young Offender Facility as a P3 Project

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, a number of months ago, Ordinary Members, MLAs were asked to put forward ideas of capital projects in the riding which could be brought into being through the P3 Program. At that time, I submitted a letter to two departments, one to the Department of Justice, one to the Department of Transportation, one for a bridge replacement, one for the replacement of a young offenders' facility in Hay River. Through processes within committees of the government the projects were narrowed down to a shortlist and the young offenders' facility replacement at a cost of \$10 million was on that list.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of Finance, Mr. Todd.

Return To Question 11-13(6): Young Offender Facility as a P3 Project

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My understanding of this particular issue was the Department of Justice was reviewing the young offenders' needs across the territories and trying to analyze where in fact they should have an overall plan for young offenders in Hay River as well as Inuvik. Some other areas were being considered. If my colleague is asking has this project been approved for Hay River or is that the question she is asking in a P3 that would be if she asked a direct question?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mrs. Groenewegen.

Supplementary To Question 11-13(6): Young Offender Facility as a P3 Project

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

My direct question is, where is my young offenders' facility? Let me put it this way, there is a short window of construction opportunity and we have ready, willing and able private financing proponents, constructors and contractors. We have everybody ready to go with the replacement of this facility. I want to know if it is still viable for this construction season given that it would appear the department is still in the process of making a decision? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 11-13(6): Young Offender Facility as a P3 Project

Page 21

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My understanding talking to Mr. Arlooktoo is, there is going to be a continuation of the young offenders' facility in Hay River. The Department of Justice is looking at an extension of that program both in Hay River and other communities. That decision will be made shortly with respect to that. If these projects are deemed to be P3 projects that meet the criteria we have set, then we would move as quickly as we can to get them out to RFQ and RFP so we can get these facilities into place in the coming years. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mrs. Groenewegen.

Supplementary To Question 11-13(6): Young Offender Facility as a P3 Project

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In a press release issued by the Minister of Finance with respect to the P3 projects there were 12 capital projects listed. Number 12 on the list was a young offenders' facility. It had no community identified and it was a value of \$10 million.

Is that capital project still on the shortlist? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 11-13(6): Young Offender Facility as a P3 Project

HON. JOHN TODD:

Mr. Speaker, yes, that project is still on the shortlist. Yes.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Final supplementary, Mrs. Groenewegen.

Supplementary To Question 11-13(6): Young Offender Facility as a P3 Project

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Does the Minister of Finance expect to, in collaboration with the Department of Justice, have an answer as to where that particular project will be located and if it will be located during this construction season? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. To your question, Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 11-13(6): Young Offender Facility as a P3 Project

HON. JOHN TODD:

Mr. Speaker, there is an effort being made by the Department of Justice to bring some conclusion to the requirements for young offenders' facilities in the Northwest Territories and the intention is to try to move as quickly as we can in the coming weeks. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mr. O'Brien.

Question 12-13(6): Construction Contracts in Nunavut

MR. O'BRIEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the minister responsible for division, Mr. Arlooktoo. Last week, there were some questions regarding the amount of services that would be contracted out regarding Nunavut. My question to the Minister is, can the Minister tell us in reference, I know we do not have the amount of service or the dollar amount, but how this contract would be done. Would outside provinces or regions have an opportunity to bid on this work? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister responsible for Nunavut Transition Planning, Mr. Arlooktoo.

Return To Question 12-13(6): Construction Contracts in Nunavut

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My understanding is in the next six weeks leading up to the Nunavut Leaders meeting that the bureaucracies of the GNWT and the new Nunavut government are working on an assessment of what capacity the Nunavut government will have. Lists will be made available at the Nunavut Leaders meeting and shared with those concerned. It will be up to the Interim Commissioner's office to decide whether it will be the GNWT that does some particular work. Whether it will be other governments like Manitoba, Alberta, Quebec and Ontario who already do some contract work at this time and/or whether private businesses will be asked to bid on the work, so it is really up to the Interim Commissioner's Office, at this point and in six weeks' time. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Rabesca.

Question 13-13(6): Concerns Re: Fire Suppression Response

MR. RABESCA:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to address my question to the Minister of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development. I recently received a copy of a letter directed to the Minister from the Rae Lakes chief. The chief is expressing his concern regarding response time for attacking any fires. He went on to say that it seems the department only fights fire when it has increased in size, when it could be cheaper to fight it when it is very small. My

question is, why not attack when the fires are smaller and it is cheaper to fight? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development, Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question 13-13(6): Concerns Re: Fire Suppression Response

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In recent years we have improved our response time and capability. This has been done mostly by working with community leaders in the smaller communities. We have done that by working with the chiefs. In fact, we have offered to all communities the responsibility, if they would accept it, for deciding within a prescribed area which fires they would respond to, in what you would call the initial response phase. They would have responsibility for something like up to \$20,000 worth of effort in the initial effort. They either put it out or suppress it sufficiently to allow for a larger attack response to be formulated.

