



**NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

6th Session

Day 19

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 Kakfiwi, Mr. Krutko, Mr. Miltenberger, Mr. Morin, Honourable Kelvin Ng, Mr. Ningark, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Ootes, Mr. Picco, Mr. Rabesca, Mr. Roland, Honourable Manitok 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.

HON. SAMUEL GARGAN:

Thank you, Mr. Enuaraq. Before we proceed with the orders of the day, I wish to inform the House that I have received three communications dated December 2, 1998, which are in accordance with section 76.05 of the Nunavut Act from the Interim Commissioner of Nunavut. I would like to read the following letters received.

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Re: Nunavut Statutes Amendment Act, No. 2

The formal creation of Nunavut is now less than four months away. As we continue our preparation for this historic event, it is necessary to amend certain statutes duplicated for Nunavut to render those statutes appropriate for Nunavut. This bill amends several statutes that will be duplicated for Nunavut as they relate to a number of key professional associates. As required by section 76.05 of the Nunavut Act, it is with pleasure that I recommend to the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories the passage of the bill entitled Nunavut Statutes Amendment Act, No. 2, during the Sixth Session of the 13th Legislative Assembly.

Yours sincerely, Jack Anawak, Interim Commissioner.

The second letter is addressed;

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Re: Nunavut Legal Registries Statutes Amendment Act

The formal creation of Nunavut is now less than four months away. As we continue our preparation for this historic event, it is necessary to amend certain statutes duplicated for Nunavut to render those statutes appropriate for Nunavut. This bill provides a mechanism for the registration of corporations, associations, partnerships and societies in Nunavut.

As required by section 76.05 of the Nunavut Act, it is with pleasure that I recommend to the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories the passage of the bill entitled, Nunavut Legal Registries Statutes Amendment Act, during the Sixth Session of the 13th Legislative Assembly.

Yours sincerely, Jack Anawak, Interim Commissioner of Nunavut.

The third letter is addressed;

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Re: Nunavut Workers' Compensation Statutes Amendment Act

The formal creation of Nunavut is now less than four months away. As we continue our preparation for this historic event, it is necessary to amend certain statutes duplicated for Nunavut to render those statutes appropriate for Nunavut. This bill reflects the wishes of all parties to maintain the essential support for all workers in Nunavut provided by the Workers' Compensation Board.

As required by section 76.05 of the Nunavut Act, it is with pleasure that I recommend to the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories the passage of the bill entitled, Nunavut Workers' Compensation Statutes Amendment Act, during the Sixth Session of the 13th Legislative Assembly.

Yours sincerely, Jack Anawak, Interim Commissioner of Nunavut.

Good afternoon. Orders of the day. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Arlooktoo.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement 78-13(6): Quebec Election Results

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On November 30, 1998, residents of Quebec elected a majority Parti Quebecois government. The election was of particular interest to all Canadians because Premier Bouchard hoped that an overwhelming majority would be one of the "winning conditions" he needed to prepare Quebec for another secession referendum. While the Parti Quebecois won 75 seats compared to 48 for the Liberals and one for the "Action Democratique" Party, it is important to note that Premier Bouchard only received about 43 percent of the popular vote. The Liberals had about 44 percent with the ADQ at 12 percent.

These results are very significant for the following reasons. First, they clearly demonstrate that Premier Bouchard and his government have not received an overwhelming vote of

Page 482

support from Quebec residents for their sovereignty project. Rather, Quebec voters have demonstrated that they do not want another referendum and that they expect the Premier to improve the Quebec economy and its health care system; to reduce taxes, the deficit and the debt; to deal with unemployment and poverty; and to work with the federal, provincial and territorial governments for the benefit of Quebec and all of Canada. Second, for those who have followed the Quebec election, it appeared right up until polling day that Quebec Liberal Leader Charest would go down to a humiliating defeat.

Mr. Charest, who consistently campaigned against another referendum and for Quebec within a united Canada, proved the pollsters wrong. The results of the election demonstrate that Mr. Charest and his party are strong and will be a credible opposition in the Quebec Legislature. Third, assuming that Premier Bouchard respects the will of the Quebec electorate and does not hold another referendum, there will be continuity and stability in the relations between Nunavut and Quebec.

Quebec firms do a lot of business in Nunavut. Many Quebec residents are now living in Nunavut. Nunavut has and will continue to purchase many services from Quebec. Resupply by ships for many Nunavut communities originates in Quebec. We have intergovernmental agreements for management of wildlife which migrate over provincial/territorial borders. Quebec is the homeland of Nunavik Inuit who are related to or have close ties with Nunavut

Inuit. Stability makes a lot of sense for both Nunavut and Quebec.

Finally, the election results are good for Canada because governments, the private sector and all Canadians will now be able to focus on pressing regional and national priorities without the threat of another referendum. Reducing taxes, government deficits and debts, creating jobs and business opportunities, advancing the aboriginal agenda and generally improving the standard of living for all Canadians are the priorities of this country, not another referendum.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to stress the importance of current negotiations on the social union, an issue which received a high profile in the Quebec election campaign. The government of Quebec, and all governments participating in these negotiations, are placing a lot of emphasis on successfully concluding these negotiations. While the primary objective of new social union arrangements is to provide for more effective and efficient delivery of social programs to all Canadians, a federal/provincial/territorial consensus will also demonstrate that the Canadian Federation is strong and flexible enough to accommodate the interest and circumstances of all Canadian jurisdictions, including Quebec.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure I speak for all Members and all Northwest Territories residents when I say that we are looking forward to four years without the threat of another secession referendum. Under these circumstances, Quebecers and all Canadians will prosper. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Ministers' statements. Ms. Thompson.

Minister's Statement 79-13(6): 1998 Iqaluit Declaration

HON. MANITOK THOMPSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today in most jurisdictions across Canada, Ministers responsible for the Status of Women will be presenting the Iqaluit Declaration which is a document that affirms our commitment to stop violence against women. Mr. Speaker, on December 6th, across the country we mark the national day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. On this day in 1989, 14 young

women were murdered because they were women. As we reflect on this terrible loss, we must never forget that many women continue to live and die in the shadow of violence.

Violence against women has devastating consequences in many women's lives and significant and economic repercussions for society as a whole. Every day women are intimidated, harassed, stalked, assaulted and abused, often at the hands of an intimate partner. As a society, we cannot and must not tolerate this violence. We must recognize and address the root causes of violence against women and the underlying issues of power and control. The Ministers responsible for the Status of Women share a vision of safe healthy communities where women are not exposed to violence or the threat of violence. Our vision is based on the full equality of women and men. We stress the importance of culturally appropriate and community-based solutions that take into account linguistic, cultural and geographic diversity, that respect aboriginal values and culture, and that reflect the particular needs of vulnerable groups.

Mr. Speaker, to achieve this vision, all of society must take responsibility. The elimination of violence is a long term goal which can only be realized through lasting change in societal values and attitudes. Governments cannot achieve this goal alone. Individuals, service providers, voluntary and professional organizations, the broader public and corporate sectors all have a role to play. It is important that men, as well as women, participate in finding solutions. Sustained action is required, combined with innovative, creative approaches. It is particularly important that programs and services be flexible in their design and delivery in order to be accessible and effective. In this comprehensive effort, strong coordination across all sectors is essential, first and foremost to provide safety, as well as to deal with perpetrators, and to prevent violence before it happens.

Mr. Speaker, our work to end violence against women is guided by the following principles:

*Living free of violence is a right, not a privilege.

*Violence against women is a crime and should never be considered a private matter. Crimes of violence must be dealt with accordingly.

*Safety for victims and survivors must come first.

In order to eliminate violence against women, equality and healthy relationships among boys and girls must be promoted

Page 483

from an early age.

Mr. Speaker, our approach is built on three key strategies; a long term focus on public education and awareness to change attitudes and behaviour; accessible and responsive services to provide safety and support to victims and prevent re-victimization; and effective justice programs to hold perpetrators accountable and provide treatment programs for abusive men.