Page 22

If a response is not meeting the satisfaction of the community leaders in that location, then we would be pleased to review it and see what could be done. Initially, I would say it would require that first of all, we share all the information we have on a daily basis. Secondly, we would have daily briefings with the community leaders on interpreting the information so they know exactly which fires are ongoing, which ones started overnight and which ones have been put out; what their locations are, the sizes, the weather conditions and if there are fires that require action, which ones should be actioned. So we are prepared to make that commitment, it is a standing commitment to all communities. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Supplementary To Question 13-13(6): Concerns Re: Fire Suppression Response

MR. RABESCA:

Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Why must the community continue to remind the department of our

traditional hunting and trapping areas in order to get mobilized crews to the fighting areas?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return To Question 13-13(6): Concerns Re: Fire Suppression Response

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my understanding that the Dogribs, in particular, have also used a substantial portion of land, north, south, east and west of their present community locations. We have also communicated to all community leaders that we are not capable of responding to all fires. Again, it is an issue that, with limited dollars, we are prepared to plan with the communities what are the priority areas and what are the areas that should receive most of the limited resources we have. Again, also deciding with the communities what the nature of the initial attack in response to fires should be. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mr. Steen.

Question 14-13(6): Removal of Paulatuk RCMP Officer

MR. STEEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would direct a question to the Minister of Justice, Mr. Arlooktoo. Mr. Speaker, my question is in relation to the removal of the RCMP officer from Paulatuk. Mr. Speaker, I understand from information given me that an RCMP officer will no longer be in Paulatuk as of May 29th. Can the minister confirm this?

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of Justice, Mr. Arlooktoo.

Return To Question 14-13(6): Removal of Paulatuk RCMP Officer

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, what I can say is that the chief superintendent of the RCMP informed me some 10 days ago that it was their intention, due to very difficult financial shortages in the personnel area, to look at cutting the Paulatuk detachment. My

response at that time was that at this time I am not prepared to support such a cut until the Member and the community has been consulted and options such as community policing and ensuring there is some kind of law enforcement presence is answered. That would be my response, and I am aware that this has been reported in the media also. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Written questions. Mr. Ootes.

ITEM 7: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Written Question 1-13(6): Third Party Liability

MR. OOTES:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I spoke about the Workers' Compensation Board and its ability to sue on behalf of a third party. I have nine short written questions in that regard.

1. What mechanism does the WCB use to decide what company, individual or individuals to name in an action?
2. Who makes the decision to launch a prosecution alleging a violation of an NWT or federal law?
3. How are these cases funded and budgeted for?
4. Does the money come out of the accident fund?
5. How often in its history has the WCB initiated a lawsuit to recover compensation?
6. What were the results of those actions?
7. Can the Minister provide Members with a list of all actions initiated by the WCB since 1991, the disposition of the action and the settlement recovered, if any?
8. Can the Minister provide Members with a list of current outstanding legal actions and the stage they are at before the court?
9. How much money has been spent in each of the fiscal years since 1991 to fund actions pertaining to third party liability actions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Written questions. Mrs. Groenewegen.

Written Question 2-13(6): Support for NWT Council of Friendship Centres

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Premier. I understand that the NWT Council of Friendship Centres held their Annual General meeting in Fort Rae on May 29, 30 and 31, 1998, and that a letter of invitation was extended to Premier Don Morin and his Cabinet. Following the lobbying efforts of the NWT Council of Friendship Centres earlier this year for the support of the Government of the Northwest Territories, the Government of the Northwest Territories requested a specific dollar amount for

Page 23

support of friendship centres in the NWT. The NWT Council of Friendship Centres has since responded to this request. My questions are:

1. Was an invitation received to this function?
2. Was the invitation acknowledged?
3. Did anyone attend and speak on behalf of the GNWT?
4. What followup has taken place in response to a request to the NWT Friendship Centres for dollar amount for support requested from the GNWT?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Written questions. Item 8, petitions. Mr. Roland.

ITEM 8: PETITIONS

Petition 1-13(6): Pay Equity/Collective Bargaining

MR. ROLAND:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to present a petition dealing with the matter of pay equity in the collective bargaining process. Mr. Speaker, the petition contains 62 signatures of residents of Inuvik. Mr. Speaker, the petitioners request:

1. To have the GNWT separate the pay equity complaint from the current collective bargaining process.

2. To have the GNWT refer to an impartial arbitration panel on the matter of the gender neutrality of the job evaluation system now being proposed in the collective bargaining process.

Petition 2-13(6): Pay Equity/Collective Bargaining

As well, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the members from Mackenzie Delta, I table a petition on the matter of the pay equity, to have the GNWT separate the pay equity complaint from the current collective bargaining process and to have the GNWT refer to an impartial arbitration panel the matter of the gender neutrality and job evaluation system now being proposed in the collective bargaining process. This contains 23 signatures of people from Fort McPherson and Aklavik. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Petitions. Mrs. Groenewegen.