On many fronts, our governments have shown their determination to end violence against women. Through our policies and initiatives across the country, and our leadership at the international level in ratifying United Nations conventions and supporting UN action plans, we have clearly articulated the unacceptable and intolerable nature of this violence.

Mr. Speaker, much has been done to address violence against women. We will continue to build on the expertise of women's groups and other community partners and together, we will work to improve the effectiveness of our efforts through ongoing partnerships, consultation, evaluation and research. As federal, provincial and territorial Ministers responsible for the Status of Women, we reaffirm our determination to stop violence against women. This is a top priority for our governments. Our commitment will be realized through the actions of each jurisdiction. Together these actions will enable us to meet the challenges and achieve our goals. We owe it to all women who may be affected by violence, now and in the future.

Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, December 6, 1998, there will be a vigil in the Great Hall of the Legislature commemorating the Montreal Massacre that killed 14 innocent women. I welcome all Members of this House to attend. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Ministers' statements. Mr. Antoine.

Minister's Statement 80-13(6): Highway #3 Design/Build Contract Award

HON. JIM ANTOINE:

Mahsi, Mr. Speaker, Members of the Legislative Assembly. This afternoon I would like to announce the award of a contract that begins the reconstruction of Highway 3 between Rae-Edzo and Yellowknife.

--Applause

The contract was awarded on Friday, November 27th, to a project team of Nishi-Khon/SNC-Lavalin, Pelly Construction Ltd. and Arny's Construction Ltd. The contract is worth \$8.725 million. It will see the reconstruction and paving of 12.5 kilometres of Highway 3 between Frank Channel and the Stagg River.

I am particularly excited about this contract because it is the first design/build contract the Department of Transportation has awarded. Under this approach, the competing teams submit their bids for both the project design and its physical completion. The design/build approach encourages innovation by giving the contractors much greater latitude in preparing competing proposals. The process draws on the ingenuity of the successful contracting team to develop the most cost-effective design around the most efficient technical means of completing it. The public should be the big beneficiary from this contracting approach. I expect the department will be using this approach more often in the future.

The other exciting aspect of this award was the training and employment requirements contained in the tender specification. The successful bid had to include a commitment and a plan to hire 90 percent of the work force in the north and 50 percent from the community of Rae-Edzo. These are the most demanding employment criteria the department has ever required. The contracting team has committed to meeting the requirements with the cooperation of Aurora College and the NWT Construction Association in the training component. The employment benefits from this contract will stay in the north and give a large boost in employment opportunities for workers in Rae-Edzo.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased with the award of this contract to Nishi-Khon/SNC Lavalin, Pelly Construction and Arny's Construction group. The last leg of the Highway 3 reconstruction is underway. The Department of Transportation has successfully applied an innovative contracting approach and we have set a new benchmark in achieving local employment benefits. In every way, we are getting

the best results from our northern contracting dollars. Mahsi, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Ministers' statements. Mr. Ng.

Minister's Statement 81-13(6): International Day of Disabled Persons

HON. KELVIN NG:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today is the International Day of Disabled Persons. This day provides an opportunity for us to reflect on the special challenges facing people who have disabilities. Disabilities can be physical or intellectual. Whatever challenges they face, we must remember to recognize each individual's value as a person and as a contributing member of our community. The Department of Health and Social Services, the Government of the Northwest Territories and the people of the north would like to extend their support for all persons with disabilities in the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Speaker, we must work to draw all northerners closer together, not only in the workplace, but also in our community and family activities. Individuals with disabilities should be integrated into the mainstream of community life. They have much to offer and, with appropriate supports, are productive members of our communities. I urge each of you to think about what you or your community can do to help integrate persons with disabilities more fully into your community. I

Page 484

would also like to recognize and commend all the work that is done by non-profit agencies and the many volunteers who advocate on behalf of persons with disabilities. It is up to us to assist those agencies and families in finding ways for people with disabilities to continue to lead satisfying lives. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Ministers' statements. Mr. Dent.

Minister's Statement 82-13(6): Northwest Territories Power Corporation Scholarships

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon. The NWT Power Corporation is proud of its record in encouraging the development of a northern work force through apprenticeship and operator training programs. These training programs benefit employees and customers through better efficiency, safety and reliability. Four years ago, in addition to its own training, the corporation started a scholarship program to assist NWT residents pursuing further education.

Today, it is my pleasure to announce that two scholarships of \$1,000 will be awarded to young people enrolled in business/computer sciences and mechanical engineering. The first is awarded in consultation with the Dogrib Divisional Board of Education. It goes to Ms. Gaeleen MacPherson of Yellowknife. She is pursuing a diploma in business/computer sciences at the University of Lethbridge in Alberta.

The other scholarship is awarded by the corporation to an NWT high school graduate with an outstanding average in Grade 12 examinations. This year the award goes to Mr. Michael Bill of Iqaluit. He is pursuing a diploma in engineering technology at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

I would like to thank the Members of the Assembly who helped promote this scholarship in their constituencies and extend the best wishes of this Assembly and the NWT Power Corporation to Ms. MacPherson and Mr. Bill. Thank you.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Ningark.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement 191-13(6): Pelly Bay Gymnasium

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there is an outstanding issue regarding the construction of a gymnasium in Pelly Bay. Mr. Speaker, we are all

aware of the dynamic growth in population in communities such as Pelly Bay, NWT. This justified the need for a new facility such as the gymnasium. Mr. Speaker, the plan to build a gymnasium has already been deferred several times and the community cannot afford to lose the commitment funding it presently has.

Mr. Speaker, the letter I received from the Hamlet of Pelly Bay dated October 22, 1996, indicated by the way of a resolution provided to me that the Hamlet of Pelly Bay will resume the original intent of funding, that being the construction of a community hall. Thus, elimination of a gymnasium facility from the community, Mr. Speaker. Will the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment, my next-door neighbour, direct his senior staff to communicate or meet, Mr. Speaker, with the representative of the Hamlet of Pelly Bay to finalize the outstanding issue that might be needed to resolve once and for all? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Ootes.

Member's Statement 192-13(6): Contracting of Former Employees

MR. OOTES:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday, Minister Todd spoke about contracting of former employees and made a seven page statement in that regard. He spoke about the human resource manual, section 003 titled, Ethics Conflict of Interest and Outside Employment, which explains restrictions on senior officers in dealing with the territorial government. The NWT guidelines, Mr. Todd said, and he uses the word guideline, Mr. Speaker, and not the word policy and it is a policy, balances collective and individual rights and interests and takes a pragmatic approach to the issue. Mr. Todd then reasons that the number of former employees are so many it is too difficult to enforce the policy with every employee, police the policy with every contract entered into. He affirms that each contracting authority is responsible to know the rules set out by the guidelines and he uses the word guidelines again, instead of the word policy and it is a policy, and to abide by them. Mr. Todd, in the inquiry, said that he did not know if it was his responsibility to enforce the policy, nor did he know what was being done about enforcement of the policy.

Mr. Todd said yesterday that the employment contract was not violated in the case of Mr. Bailey, but by Mr. Todd's own admission before the Conflict Commissioner, the policy was never applied. The question I have, Mr. Speaker, is, what am I to make of this? It sounds to me like his document yesterday was written by a very good spin doctor for his attempt to clarify befuddled me even more. Thank you.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Miltenberger.

Member's Statement 193-13(6): Open Government and Transparency

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I would like to briefly discuss and speak to the issue of open government and transparency, terms that have been used in this House extensively in the last months and years. Mr. Speaker, as the Legislative Assembly we continue to have between 90 and 95 percent of our meetings in camera by my estimation. The House that we operate in today is but a small

Page 485

part of our work. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, we passed, for example, four bills in this House without any discussion. That is because the work was done in committee prior to coming into the House. There was a lot of good debate, what the intent of the bill was, was discussed, the amendments were put before us and discussion centred on those particular very interesting issues, none of which see the light of day. Mr. Speaker, some of the issues we have discussed that I think would be of great interest to the people of the Northwest Territories, not in this House, but in other forms or issues like social pass, affirmative action, language strategy for the Northwest Territories that would support aboriginal languages and prevent them from becoming extinct, are examples of the many kind of interesting discussions and debates that take place, but the people never get to hear and they have no place in this House unfortunately.

My suggestion is that somehow we have to have a balance, somehow we have to be able to open up more of our meetings to the public so they can see what work is done, how hard we struggle with issues. Very clearly, there has to be a balance between confidential budget issues and personnel matters and

the broader issues of policy development and legislation that are of, I think, huge significant interest to the people we represent. Mr. Speaker, I have raised this issue a number of times in this House and in other forms and once again, I would like to put forward if there is a simple option that we could work with and institute, I think, if it is done carefully it would help lift the veil that sort of hangs over us as a Legislative Assembly in regard to the issue of secrecy counterbalanced with the issue and calls for openness and transparency. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Members' statements. Mr. Rabesca

Member's Statement 194-13(6): Highway # 3 Reconstruction

MR. RABESCA:

Mr. Speaker, today is the day many of us in Rae-Edzo and Yellowknife have waited for, for many years. As we heard earlier from the Minister of Transportation, today is the signing of the contract to start construction on Highway 3 from the Frank Channel bridge to Stagg River. This project is the start of the reconstruction of one of the worst sections of highway we have in the Northwest Territories. Although this project is slated as a many year project, we are starting and that is the main thing. I would also like to add more good news, this project will also be done by two local Rae-Edzo companies, Nishi-Khon/SNC Lavalin, and Arny's Construction in partnership with Pelly Construction. As one can imagine, not only will these two local companies benefit, but there will be spinoff benefits to a number of local companies in Rae-Edzo.

This project will also provide a number of jobs and training opportunities for Rae-Edzo. These include drilling and blasting, heavy equipment operators, truck drivers and surveying, supervisory training, as well as other important jobs. This is very important for my community, we are currently experiencing a 43 percent unemployment rate. I look forward to seeing my residents working on this important project and developing positive working skills that will assist them for the future. I would like to congratulate these three companies for their successful bid to improve Highway 3 and bringing badly needed employment to my community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Members' statements. Mr. Krutko.

Member's Statement 195-13(6): Christmas Decorations from Chief Julius School

MR. KRUTKO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pride to stand here today to represent the youth of our communities. Especially the kindergarten class of the Chief Julius School of Fort McPherson. Mr. Speaker, the Chief Julius School of Fort McPherson was the first school in the Northwest Territories to send its Christmas decorations to the Legislature to decorate the Christmas trees in the Great Hall.

Mr. Speaker, today I had the honour of decorating one of those trees with decorations from the Chief Julius School, along with myself was Roberta Vaneltsi and her son, Joel, and also his young friend, Alan Pascal. In case people may have forgotten, Roberta Vaneltsi is the young mother who has been fighting to get her children back from the Czech republic for a number of years. I thought it would be a real honour for Roberta and her son to decorate the tree on behalf of the people from Fort McPherson and the children of Chief Julius School. Mr. Speaker, also as part of the decoration, the class of the Chief Julius School, sent a Christmas card to this House. It says, Merry Christmas to the Members of the Legislative Assembly, especially our MLA, David Krutko.

--Laughter

From the kindergarten class of the Chief Julius School in Fort McPherson. I would like to thank the kindergarten class, along with their teacher, Trina Baryluk, for this great opportunity to wish them all the best for the Christmas holidays. Thank you.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Members' statements. Mr. Enuaraq.

Member's Statement 196-13(6): Heroic Rescue Efforts in Pangnirtung

MR. ENUARAQ:

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to acknowledge the heroism of three people from Pangnirtung. In particular, a Mr. Timusie Evic. Mr.

Evic saw Andrew Dialla struggling in the surf off the beach in Pangnirtung. Seeing that Mr. Dialla would be unsuccessful in safely returning to shore, Mr. Evic dove into the surf to save him. Mr. Evic saved Andrew Dialla from drowning and certainly from a potential case of hypothermia. Mr. Peter Kilabuk and Mr. Tim Dialla, all of Pangnirtung, further assisted Mr. Evic and Mr. Dialla onto shore. Mr. Evic and Mr. Dialla, Peter Kilabuk and Mr. Tim Dialla had assisted them further.

Page 486

Also, the RCMP provided transportation from the shore to the nursing station on a medevac basis. Finally, I wish to take this opportunity to acknowledge all those involved in the rescue of Andrew Dialla. (Translation ends) I recommend Mr. Tim Evic, Mr. Peter Kilabuk and Mr. Tim Dialla for a Commissioner's award. Thank you.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Henry.

Member's Statement 197-13(6): Loss of Confidence in Government

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to express my concern about the loss of confidence in this government by a number of people in the Northwest Territories. Mr. Speaker, with the release of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner's Report, I believe, it is fair to say that many northerners do not believe that this government is holding true to their professed ideals of providing fair and transparent government. Like it or not, Mr. Speaker, I believe that we as a government have to take serious steps to reinstall public confidence in the workings of the Government of the Northwest Territories.

The first step in that reinstalling confidence came with the then Premier Morin resigning. The second step in regaining that confidence came when the Deputy Premier, Mr. Arlooktoo, announced a committee of senior government officials to review the committee's report of Conflict of Interest Commissioner's Report and report back to this House. We have to do more to regain the trust of the people, Mr. Speaker. Many northerners have had serious reservations about the process used to negotiate sole-source contracts and the awarding of contracts using requests for

proposals. The process must, and I emphasize must, Mr. Speaker, be seen to be transparent to the average northerner.

Mr. Speaker, until such time as this government can develop comprehensive guidelines for the departments to follow in the awarding of sole-source contracts and on contracts awarded following requests for proposals, I believe that a moratorium must be placed on the awarding of these contracts and it be followed until standard rules of open contract law are developed. Northerners believe, Mr. Speaker, that there is too much interference at the political level in the awarding of these sole-source and request for proposal contracts. Even though no laws or government policies may have been broken, in awarding these contracts, this government has to answer to the higher court of public perception.

The review and development of standardized guidelines is the first step in regaining respect of northerners for the working of this government. Mr. Speaker, a moratorium on negotiated and sole-sourced and requests for proposal contracts, until such time as definite policies on criteria and eligibility are developed is necessary to instill public confidence in the Government of the Northwest Territories. Later today, I will be directing questions to the Deputy Premier in this regard. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Member's Statement 198-13(6): Results of the Conflict of Interest Inquiry

MR. O'BRIEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, over the past number of months, this government has spent approximately \$1 million on a conflict of interest inquiry. Approximately 20,000 pages of information and evidence was compiled and approximately 50 witnesses were subpoenaed to testify.

Mr. Speaker, in this House, we have a parliamentary privilege and that is to ask or seek consent to extend question period, so as to further explore and question critical issues in this House that are of great interest to the general public. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I requested such an extension, but unfortunately was nayed by the Acting Premier, Mr. Arlooktoo. This, Mr. Speaker, in itself suggests to me that the honourable

Members across the floor have learned little or nothing from the results of this conflict of interest inquiry. Thank you.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Members' statements. Mr. Erasmus.

Member's Statement 199-13(6): Legislative Assembly Christmas Events

MR. ERASMUS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak about several Christmas events that will be happening at the Legislative Assembly in the coming days. Today at 4:30 p.m., the Annual Lights On at the Legislature ceremony will be held in the Great Hall. Kindergarten children are expected to attend and watch as the lights are turned on and Santa will visit. Kindergarten children from schools in Yellowknife and N'dilo have decorated one tree each in the Great Hall and the large tree was decorated with ornaments made by students from schools throughout the Northwest Territories. May I add that this is the first year that there is a tree from the students from N'dilo as their school just opened this year.