Petition 3-13(6): Pay Equity/Collective Bargaining

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will not read the entire preamble, the same preamble as my colleague from Inuvik. I have a petition that I have received with 29 signatures from Hay River from the Union of Northern Workers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Petitions. Item 9, reports of standing and special committees. Item 10, tabling of documents. Mr. Todd.

ITEM 10: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

Tabled Document 1-13(6): Workers' Compensation Board Annual Report, 1997

Tabled Document 2-13(6): Letter to MLAs Entitled, Final Settlement Offer

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table two documents, if I may. The Workers' Compensation Board Annual Report, 1997, and a letter to all Members of the Legislative Assembly entitled, Final Settlement Offer.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Tabling of documents. Mr. Kakfwi.

Tabled Document 3-13(6): Hunters and Trappers Disaster Compensation Directive

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following document entitled, Hunters and Trappers Disaster Compensation Directive. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Tabling of documents. Mr. Roland.

Tabled Document 4-13(6): Package of Letters on Pay Equity and the Collective Bargaining Process

MR. ROLAND:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a package of three form letters from my constituents, urging the GNWT to remove the pay equity issue from the collective bargaining process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Tabling of documents. Mr. Ootes.

Tabled Document 5-13(6): Package of Letters on Pay Equity and the Collective Bargaining Process

MR. OOTES:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have two letters from constituents I wish to table in regard to the collective bargaining process. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Tabling of documents. Mr. Henry.

Tabled Document 6-13(6): Package of Letters from Constituents Regarding Pay Equity/Collective Bargaining

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table four letters from constituents regarding pay equity and collective bargaining issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Tabling of documents. Mr. Erasmus.

Tabled Document 7-13(6): Letter Regarding Pay Equity and Collective Bargaining

Tabled Document 8-13(6): Package of Letters Regarding Support for Education Funding

Page 24

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table one letter, regarding the pay equity issues, the fact that it should be taken off the bargaining table. Also, 16 letters to support for more funding for education.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Tabling of documents. In accordance with section 79.3 of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Assembly and Executive Council Act, I wish to table two annual reports filed by the Conflict of Interest Commissioner.

Tabled Document 9-13(6): Annual Report of the NWT Conflict of Interest Commission, 1996-97

Tabled Document 10-13(6): Annual Report of the NWT Conflict of Interest Commission, 1997-98

The first is the Annual Report for the period April 16, 1996 to April 31, 1997. The second is the Annual Report of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner for the period April 1, 1997 to March 31, 1998.

Item 11, notices of motion. Mrs. Groenewegen.

ITEM 11: NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Motion 1-13(6): Establishment of a Special Committee on Western Identity

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, June 8, 1998, I will move the following motion:

I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Thebacha, that this Legislative Assembly establish a special committee to be named the Special Committee on Western Identity and further, that the following Members are appointed to the Special Committee: Mr. Seamus Henry, the Honourable Stephen Kakfwi, Mr. David Krutko, Mr. James Rabesca, Mr. Vince Steen.

Furthermore, the terms of reference for the Special Committee on Western Identity be established as follows:

The Special Committee on Western Identity shall:

1. Consider and make recommendations on the official symbols and heraldry for the western Northwest Territories including, but not limited to Coat of Arms, Seal of the Territory, Flag, Flower, Bird, Tree, Metal and Tartan;
2. Consider and make recommendation on events and activities that would celebrate the new identity for the western Northwest Territories;
3. Develop a celebration, plan of events and activities to mark the creation of the western Northwest Territories;
4. Provide all opportunities for all western Northwest Territories residents to provide input into and be partners in the work of the Special Committee;
5. Oversee the implementation of the elements of the approved celebration plan, and
6. Consider and recommend on any other matter that in the opinion of the Special Committee is within its responsibilities with respecting western identity and the celebration of the new Western Territory.

And furthermore, that the Special Committee shall conduct its business in a manner approved by the committee in accordance with the rules of the Legislative Assembly; be provided with the necessary administrative and professional support by the Legislative Assembly and the Government of the Northwest Territories; be empowered to retain the services of such professional staff and advisors as deemed advisable by the committee; be provided with the necessary funds to carry out its responsibilities from the appropriations of the Legislative Assembly, and if deemed necessary by the Special Committee in carrying out its work, establish subcommittees that may require the appointment of ex-officio members.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will be seeking unanimous consent to deal with this motion today.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Notices of motion. Mr. Ningark.

Motion 2-13(6): Extended Adjournment

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, June 8, 1998, I will move the

following motion: I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Keewatin Central, that notwithstanding rule 4 that when this House adjourns on Thursday, June 4, 1998, it shall be adjourned until Wednesday, September 16, 1998.

And further, at anytime, prior to September 16, 1998, if the Speaker is satisfied, after consultation with the Executive Council and Members of the Legislative Assembly, that the public interests require that the House should meet at an earlier time during the adjournment, the Speaker may give notice and thereupon the House shall meet at the time stated in such notice and shall transact its business as it has been duly adjourned to that time.

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

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Notices of motion. Mr. Dent.

Motion 3-13(6): Development of a Western Political Accord

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, June 8, 1998, I will move the following motion:

Now therefore, I move, seconded by the Member for Thebacha, that the Government of the Northwest Territories begins discussions with the Government of Canada, and elected leaders representing all the western Northwest Territories regional aboriginal governments as may be represented by the western NWT Aboriginal Summit to negotiate a political accord, which would set out the ongoing relationship between the parties.

Page 25

Furthermore, that the parties, with the best intentions, make every effort to reach agreement on a Western Political Accord by October 30, 1998.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will be seeking unanimous consent to deal with this motion today.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Notices of motion. Mr. Henry.

Motion 4-13(6): Appointments to the Northwest Territories Electoral Boundaries Commission

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, June 8, 1998, I will move the following motion:

Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that the Legislative Assembly recommends to the Commissioner, that the Honourable Madam Justice Virginia A. Schuler, be appointed Chairperson, and Mrs. Lucy Kuptana and Mr. Nick Sibbeston, be appointed Members of the Northwest Territories Electoral Boundaries Commission.

And further, pursuant to subsection 12(1) of the act, the Legislative Assembly requests that the Northwest Territories Electoral Boundaries Commission complete its report on or before October 23, 1998.

Furthermore, that the Legislative Assembly requests that the commission give consideration, when planning its public hearings, to the consultation schedule of the Constitutional Working Group.

Furthermore, that the Legislative Assembly requests that in planning and conducting its public hearings, the commission make every conceivable effort to conduct, at a minimum, hearings in at least one community or location in each of the existing western electoral districts.

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

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Notices of motion. Item 12, notices of motions for first reading of bills. Mr. Arlooktoo.

ITEM 12: NOTICES OF MOTIONS FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

Bill 1: Family Law Reform, Statutes Amendment Act

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Monday, June 8, 1998, I will move that Bill 1, Family Law Reform, Statutes Amendments Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Notices of motions for first reading of bills. Mr. Ng.

Bill 2: Intercountry Adoption (Hague Convention) Act

HON. KELVIN NG:

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, June 8, 1998, I will move that Bill 2, Intercountry Adoption (Hague Convention) Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Notices of motions for first reading of bills. Mr. Todd.

Bill 3: Risk Capital Investment Tax Credits Act

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have two notices of motion. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, June 8, 1998, I will move that Bill 3, Risk Capital Investment Tax Credit Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Bill 4: An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act

Mr. Speaker, if I may, I will give notice that on Monday, June 8, 1998, I will move that Bill 4, An Act To Amend the Income Tax Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Notices of motions for first reading of bills. Mr. Kakfwi.

Bill 5: Regulatory Reform Measures Act

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, June 8, 1998, I will move that Bill 5, Regulatory Reform Measures Act, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER:

Notices of motions for first reading of bills. Mr. Erasmus.

Bill 6: An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Monday, June 8, 1998, I will move that Bill 6, An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Notices of motions for first reading of bills. Item 13, motions. Mrs. Groenewegen.

ITEM 13: MOTIONS

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to proceed today with my motion.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Hay River is seeking unanimous consent to deal with motions 1-13(6).

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER:

You have unanimous consent, Mrs. Groenewegen. Proceed with your motion.

Motion 1-13(6): Establishment of a Special Committee on Western Identity

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker,

I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Thebacha,

Page 26

that this Legislative Assembly establish a special committee to be named the Special Committee on Western Identity;

AND FURTHER, that the following Members are appointed to the Special Committee:

- Mr. Seamus Henry
- Honourable Stephen Kakfwi
- Mr. David Krutko
- Mr. James Rabesca

- Mr. Vince Steen

AND FURTHERMORE, that the terms of reference for the Special Committee on Western Identity be established as follows:

The Special Committee on Western Identity shall:

1. Consider and make recommendations on the official symbols and heraldry for the Western Northwest Territories including but not limited to:

- a) Coat of Arms
- b) Seal of the Territory
- c) Flag
- d) Flower
- e) Bird
- f) Tree
- g) Metal
- h) Tartan

2. Consider and made recommendations on events and activities that would celebrate new identity for the western Northwest Territories;

3. Develop a celebration plan of events and activities to mark the creation of the western Northwest Territories;

4. Provide opportunities for all western Northwest Territories residents to provide input to, and be partners in, the work of the Special Committee;

5. Oversee the implementation of the elements of the approved celebration plan; and

6. Consider and recommend on any other matter that, in the opinion of the Special Committee is within its responsibilities respecting western identity and the celebration of the new Western Territory.

AND FURTHERMORE, that the Special Committee shall:

a) conduct its business in a manner approved by the committee and in accordance with the Rules of the Legislative Assembly;

b) be provided with the necessary and administrative and professional support by the Legislative Assembly and the Government of the Northwest Territories;

c) be empowered to retain the services of such professional staff and advisors as deemed advisable by the committee;

d) be provided with the necessary funds to carry out its responsibilities from the appropriations of the Legislative Assembly; and

e) if deemed necessary by the Special Committee in carrying out its work, establish sub-committees that may require the appointment of ex-officio members.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Mrs. Groenewegen, do you wish to speak to your motion? Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Motions. Mr. Ningark.