--Applause

Sunday, December 6th, will be the annual night of Christmas music at the Legislature. Local performers will sing Christmas

Page 487

carols, followed by a singalong and Christmas goodies. People must have tickets for the event due to the limited seating capacity. Tickets can be picked up at the front reception desk on the first floor in exchange for a donation of food. This food will then be donated to the Yellowknife Women's Centre. On Friday, December 11th, the Yellowknife MLAs will be hosting a Seniors' Tea here at the Great Hall. It starts at 2:30 p.m. and it includes seniors from Detah, N'dilo, as well as all the Yellowknife seniors. People who wish to get a ride can call the Baker's Centre. Thank you.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Evaloarjuk.

Member's Statement 200-13(6): Impact of Igloolik Population Growth

MR. EVALOARJUK:

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to make a statement regarding my community of Igloolik. This community is one of the communities in Nunavut that has the highest increase of population within the Nunavut territory. There is some construction going on in Igloolik, whereas Nunavut construction companies are building homes. I would also like to indicate that the school gymnasium is too small for the growing community of Igloolik. In fact, just half the people of Igloolik can go to the school gymnasium to watch their children play during our concerts. This has become a major problem for the people of Igloolik and knowing that the territories will be divided in the next few months, I would like to encourage the Nunavut government and the construction association to look into building more homes and schools within communities. When the appropriate time comes, Mr. Speaker, I will be asking questions to the Minister of Education regarding schools. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (Translation ends)

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Picco.

Member's Statement 201-13(6): Perceptions of Public Government

MR. PICCO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, over the past several days, issues surrounding governments and the basic foundation of public government in the Northwest Territories has caused much debate here and, indeed, in the national press. Mr. Speaker, the paramount focus of public government is that public government has to be ultimately accountable to the public. This includes the operations of government, contracts, policies and, indeed, the hiring of staff and the protection, Mr. Speaker, of the public purse. Mr. Speaker, perceptions of nepotism and cronyism have permeated this Assembly.

Seemingly, policies of this government are either followed haphazardly or by a system known only to a collective similar to the board. Mr. Speaker, the government needs to tighten up the enforcement of its hiring, contracting and other policies to demonstrate fairness to the ultimate power here, and that is our constituents, the people of the Northwest Territories

and Nunavut. They deserve nothing less. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Kakfwi.

Member's Statement 202-13(6): Zero Tolerance for Violence Against Women

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to speak in support of the Honourable Manitoak Thompson, Minister responsible for Women's Directorate. In recognition of the importance of a national day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, which will be commemorated on Sunday, 6th of December. Mr. Speaker, in the time that I have served in this Legislature, I have known of two occasions where female Members of Cabinet have been assaulted during their time of service, unreported but acknowledged, at least on my part. My mother, who is over 70, two years ago was assaulted. Mr. Speaker, I have a very strong vested interest in wishing everyone would adhere to zero tolerance on violence against women. Thank you.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Members' statements. Mrs. Groenewegen.

Member's Statement 203-13(6): Actions of Cabinet Relative to the Conflict Inquiry

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as I stated yesterday in my Member's statement, the conflict of interest inquiry did specifically look at the dealings, relationship and actions of Mr. Morin. As I said yesterday and may I further elaborate today, that Mr. Morin did not act alone on a number of these issues. At one juncture of the process, four other Members of this Cabinet signed their names to a document generated by the Premier's office clearly stating that a certain action took place at a certain Cabinet meeting. Upon further questioning, three of the four Ministers have now subsequently gone on record as saying that what they signed is not actually what happened.

Mr. Speaker, we have a duty to pursue these matters. We cannot be seen as Members of this Legislative Assembly to be sweeping these things under the carpet. These are very serious issues. I watched as Mr. Morin read his resignation in the Great Hall and I watched as other Cabinet Ministers stood at the back of the room and watched. I saw the looks on their faces. I want to say today, Mr. Speaker, if anybody in Cabinet who has been involved in these matters is feeling smug or safe about the actions they took in relation to these matters, they should think again because I, for one, believe other Members of this House are going to keep these matters in the forefront until we bring accountability for these actions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Roland.

Page 488

Member's Statement 204-13(6): Reflections on the Role of MLAs

MR. ROLAND:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in the last number of days I have had to do some serious soul-searching, is the only way I can put it, with the happenings that have been going on in this arena, as I would call it, and the comments we have been hearing from Members, Ministers, as well as the public, have made me look at my last three years in this Assembly in what caused me to put my name into running for a position that would be at this level of government. I have people tell me, are you sure you know what you are doing? I have had a close friend tell me, you will get an education of a lifetime. I will say that, indeed, it has come to pass that I have learned many things here. I have learned that there is honour in this Assembly, there is respectability if you earn it. I have also learned that things change very quickly, as well.

My concern as I look around here, and I have to look, the days coming as to how we will be presented to the public. I ran in a government that was for the people and I chose to come forward and try and bring issues from a community level into this arena. I can say from where I look at it, that has been done for the most part. The disappointing thing, though, of this whole area of work and life that I now look at is that we see

so many different sides of policies, regulations and of all Members. I think we all must look back and ask ourselves genuinely what caused us to put our names into this arena? What reason are we here for? We are here for the people of the Northwest Territories. I stand here and represent the people of Inuvik and I hope we will all review our position here. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Antoine.

Member's Statement 205-13(6): Economic Activities Occurring in Fort Liard

HON. JIM ANTOINE:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to start off by saying there is light beyond the Conflict of Interest Commission inquiry and workings. There are things going on in our communities. One of them I would like to speak about today is, on November 20th, the Honourable Stephen Kakfwi and his RWED staff accepted my invitation to travel with me to my constituency, particularly Fort Liard. I would like to thank the Minister of RWED for spending the time with myself and my constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to report that in the Fort Liard area there is oil and gas activity going on. Chief Harry Deneron was our host and we flew with him to some of the camps in a helicopter in northern BC, which is still a traditional area of the Fort Liard Dene. We were told this winter there will be 11 drilling rigs that will be working in that area. Five of them in the Max Hamish area, which is south of the BC border, six of them north of 600 in the Fort Liard area itself. The band, Akaitcho Dene First Nations with their company, Beaver Enterprise has been working closely with the oil companies who acquire the work and the learning and the training expertise. As a result of that, Beaver Enterprise is working presently with Chevron Resources, Paramount Canadian Forest Oil Limited and Suncore. They have also made a big contract with the Alberta Energy Corporation to operate three base camps in the oil and gas fields. This will provide a number of camps. There will be a total of nine drilling camps as well as three main camps that will be working. They will be feeding between 700 to 800 people per day and they hope to have a projection of a gross revenue of \$8 million to

\$10 million. This is quite a substantial amount for a community of Fort Liard.

They are going through a training process right now for people in the Fort Liard area first and the people in the region and the community and then the region. There are people in Fort Providence, Fort Simpson, Trout Lake, Jean Marie River that have been working and training in this area. With that, I would like to thank you for allowing me to make this presentation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Members' statements. Mr. Arlooktoo.

Member's Statement 206-13(6): Conflict Inquiry Exhibit Signed by Cabinet Ministers

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not make it a habit of responding immediately to Members' statements, but I listened with interest today to the statements made by Mr. Picco, Mr. O'Brien and Mrs. Groenewegen and in some way I was expecting those statements, the effort to keep the momentum and go out for more blood, et cetera. I did get word in Edmonton that this was going to be the next plan, but I did want to make some comments on what appears to be being said and maybe we could clarify the record a little bit.

The conflict report recommends that the Member for Tu Nedhe be reprimanded for providing documents which he knew to be untrue or to contain untruth. One of those documents is document 246, a note signed by four Ministers of Cabinet, including myself. Mr. Speaker, there has been much talk about this note. I understand that some of the spin being put on document 246, is that its signatory not only signed a false document, that would include me. I wanted to set the record straight. When I testified at the inquiry, I told the truth. The document I signed could have been more accurate, as I said in the inquiry. If I had to do it over today, I would have changed the document to imply to simply say that Mr. Morin did not attend the Cabinet meeting when the item was discussed. This is the same thing that Mr. Todd said under oath.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, Mr. Arlooktoo. Mr. Arlooktoo, under Members' statements, statements can be made that shall not exceed two and half minutes, must be

confirmed to one matter, shall be limited to one statement a day and that the Minister may make a statement in accordance with rule 36(1), but the statement must not relate to his or her responsibility as a Minister. This statement is clearly your responsibility as a Minister. I must rule you out of order. Members' statements. Mr. Morin.