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I am seeking unanimous consent to deal with my motion now.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Natilikmiot is seeking unanimous consent to deal with his motion. Do we have any nays? Mr. Ningark, you have unanimous consent.

Motion 2-13(6): Extended Adjournment

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, colleagues.

I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Keewatin Central, that notwithstanding rule 4, that when this House adjourns on Thursday June 4, 1998, it shall be adjourned until Wednesday, September 16, 1998.

AND FURTHER, that anytime prior to September 16, 1998, if the Speaker is satisfied, after consultation with the Executive Council and Members of the Legislative Assembly, that the public interest requires that the House should meet at an earlier time during

the adjournment, the Speaker may give notice and thereupon the House shall meet at the time stated in such notice and shall transact its business as it has been duly adjourned to that time. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried. Motions. Mr. Dent.

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Yellowknife Frame Lake is seeking unanimous consent to deal with Motion 3-13(6). Do we have any nays? Mr. Dent, you have unanimous consent.

Motion 3-13(6): Development of a Western Political Accord

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Page 27

WHEREAS, the Constitution Act, 1982 recognizes and affirms the existing aboriginal and treaty rights of the aboriginal peoples of Canada;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Canada has fiduciary responsibility for aboriginal peoples and constitutional responsibility for the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS representative public government is and will continue to be embodied in the Government of the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS the western Members of the 13th Legislative Assembly are accountable and mandated to achieve ongoing political stability in the Western Northwest Territories prior to and after division of the Northwest Territories on April 1st, 1999;

AND WHEREAS political stability depends upon meaningful commitment of all parties to achieve a common purpose for the future western Northwest Territories.

NOW, THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Member for Thebacha, that the Government of the Northwest Territories begin discussions with the Government of Canada and elected leaders representing all the western Northwest Territories regional aboriginal governments as may be represented by the Western NWT Aboriginal Summit to negotiate a political accord which would set out the ongoing relationship between the parties;

AND FURTHERMORE that the parties, with the best intentions, make every effort to reach agreement on a Western Political Accord by October 30, 1998. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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. Motions. Mr. Henry.

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Yellowknife South is seeking unanimous consent to deal with his motion 4-13(6). Do we have any nays? Mr. Henry, you have unanimous consent.

Motion 4-13(6): Appointments to the Northwest Territories Electoral Boundaries Commission

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS the Electoral Boundaries Commission Act has been passed by this Legislative Assembly;

AND WHEREAS part 1 of the act provides for a commission to be called the Northwest Territories Electoral Boundaries Commission;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly has affirmed the establishment of a commission;

AND WHEREAS subsection 2(2) of the act requires that there be a commission composed of a chairperson and two persons appointed by the

Commissioner on the recommendation of the Legislative Assembly;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to appoint the members of the Northwest Territories Electoral Boundaries Commission so the necessary work can be undertaken.

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that the Legislative Assembly recommends to the Commissioner that the Honourable Madam Justice Virginia A. Schuler be appointed chairperson and Mrs. Lucy Kuptana and Mr. Nick Sibbeston be appointed members of the Northwest Territories Electoral Boundaries Commission;

AND FURTHER, that pursuant to subsection 12(1) of the act, the Legislative Assembly requests that the Northwest Territories Electoral Boundaries Commission complete its report on or before October 23, 1998;

AND FURTHERMORE, that the Legislative Assembly requests that the commission give consideration, when planning its public hearings, to the consultation schedule of the Constitutional Working Group.

AND FURTHERMORE, that the Legislative Assembly requests that in planning and conducting its public hearings, the commission make every conceivable effort to conduct, at a minimum, hearings in at least one community or location in each of the existing electoral districts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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. Motions. Item 14, first reading of bills. Mr. Arlooktoo.

ITEM 14: FIRST READING OF BILLS

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to proceed with the first reading of Bill 1, Family Law Reform, Statute Amendment Act.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Baffin South is seeking unanimous consent to deal with Bill 1. Do we have any nays? Mr. Arlooktoo, you have unanimous consent.

Bill 1: Family Law Reform - Statutes Amendment Act

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Members. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Keewatin Central that Bill 1, Family Law Reform - Statutes Amendments Act be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried. Bill 1 has had first reading. First reading of bills. Mr. Ng.

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to proceed with the first reading of Bill 2, Intercountry (Hague Convention) Adoption Act. Thank you.

Page 28

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Yellowknife Frame Lake is seeking unanimous consent to deal with Bill 2. Do we have any nays? Mr. Dent, you have unanimous consent.

Bill 2: Intercountry Adoption (Hague Convention) Act

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Aivilik that Bill 2, Intercountry Adoption (Hague Convention) Act be read for the first time. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried. Bill 2 has had first reading. First reading of bills. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to proceed with the first reading of Bill 3, Risk Capital Investment Tax Credit Act. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Keewatin Central is seeking unanimous consent to deal with Bill 3. Do we have any nays? Mr. Todd, you have unanimous consent.

Bill 3: Risk Capital Investment Tax Credits Act

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Baffin South that Bill 3, Risk Capital Investment Tax Credit Act, be read for the first time. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried. Bill 3 has had first reading. First reading of bills. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to proceed with the first reading of Bill 4, An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Keewatin Central is seeking unanimous consent to deal with Bills 4. Do we have any nays? Mr. Todd, you have unanimous consent.

Bill 4: An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act

HON. JOHN TODD:

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Baffin South that Bill 4, An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried. Bill 4 has had first reading. First reading of bills. Mr. Kakfwi.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to proceed with the first reading of Bill 5, Regulatory Reform Measures Act.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Sahtu is seeking unanimous consent to deal with Bill 5. Do we have any nays? Mr. Kakfwi, you have unanimous consent.

Bill 5: Regulatory Reform Measures Act

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nahendeh that Bill 5, Regulatory Reform Measures Act, be read for the first time. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried. Bill 5 has had first reading. First reading of bills. Mr. Erasmus.

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 6, An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Yellowknife North is seeking unanimous consent to deal with Bill 6. Do we have any nays? Mr. Erasmus, you have unanimous consent.

Bill 6: An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, that Bill 6, An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried. Bill 6 has had first reading. First reading of bills. Item 15, second reading of bills. Mr. Arlooktoo.

ITEM 15: SECOND READING OF BILLS

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 1, Family Law Reform, Statutes Amendments Act.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Baffin South is seeking consent to deal with Bill 1. Do we have any nays? Mr. Arlooktoo, you have consent.

Bill 1: Family Law Reform, Statutes Amendment Act

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife Frame Lake that Bill 1, Family Law Reform, Statutes Amendment Act, be read of the second time. Mr. Speaker, this bill sets out amendments to numerous acts. The amendments are required to bring those acts in line with changes made to the law relating to the family in the territories as a result of the passage of the Adoption Act, the Child and Family Services Act, the Children's Law Act and the Family Law Act, and to clarify, correct or adjust certain provisions in the Child and Family Services Act, the Children's Law Act and the Family Law Act. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in

Page 29

favour? All those opposed? Bill 1 has had second reading and accordingly, the bill stands referred to a committee. Second reading of bills. Mr. Ng.

HON. KELVIN NG:

Mr. Speaker, I seek consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 2, Intercountry (Hague Convention) Adoption Act. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Kitikmeot is seeking consent to deal with Bill 2. Do we have any nays? Mr. Ng, you have consent.

Bill 2: Intercountry Adoption (Hague Convention) Act

HON. KELVIN NG:

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Tu Nedhe that Bill 2, Intercountry

Adoption (Hague Convention) Act, be read for the second time. Mr. Speaker, this bill will implement the 1993 Hague Convention on protection of children and cooperation and respect of Intercountry Adoptions. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried. Bill 2 has had second reading and accordingly, the bill stands referred to a committee. Second reading of bills. Mr. Todd.

Bill 3: Risk Capital Investment Tax Credits Act

HON. JOHN TODD:

I seek consent, Mr. Speaker, to proceed with the second reading of Bill 3, Risk Capital Investment Tax Credits Act.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Keewatin Central is seeking consent to deal with Bill 3. Do we have any nays? Mr. Todd, you have unanimous consent.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Baffin South, that Bill 3, Risk Capital Investment Tax Credits Act, be read for the second time. Mr. Speaker, this bill is intended to promote economic growth in the territories and to create and sustain employment in the territories by allowing taxpayers to qualify for tax credits by investing, either directly or indirectly, in corporations that carry on business in the territories and meet certain other specified criteria that qualify the corporation as an eligible business. The bill allows a taxpayer to qualify for tax credits by purchasing shares in any one of three venture capital corporations, labour-sponsored venture capital corporations, employee venture capital corporations and community-endorsed venture capital corporations.

The bill requires the venture capital corporations to, in turn, invest the funds received from investors in the shares of subordinated debt of eligible businesses. A labour-sponsored venture capital corporation must invest 70 percent of its funds in eligible businesses. An employee venture capital corporation must invest 70 percent of its funds in the eligible business that employs investors. A community-endorsed venture

capital corporation must invest 70 percent of its funds in eligible businesses that have been endorsed by the communities in which the employees of the eligible businesses live.

The bill also allows taxpayers to qualify for tax credits by investing directly in the shares or subordinated debt of certain eligible businesses referred to as territorial business corporations.