Page 489

Member's Statement 207-13(6): Benefits of Government Contracts at the Community Level

MR. MORIN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Back in 1987, when I ran as a Member for the Legislative Assembly for Tu Nedhe, the majority of the work done in my communities were done by either companies from Yellowknife or from southern Canada. At that time, I can remember quite clearly that there was one construction job alone worth well over \$1 million and my community benefited less than one percent. That was an open tender process. As a matter of fact, my community benefited so little that the contractor was able to pay the labourers in cash every Friday. That is how little benefit my community got from the dollar spent on their behalf in my community. That was a contractor out of Yellowknife. Also in my community, when the housing contracts came out to tender, sure enough, once again, another contractor came in, it was another contractor from another community, they were to build 14 houses, I think they hired six or seven labourers in the community and all the money went out of our community.

When I ran as MLA for Tu Nedhe, Mr. Speaker, I ran with the full intention of closing the gap that I represented in that community of 500 to 600 people. The money that this government spends in our communities has to stay in our communities. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that today, all the contracts in my communities stay in the communities, they do do joint ventures, they do bring in some project management, they bring in expertise to build them on budget, to build them on time, but they do do them in the community and the benefits stay in the community. How did that happen? This government, three terms ago, changed the policy. They changed the policy to allow for negotiated contracts in our communities to assist our people to get into that sector, so that we in the small communities can benefit from the dollar spent in our communities. We are benefiting from those dollars and I encourage the Government of the Northwest Territories and the

Ministers to continue to negotiate contracts in the small communities, continue to work with the communities. They are the ones who have to benefit. Our unemployment rates are high in our communities. Our economic futures are not great, but we can do good, we are doing good. As long as we have negotiated contracts. Thank you.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Members' statements. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Item 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Enuaraq.

ITEM 5: RECOGNITION OF VISITORS IN THE GALLERY

MR. ENUARAQ:

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time I would like to recognize a member of the community of Clyde River, whose name is Alan Natanine. I would like to welcome him to the Legislative Assembly during his visit. Thank you. (Translation ends)

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Welcome to the Assembly. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Arlooktoo.

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize two individuals who have assisted this government greatly over the last few months in preparing for Nunavut and the legislation we are dealing with today. Ms. Margot Engley is legal counsel for Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and she is in the gallery. As well, Ms. Susan Hardey, legal counsel for the Office of the Interim Commissioner and the Nunavut Department of Justice. Thank you.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Welcome to the Assembly. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. I would like to welcome the rest of the people in the gallery. Welcome to the Assembly. Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Ningark.

ITEM 6: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 237-13(6): Gymnasium in Pelly Bay

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am not sure which Minister I should direct my question to, it is regarding my statement in which I indicated Mr. Dent. It has something to do with the gymnasium plan that would be attached to the school in Pelly Bay, it also talks about the community hall in Pelly Bay, that implies the Department of MACA. I believe Public Works and Services is included in this regard. Mr. Speaker, since I implied the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment and the communication was the lead Minister that the community of Pelly Bay wanted to communicate with, my question will be directed to my next-door neighbour, Mr. Dent. Mr. Speaker, will the Minister direct his senior staff to communicate with the Hamlet of Pelly Bay regarding the plan to build either a gymnasium or a community hall? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Return To Question 237-13(6): Gymnasium in Pelly Bay

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is always a pleasure to confirm to my honourable colleague from Natilikmiot that my departmental staff will be pleased to meet with representatives of the hamlet and discuss this issue with him.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Ningark.

Supplementary To Question 237-13(6): Gymnasium in Pelly Bay

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not sure if the representative of the Hamlet of Pelly Bay has plans to come to Yellowknife and meet, but perhaps the Minister could indicate to me in the House that he would ensure that his senior staff travel to Pelly Bay and meet with the hamlet council. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Dent.

Further Return To Question 237-13(6): Gymnasium in Pelly Bay

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Member mentioned that MACA would be involved in this and, in fact, MACA had offered to contribute some funds towards a larger gym in that community. What I will endeavour to do is coordinate a visit by representatives of both Minister Thompson's department and my department at the same time, to the community so that this issue can be discussed with the hamlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Supplementary To Question 237-13(6): Gymnasium in Pelly Bay

MR. NINGARK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to the same honourable Minister and I thank the Minister for the positive response. How soon will the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment and the Minister of MACA be able to arrange a meeting of such importance? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Dent.

Further Return To Question 237-13(6): Gymnasium in Pelly Bay

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If staff are available I will endeavour to set the meeting up before Christmas, if not it will be fairly shortly thereafter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mr. Evaloarjuk.

Question 238-13(6): Gymnasium Renovation in Igloolik

MR. EVALOARJUK:

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier on I mentioned through my Member's statement that I would pose a question to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. I know that the Minister is aware of the gymnasium being too small for the Hamlet of Igloolik and their requirements. When does the Minister have plans to make an expansion on the current gymnasium, that will be my first question. When do you plan on renovating a larger gymnasium at that time? Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (Translation ends)

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, Ms. Thompson.

Return To Question 238-13(6): Gymnasium Renovation in Igloolik

HON. MANITOK THOMPSON:

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Member for Amittuq informed me of the requirement for an expansion of the gymnasium in his community. At this time, I do not have the plans in front of me, however, they are in my office and I will take notice and give him further information as to when the expansion is planned for. I know that this was discussed in detail by my senior colleagues in my office and that is my response to that question to the Member. I apologize that I do not have the information in front of me, but I will defer it to him as soon as I can. Thank you. (Translation ends)

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Evaloarjuk.

Supplementary To Question 238-13(6): Gymnasium Renovation in Igloolik

MR. EVALOARJUK:

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps supplementary to my question regarding Nunavut, as we are making plans for division, we have to make annual plans as well for capital items. Now my question is, once when we have Nunavut government, will these same plans that are in place already still be implemented in the new Nunavut government? Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (Translation ends)

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Ms. Thompson.

Further Return To Question 238-13(6): Gymnasium Renovation in Igloodik

HON. MANITOK THOMPSON:

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mike Ferris is a staff employee who we have been working with in the Nunavut area and he will be acting as deputy minister for the Nunavut government. As far as plans go for Nunavut, Mr. Ferris is fully aware of the plans and he is there to ensure that they are carried out according to the plans. Thank you. (Translation ends)

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mr. Ootes.

Question 239-13(6): Contracting with Former Employees

MR. OOTES:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for Mr. Todd in relationship to the employment contracts with employees. Yesterday Mr. Todd said in his statement that each contracting authority is responsible to know the rules set out by the guidelines, what he meant was the policy, and to abide by them. My question is, when an issue like that arises by a department or a contracting authority issuing a contract, how do they know that the former employee would be exempted from the human resource policy?

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of Finance, Mr. Todd.

Return To Question 239-13(6): Contracting with Former Employees

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said yesterday in an effort to clarify and obviously I confused some others, to clarify the position of the government, the contracting departments, I mean there are hundreds and hundreds of contracts out there. No one person polices that. The contracting departments understand what the rules, if you want, the policies and procedures are as it relates to

Page 491

contracting the former employees. If an employee comes forward that the department feels may be or is in conflict, if you want, of the guidelines, then they would seek clarity from my department or that employee or former employee would seek a waiver from my department. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Supplementary To Question 239-13(6): Contracting with Former Employees

MR. OOTES:

Thank you. It seems to leave it up to the good senses of the department or the employee to come forward to say it. I guess what I am getting at is there does not seem to be an organized approach to this whole issue of conflict, that when an employee is in conflict. It would seem to me that the departments must, we do not have that many employees, even a list of former employees exempted for a year and the dates on it would be helpful for the departments to have when doing contract work. I am wondering if the Minister could tell us why that has never been instituted?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 239-13(6): Contracting with Former Employees

HON. JOHN TODD:

I do recognize the seriousness of the issue and I know that it is serious with a number of Members for a variety of reasons. Let me try to not defend it, but to give some clarity. There are close to 6,000 contracts that we give out, I understand Public Works and other departments do on an annual basis. All of our government employees including our government officers who are authorized to award contracts, take an oath of office that they will faithfully and honestly fulfil the duties that they are assigned. In addition, the contract employees authorities must follow the Financial Administration Act, the contract regulations and the applicable government policies and procedures in awarding contracts. Now we have people in the government that have been with us for years that understand that.