The bill limits the use that an eligible business may make of funds received from a venture capital corporation or from investors in the case of a territorial business corporation, so that the funds may only be used for start-up operations or to expand or acquire an existing business. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Here, here.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 3 has had second reading and accordingly, the bill stands referred to a committee. Second reading of bills, Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

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

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Keewatin Central is seeking consent to deal with Bill 4. Do we have any nays? Mr. Todd, you have consent.

Bill 4: An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act

HON. JOHN TODD:

Mr. Speaker I move, second by the honourable Member for Baffin South that Bill 4, An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act, be read for the second time.

This bill permits taxpayers to deduct from tax otherwise payable an amount equal to the tax credits issued under the Risk Capital Investment Tax Credit Act, up to an annual maximum amount of \$30,000 less any tax credits that may be deducted under the federal act. The bill also permits unutilized tax credits

issued under the Risk Capital Investment Credits Act to be carried back three years and forward seven years and deducted from tax otherwise payable in any of those years. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried. Bill 4 has had second reading and accordingly, the bill stands referred to a committee. Second reading of bills. Mr. Kakfwi.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Mr. Speaker, I seek consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 5, Regulatory Reform Measures Act.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Sahtu is seeking consent to deal with Bill 5. Do we have any nays? Mr. Kakfwi, you have unanimous consent.

Bill 5: Regulatory Reform Measures Act

Page 30 30

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nahendeh that Bill 5, Regulatory Reform Measures Act, be read for the second time. Mr. Speaker, this bill amends 16 acts and repeals three others as part of the regulatory reform initiative.

1. Boilers and Pressure Vessels Act. The act is amended to:

- allow the chief inspector to vary the terms of a certificate of inspection or a certificate of approval where he or she is satisfied that the generating capacity of the boiler, pressure vessel or plant has been reduced;
- eliminate mandatory fees for inspections;
- enable a person to appeal an inspection or an action taken by the chief inspector to the Minister instead of to the Commissioner;
- enable a person to appeal the suspension or cancellation of his or her certificate of qualification to the Supreme Court instead of to the Commissioner;

2. Civil Emergency Measures Act. The Act is amended to:

- provide for the declaration of a local state of emergency in an unincorporated community;
- enable the Minister to issue orders respecting hazardous conditions;
- clarify emergency powers to order the demolition or removal of vegetation, structures, equipment or vehicles;
- protect the employment benefits of workers who are conscripted or on duty during a state of emergency or a state of local emergency.

3. Commissioner's Lands Act. The act is amended to remove the requirement for the Commissioner to approve the acquisition of Commissioner's land or an interest in Commissioner's land by employees of the government of the Northwest Territories.

4. Consumer Protection Act. The act is amended to:

- require direct sales contracts to be in writing and signed by the parties;
- provide that a buyer may cancel a direct sales contract without any reason within 10 days after receiving a copy of the direct sales contract and to revise the extended cancellation rights of a buyer;
- provide that a credit contract arranged by a direct seller or vendor is tied to the direct sales contract and is cancelled if the direct sales contract is cancelled;
- establish regulation-making authorities respecting the statement of a buyer's right to cancel and other information that must be contained in a direct sales contract.

5. Electrical Protection Act. The act is amended to:

- provide for the regulation of all elevating devices that run on electrical energy;
- provide that plans and specifications that have been stamped or sealed by an engineer do not have to be submitted to and improved by an inspector unless the chief inspector directs that they be submitted and approved.
- remove the requirement for the chief inspector to make an annual report to the Commissioner;

- clarify the regulation-making authority respecting elevating devices and establish regulation-making authority respecting accidents involving electrical equipment.

6. Environmental Protection Act. The act is amended to:

- provide a mechanism that permits persons to voluntarily provide detailed information, obtained through environmental audits or environmental site assessments, to the chief environmental protection officer about their non-compliance with the act, the regulations, guidelines or environmental standards;
- authorize the chief environmental protection officer to enter into agreements with persons to address any circumstances arising out of the non-compliance or to issue orders under the act;
- provide that persons who voluntarily provide detailed information will not be prosecuted for their non-compliance provided that they comply with the terms of any agreement entered into with and any order issued by the chief environmental protection officer;
- make it an offence to provide false information or documents or make false statements to the chief environmental protection officer or an inspector;
- establish regulatory-making authorities respecting environmental audits, environmental site assessments and agreements.

7. Financial Administration Act. The act is amended to:

- clarify that the Minister responsible for a department or public agency may establish the fees that may be charged for services provided by the department or public agency.

8. Fire Prevention Act. The act is amended to:

Page 31

- provide that the Minister may enter into an agreement with a municipal corporation to authorize it to exercise such powers or perform such duties of the fire marshal as may be specified in the agreement and to permit a municipal corporation to charge fees for services provided to the public in the exercise of those powers or the performance of those duties;

- establish procedures for the submission of work descriptions, plans and specifications to the fire marshal;
- revise the provisions respecting appeals to the fire marshal;
- establish specific regulation-making powers respecting flammable liquids, gases and fireworks.

9. Gas Protection Act. The act is amended to:

- remove outdated wording with respect to the offence of interfering with persons who are exercising powers or performing duties under the act or the regulations.