If there is a problem here, let me say again today, yesterday I was asked by Mr. Picco about how many waivers have come across my desk, I have to tell you today not a single waiver has come across my desk. I checked that with one of my staff last night. It is important that you understand that because no waiver has come across my desk, to me anyway, it is obvious that there is no dispute in terms of understanding the rules and regulations, the contractual authorities that the people have and the manner in which the civil service applies them to awarding the contracts. I hope that explains it. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Ootes.

Supplementary To Question 239-13(6): Contracting with Former Employees

MR. OOTES:

What I do not understand is, what happened in the past. Mr. Speaker, we do have a policy and under the guidelines it says that employees may not carry on any business or employment outside the public service in which they unduly or for personal gain exploit their acquaintance with other employees, or with people with whom they have become acquainted with in the course of their employment in the public service. I just do not understand why this policy was not applied previously and I guess my question is that. Why was that policy not applied previously?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 239-13(6): Contracting with Former Employees

HON. JOHN TODD:

Maybe what I will try to do again, is I wanted to get it clear, is provide some clarity. Because an officer leaves the government, that does not automatically mean that they are restricted from working with the government within the year that they leave the government. Do you understand what I am saying? It means that they can take work as long as the work they are taking does not give them the opportunity to unduly exploit the confidential information and they meet the criteria that I alluded to yesterday. I am advised, again, I say to you I am advised that nobody, in my tenure as the Finance Minister and I am sure

the FMB, nothing has come across my desk, repeat nothing, that has requested a waiver. Therefore, I have to make the assumption that those people, all of them, including the ones we have talked about have met the criteria and the policies of contracting the former employees. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Final supplementary, Mr. Ootes.

Supplementary To Question 239-13(6): Contracting with Former Employees

MR. OOTES:

Thank you. I have a difficult time with this because I cannot believe that there has not been one request for a waiver. Obviously the employees are saying, well it does not apply anyway so why do we not just forget about it and do it. In the case of Mr. Bailey, for example, he was secretary to Cabinet. He did have information as to Cabinet decisions. Why was the policy not applied?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 239-13(6): Contracting with Former Employees

HON. JOHN TODD:

I want to be clear, I indicate to my honourable colleague that I have received no waiver, I repeat, no waiver has come across my desk as Chairman of the FMB. My understanding in reviewing the contracts and with respect to Mr. Bailey, and there are others out there, that he met, I am sorry but he met the guidelines, the criteria and the policy that is set within government. The contractual departments that are responsible in making decisions understand what these guidelines and policies are. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Again, I would like to remind the

Page 492

Members regarding naming people in this House who cannot be in the House to defend themselves. I do feel very uncomfortable that a statement was made regarding a person. There is not much I can do in way of ruling something of the person's name out of order

because it has already been made. The statement has been made about that. I also would like to remind the Ordinary Members that you cannot be asking a question that has been asked before, to repeat an earlier question which was answered. I want to give notice to the Members that if you continue to repeat the same questions over that I feel have been answered, then they will be ruled out of order. Oral questions. Mr. Henry.

Question 240-13(6): Sole-Source and Negotiated Contracts

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Deputy Premier, Mr. Arlooktoo, and it is regarding my statement in the House today on a moratorium on sole-sourced and negotiated requests for proposal contracts. Mr. Speaker, potentially my question would be better addressed to Mr. Antoine, from Public Works, but I am addressing it to the Premier, with your concurrence, because I would like to get an overall view of the flavour of the government as a whole. My question to the Deputy Premier, is he aware of the number of negotiated or sole-sourced contracts that the government are participating in now with individuals or businesses within the Northwest Territories? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Acting Premier, Mr. Arlooktoo.

Return To Question 240-13(6): Sole-Source and Negotiated Contracts

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, I am not aware of the number, but I can find out what it is and provide it to the Member. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Henry.

Supplementary To Question 240-13(6): Sole-Source and Negotiated Contracts

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Would the Premier agree that many of the concerns raised by the Conflict of Interest Commissioner surrounded the area of negotiated contracts and sole-sourced contracts and

that there is potentially, among the public, a distrust of that particular process? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Arlooktoo.

Further Return To Question 240-13(6): Sole-Source and Negotiated Contracts

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated yesterday, I am still in the process of analyzing the report myself, but my reading of it generally is that the Conflict Commissioner was more concerned, generally, about the perception of conflict and how the public could perceive on how these contracts are being awarded. I would acknowledge that it has been raised by Members of this House. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Again, I would like to remind the Members how they ask questions of the Minister, in which the Minister is expected to know what the public thinks of the process. The Minister cannot respond on what the public thinks. He can only respond to things that are within his knowledge. Supplementary, Mr. Henry.

Supplementary To Question 240-13(6): Sole-Source and Negotiated Contracts

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I accept your comments. Mr. Speaker, my question to the Deputy Premier is, will the Deputy Premier consider taking the whole question of negotiated and sole-sourced and requests for proposals, take that whole issue to his Cabinet colleagues for discussion of the potential for putting a moratorium on that until there are guidelines put in place, and more importantly, that the public of the Northwest Territories trust can be regained in this particular area? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Arlooktoo.

Further Return To Question 240-13(6): Sole-Source and Negotiated Contracts

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I answer that, I have just been provided with the numbers that the Member had asked for, at least the percentages, so if I may, I will take the opportunity to clarify on the number of contracts that are awarded by the Department of Public Works and Services each year. In summary, during the previous years, 70.7 percent of the total were publicly tendered, 11.8 percent were sole-sourced, 8.3 percent were negotiated and 9.2 percent were RFPs. I will also provide a written copy of these numbers to the Member as there is more detail to deal with.

As far as putting a moratorium on RFPs and sole-sourced contracts, I think that is out of the question. The government needs to carry on with the business of awarding contracts, of doing government business and, I think what is more appropriate is the ongoing review of our policy and procedures. I would confirm that is what the government does on a daily basis and that is what the Cabinet has looked at in the past. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Supplementary To Question 240-13(6): Sole-Source and Negotiated Contracts

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Minister for that. Mr. Speaker, my question to the Minister, would he consider taking the whole question of those contracts to his Cabinet colleagues for consideration while the trust of the public of the Northwest Territories is regained in the government and in the whole process? Would he consider taking it for discussion to his Cabinet colleagues, not whether

Page 493

he would consider putting a moratorium on it but take it for discussion in respect of how the people of the Northwest Territories, at least the ones I have spoken to, feel on this topic? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Arlooktoo.

Further Return To Question 240-13(6): Sole-Source and Negotiated Contracts

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We need to clarify this issue again of public confidence and public opinion and I appreciate your support in saying that it is not the Minister's role in defining that, but what I would suggest is that of the 56 or so communities in the north, I would suggest that it is not the majority opinion of those communities that these contracts are done in an improper way. In saying that, I acknowledge that it is a concern. It is a concern in Yellowknife, some of the major communities, the media and of the MLAs, and so therefore, it is a concern that the government needs to deal with. That is how I think we should deal with it. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Final supplementary, Mr. Henry.

Supplementary To Question 240-13(6): Sole-Source and Negotiated Contracts

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Minister for that. Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that from the comments of the Deputy Premier that, in fact, it is a little more widespread than just one community. He has recognized that yes, he has heard concerns coming from Yellowknife, also from MLAs and also in the press. Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that certainly represents more than one community's concern. Again, I would ask the Premier, would he consider taking it to his Cabinet colleagues for discussion? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Arlooktoo.

Further Return To Question 240-13(6): Sole-Source and Negotiated Contracts

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would have to say that this is the type of issue that Cabinet does discuss on a frequent basis and issues that are raised by MLAs are considered seriously. Ministers raise them in Cabinet meetings and we do discuss them. I will certainly bring this issue up as the Member requests to Cabinet, but as I say, we will deal with it in the best way we believe it should be dealt with. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mr. O'Brien.

Question 241-13(6): Contracting With Former Employees

MR. O'BRIEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister responsible for FMBS, Mr. Todd. It is in reference to the opting-out policy. Mr. Speaker, I heard the Minister indicate that there were no requests from employees to be waived, or to opt out of this policy. Can the Minister tell me what type of enforcement is being done or are the employees self-policing themselves? How do we know what is going on? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of the Financial Management Board, Mr. Todd.

Return To Question 241-13(6): Contracting With Former Employees

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let me again say, I verified with my staff that no waiver has come across my desk in relationship to employees. While there may be, today, yesterday and in the future a focus on one particular employee, I want to remind everybody that a definition of senior officers is close to 300 plus people. What I have asked my staff to do, is I want to make sure that we get this clear, is to research the severance potential post-employment contracting by a number of people. In this community, for example, and others and other deputies, to see if, in fact, any waivers that I have not seen, have taken place. I have to do that just out of respect for the system. I have every confidence. I, for one, have faith in the integrity of the public service. I, for one, believe that all government employees, when they take the oath of office, they take it seriously. I, for one, believe that the civil servants that many of us represent, understand the seriousness of their obligations and responsibilities. And the policy is clear and the rules and regulations are clear. One Minister, or one department cannot police them all.

The obligation and responsibility lies with the contracting departments. They know what the policies are, they know what the rules are, we have a quality civil service, that I have faith in, I am saying to you today, in my initial research yesterday and last night, there was no exemption, if you want, or no waivers

came across my desk. I am attempting, as quickly as I can, to research all the other employees out there. All the other employees out there, and to determine if, in fact, it has taken place. When I get it done, I will provide the Members, as quickly as I can, with that information.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. O'Brien.

Supplementary To Question 241-13(6): Contracting With Former Employees

MR. O'BRIEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I believe Mr. Todd is saying that each department is in charge of policing the policy. Is that correct?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 241-13(6): Contracting With Former Employees

HON. JOHN TODD:

What I am indicating to my honourable colleague is that the contracting departments know the policy. There are hundreds of policies in government. This is just one that has got a focus right now because of the politics, if you want, and the current situation with respect to the Conflict Commission. I think everybody accepts that. There are

Page 494

hundreds of policies out there. Senior management, who have the authority to award contracts are fully aware of the policies that this government has in place and the requirements by them to uphold and fulfil their obligations that they are sworn to do. I, for one, have faith in the civil service ability to do that. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. O'Brien.

Supplementary To Question 241-13(6): Contracting With Former Employees

MR. O'BRIEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, again in reference to the opting-out policy as it relates to Mr. Bailey. Is Mr. Todd confirming that Mr. Bailey had no inside information, was not privy to any information relating to contracts he may have bid on? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 241-13(6): Contracting With Former Employees

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe I answered that question yesterday in my ministerial address. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Final supplementary, Mr. O'Brien.

Supplementary To Question 241-13(6): Contracting With Former Employees

MR. O'BRIEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Todd indicated that he answered the question yesterday in his address. I wonder if the Minister would refresh my memory and repeat his answer as of yesterday? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 241-13(6): Contracting With Former Employees

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just give me a moment. Mr. Speaker, I believe the easiest way to answer the question would be for my honourable colleague to read Hansard, page 731 and 732, where I outline in a detailed succinct way, that Mr. Bailey, in reference to the issues that were brought before us, did, in fact, I am looking for it, meet the policy's criteria, et cetera, laid out on the contract with former employees. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mrs. Groenewegen.

Question 242-13(6): GNWT Post-Employment Policies

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my questions are on the post-employment policy of the Government of the Northwest Territories and directed to Mr. Todd. I realize, Mr. Speaker, from what you said today that we are not supposed to be discussing specific employees, but Mr. Todd did table and read a Minister's Statement yesterday, which I believe it would be good to ask him questions about.

Mr. Speaker, in the testimony that was provided at the inquiry, one of the questions that was actually put to Mr. Bailey was, and you participated in debates with respect to privatization of petroleum products division taking place in the Government of the Northwest Territories: Answer: That is correct; question: And you came to understand the position of the deputy ministers and the Ministers in connection with that issue; answer: That is correct. Mr. Speaker, we have some irreconcilable contradictions here that need to be dealt with. I could go on and also recite Mr. Todd's response to similar questions at the inquiry, but what I would like to address is Mr. Todd's Minister's statement yesterday where he said that Mr. Bailey did not have any direct involvement. I would like him to explain that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of Finance, Mr. Todd.

Return To Question 242-13(6): GNWT Post-Employment Policies

HON. JOHN TODD:

Well, Mr. Speaker, as I said, Mr. Bailey, in accordance with the contracting rules and regulations, did meet the criteria set before us. It means that they can take work as long as the work they are taking does not give them the opportunity to unduly exploit confidential information. Perhaps that is the area where it is in dispute right now and that is the unduly exploit confidential information. Maybe that is what we need to define at some point.

It is my understanding that the contracting agency awarded the contract to Mr. Bailey, which went to RFP I believe, request for proposals, and they must have taken into consideration the guidelines and the regulations that are laid out in this policy. I am not trying to foist stuff onto anybody else, I mean my

honourable colleague is correct, I am ultimately responsible, but I have had no waiver come across my desk in relationship to any employee. None. I am saying that perhaps what needs to be clarified is, unduly exploit confidential information. That is the only way I can answer that question. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Supplementary, Mrs. Groenewegen.

Supplementary To Question 242-13(6): GNWT Post-Employment Policies

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, we

Page 495

are getting into technicalities here over what is or is not confidential information. I understand that the discussions that took place with respect to the privatization of POL primarily took place in Cabinet meetings and senior deputy minister meetings I would say that is confidential information. That is not information that I have access to as a Member of the Legislative Assembly, that is for certain. My question to the Minister is, is the onus for the enforcement of the policy on the Minister or is it on the employee?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 242-13(6): GNWT Post-Employment Policies

HON. JOHN TODD:

The onus of the responsibility for the policy I think is twofold. I have an obligation and a responsibility to ensure that this policy, along with hundreds of others, is enacted to. The employee has a responsibility and the employees have responsibilities to ensure that they behave and authorize contracts in a manner in which they have sworn to do. The employee who leaves the government has a responsibility to ensure that they meet the criteria that is set out in this policy. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mrs. Groenewegen.

Supplementary To Question 242-13(6): GNWT Post-Employment Policies

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just for a moment, let us pursue Mr. Todd's responsibility in this matter. Ministers take an oath of office, they say that they solemnly swear to conduct their business with impartiality, objectivity and fairness. Let us just leave the POL contract for a minute and look at the Aurora Fund, a direct appointment of Mr. Bailey. Does Mr. Todd personally take responsibility for the appointment of Mr. Bailey in that particular contract which took place within the 12 month post-employment period and in fact, probably the discussion of it took place while Mr. Roland was, in fact, still employed by the Government of the Northwest Territories? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 242-13(6): GNWT Post-Employment Policies

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The decision to appoint Mr. Bailey, who was qualified for the job and met all of the criteria for the Aurora Fund general managers job, was made by the board of directors of which I chair.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Final supplementary, Mrs. Groenewegen.