10. Institute of Chartered Accountants Act. The act is amended to:

- enable the Institute to enter into association or affiliation and to enter into agreements with institutes or orders of accountants incorporated under laws of Canada, a province, the Yukon Territory or Bermuda;
- remove the reference to the head office of the institute being situated in Yellowknife;
- remove the requirement for the Commissioner to approve the institute's by-laws.

11. Legal Profession Act. The act is amended to:

- enable the Law Society of the Northwest Territories to make rules respecting the books, ledgers, journals, records and accounts that must be kept by the members;
- remove the authority of the Commissioner to order an audit of a member's books, ledgers, journals, records and accounts.

12. Liquor Act. This act is amended to:

- clarify the power of the Liquor Licencing Board to set out terms and conditions in licences;
- exempt the board from the requirement to hold a public hearing in connection with a proceeding to cancel a licence if the cancellation is requested by the licence holder;
- clarify that a community which has a system of liquor restrictions may, without first becoming an unregulated area, vote on removing some of those restrictions or on substituting another system of restrictions;

- establish a 15-day minimum notice period for a request for a special prohibition order and to clarify who may request such an order and the scope of its application;

- authorize a licence holder or liquor inspector to request proof of the age of a patron of some licenced premises;

- limit the exemption respecting the supply of beer or wine to a person under the age of 19 years;

- enable regulations to be made establishing a class or subclass of licence which authorizes the licence holder to allow persons under the age of 19 years to enter and remain in the licenced premises.

13. Motion Pictures Act. The act is amended to:

- change the name of the Act to the Film Classification Act;
- repeal the provisions respecting licences, motion picture machines and cabinets, the structural designs of theatres, operators, censorship and officers;
- provide that the audience classifications of a province or the Yukon territory may be adopted by regulation;
- provide that films must have an audience classification and theatres must ensure that persons who are of a class that is prohibited from attending a film of a particular audience classification are not admitted to a film;
- increase the penalty for contravening the Act or the regulations.

14. Motor Vehicles Act. The act is amended to:

- provide for the issue of general identification cards.

15. Public Utilities Act. The act is amended to:

- provide that two or more interested persons may negotiate a settlement of an issue that is within the jurisdiction of the board, subject to the approval of the Board;
- remove the requirement of the board to approve franchises or amendments to franchises giving a public utility the right to operate within a municipality unless the Board is asked to do so by the public utility or a municipality;

- remove the requirement for the board to review applications by public utilities for franchises or amendments to franchises giving a public utility the right to operate outside a municipality.

16. Social Assistance Act. The act is amended to:

- authorize the Minister to exercise powers that were previously exercised by the Commissioner;

- add a definition of local authority;

- authorize the Minister to enter into a written agreement delegating authority for the provision of assistance and welfare services to a local authority;

- require the Minister to consult with representatives of communities that may be affected by the delegation, where authorities are delegated to a regional body.

17. Elevating Devices Safety Act. The act is repealed.

18. Locksmiths, Security Guards and Other Security Occupations Act.

The act and An Act to Amend the Locksmiths, Security Guards and Other Security Occupations Act are repealed.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the principle of the Bill. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 5 has had second reading and accordingly, the Bill stands referred to a committee. Second reading of Bills. Mr. Erasmus.

MR. ERASMUS:

Mr. Speaker, I seek consent to proceed with the second reading of Bill 6, An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Yellowknife North is seeking consent to deal with Bill 6. Do we have any nays? Mr. Erasmus, you have consent.

Bill 6: An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, colleagues. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, that Bill 6, An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act, be read for the second time. Mr. Speaker, this bill amends the Workers' Compensation Act to protect the workers of an employer and the employer from lawsuits arising out of accidents involving other workers and employers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried. Bill 6 has had second reading and accordingly, the bill stands referred to a committee. Second reading of bills. Item 16, orders of the day. Mr. Clerk.

ITEM 16: ORDERS OF THE DAY

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):

Mr. Speaker, orders of the day for Wednesday, September 16, 1998:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motion

15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
20. Report of Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. We have now come to the end of this spring sitting of the Legislative Assembly. As we break, we head to our home communities where summer has come to some regions and is still waiting to visit others. Of course, in some areas, summer takes only a fleeting interest in visiting some of the very deserving residents of the Northwest Territories. At least, you can take comfort in 24-hours of sunlight and enjoy munching on muskox, moose, goose or delicious glacier ice.

This time away from the Assembly will allow us to reconnect with our families, friends and the land. I hope you have a happy

Page 33

and safe summer on the land and on the water. I look forward to seeing you rested and refreshed when we next meet in the Assembly in mid-September for our fall sitting. Before we go, I would like to thank the Clerk's Office, kitchen staff, Hansard staff, Pages and the staff of the Legislative Assembly for all their hard work over the last three weeks. Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

This House stands adjourned until 1:30 p.m.
Wednesday, September 16, 1998.

--ADJOURNMENT