Supplementary To Question 242-13(6): GNWT Post-Employment Policies

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The direct question to the Minister is then, did he have a responsibility to enforce as Chairman of the FMBS the post-employment policy of the Government of the Northwest Territories with respect to the appointing of Mr. Bailey as the manager of the Aurora Fund? Yes or no. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 242-13(6): GNWT Post-Employment Policies

HON. JOHN TODD:

I was asked that same question by the Conflict of Interest Commissioner and I refused at that time to answer yes or no and I will today. I appreciate where my honourable colleague is going and I respect her questioning, it is what she has got every right to do. I fundamentally believe then as I do now that Mr. Bailey, first of all, had the qualifications for that job and secondly, met the criteria as set out under the policy and guidelines by this government. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Again, just to remind the Ministers to that if they do, when a question is asked of them is, when a Minister answers a question that he can answer, they can take it as notice or decline to answer it at all. If they decline then it should be left at that. That was your final supplementary. Oral questions. Mr. Miltenberger.

Question 243-13(6): Update on Power Corporation Negotiations

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is addressed to the Minister responsible for the Power Corporation. As we move into the final days of our sitting prior to Christmas and our last full sitting as an Assembly, I would like the Minister, if he could, to update the House on the status of the disposal or the future of the NWT Power Corporation and the negotiations that have been taking place and where we are at this particular point. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister responsible for the NWT Power Corporation, Mr. Dent.

Return To Question 243-13(6): Update on Power Corporation Negotiations

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have been informed that the parties are fairly close to an agreement on the final wording of a transition agreement, which would set out the process for eventual division of the Power Corporation into two operating entities, east and west, should there not be

some move in the future to bring it back together. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Supplementary To Question 243-13(6): Update on Power Corporation Negotiations

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the

Page 496

Minister indicate when this agreement would take effect and how long it is anticipated at this juncture that this agreement would last? Is it one year, two year or three years? Could the Minister indicate that?

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Mr. Dent.

Further Return To Question 243-13(6): Update on Power Corporation Negotiations

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as I understand it right now, the agreement is for a total of three years, but I believe the first year is for a form of operation and the second period would be for the final transition to two operating agencies. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Miltenberger.

Supplementary To Question 243-13(6): Update on Power Corporation Negotiations

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is the intent that after April 1st the two new Legislatures would, in fact, be able to sit down and look at the plan and the agreement that has been signed to see if, in fact, they want to continue with division or move to keep the Power Corporation as one? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Dent.

Further Return To Question 243-13(6): Update on Power Corporation Negotiations

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there is nothing in the transition agreement that would stop that kind of process from taking place should the new governments after April 1st choose to discuss the issue of keeping the Power Corporation together. That is possible, yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Supplementary To Question 243-13(6): Update on Power Corporation Negotiations

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If everything proceeds as planned, then nothing changes in terms of the agreement which may be signed. Then on April 1, 2002, there would, in fact, be two corporations. Is that how I understand the Minister's response? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Dent.

Further Return To Question 243-13(6): Update on Power Corporation Negotiations

HON. CHARLES DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Member is basically correct. Unless some other event happens after the signing of this agreement, and I believe that we are close to finalizing what the agreement would look like, then in three years there would be two completely separate operating power companies. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mr. Krutko.

Question 244-13(6): Former Employees Under Contract

MR. KRUTKO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Acting Premier. It is regarding the policies of hiring former employees of this government. I would

like to ask the Acting Premier about the number of people, which seems to be in the 250 to 300 range, could the Premier tell me if there are statistics kept on how many of these employees have contracts or leases with this government and how many have been appointed to public boards or agencies of this government? Can the Premier give me an idea of how many RFPs have been negotiated with this government? Are there any such statistics kept on former employees to see exactly how many of those positions there are?

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Can I ask the Member for Mackenzie Delta if he can rephrase his question so that only one question comes out of it?

MR. KRUTKO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Acting Premier, in regard to his knowledge of the process of Cabinet, could he tell me if he knows exactly how many contracts, and the amount of these contracts, there have been given to former senior bureaucrats in this government in regard to contracts such as managerial contracts, leases, RFPs, types of appointments or basically, if there are any negotiated contracts given to former employees of this government? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. I have heard five or six different questions there. I will ask the Member from Mackenzie Delta that he uses his supplementary and his preamble. Would you like to respond, Mr. Arlooktoo?

Return To Question 244-13(6): Former Employees Under Contract

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My understand is, in talking to the Chair of the Financial Management Board, that there are between 250 and 300 individuals that fall under the post-employment policy and are regarded as senior officers that are under this policy. I believe the Chair of the Financial Management Board has already committed to researching the types of issues that the Member is requesting. I will bring it up with the Chair of the Financial Management Board to ensure that the numbers that the Member requested are provided to him in a timely manner. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Picco.

Question 245-13(6): Environmental Review Court Decision

MR. PICCO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the federal government has recently lost a request to stay a ruling on the

Page 497

environmental reviews that could affect developments of mines in the north and Nunavut, including the diamond mines. I guess, the federal Court of Appeal ruled on November 23rd that the Sun Pine decision, which environmentalists call one of their biggest legal victories, will stand until it is appealed next year. I am wondering, has the Minister for RWED or his department reviewed this serious development? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Return To Question 245-13(6): Environmental Review Court Decision

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The department officials do keep track of the court decisions that impact on issues of environment, court cases that arise out of actions taken in jurisdictions such as British Columbia, Ontario and Alberta. When these decisions come out of the courts, we have discussions with the Department of Justice to get advice on the implications and to begin drafting, for the respective Ministers' potential response positions to take in regard to the implications that arise out of those decisions. We do keep track of them. We are not always in the position to give a definitive response because in some cases the implications are somewhat varied and sometimes are appealed. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Picco.

Supplementary To Question 245-13(6): Environmental Review Court Decision

MR. PICCO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, industry officials in the mining sector have said that the decision creates uncertainty for billions of dollars in developments from coast to coast to coast. Ottawa and the provinces have said it threatens the hard won intergovernment agreements already in place. I am wondering when the Minister, or his department, would actually have a response to the Sun Pine decision that was made on November 23, 1998, and make that information available to the House and the Members? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return To Question 245-13(6): Environmental Review Court Decision

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will be consulting with the federal government and our colleagues in the respective governments across this country to get an assessment of the implications of this decision and to begin drafting a response in regard to that. We will be quite happy to share it with Members as soon as it is available. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mr. Miltenberger.

Question 246-13(6): Post-Employment Policy Administration

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is addressed to the Minister responsible for FMBS, but I will redirect it to the Deputy Premier, in regard to the issue that is being discussed here in terms of senior managers and their post-employment. For most of the regular civil servants, my recollection is that when they resign or step out of office, there is a process they follow. There is a form that gets filled out where a whole number of items are checked off to ensure that all the steps are followed, in terms of equipment and owing money to the government and all of your outstanding administrative items are taken care of.

My question to the Minister would be, is such a relatively simple administrative process in place for senior managers, where, in fact, those kind of

departures could be tracked that would seem to be a simple, administrative way that would avoid this kind of particular debate as to what is signed and what is not signed? When somebody at that level leaves office, if it would apply to non-senior civil servants, it would seem to me that maybe something of that nature should exist for senior managers. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Acting Premier, Mr. Arlooktoo.

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will refer that question to the Chair of the Financial Management Board. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Chair of the Financial Management Board, Mr. Todd.

Return To Question 246-13(6): Post-Employment Policy Administration

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize for not being in the chair. The question is, is there a form, if you want, where you have to tick off whatever the requirements are with respect to when you leave office. To be quite frank, there are so many policies in this government, I would have check on it with Mr. Voytilla. What I can tell you is, because this subject has become such a large issue, and because there is a public confidence component to it, that I have actually written to all the Ministers today and the deputy ministers, asking them to take a hard look at this and see if we can reassess how we can bring about some public confidence and assurances that all employees, not just the one that has been mentioned, are covered.

We also have got an obligation, as I said yesterday, to the collective, but we have also got an obligation to the individual. We are all aware, any of us that have been in business, know the over, I do not know if overbearing is the right word, but there is an enormous influence in terms of how people do business with government because it really is the primary engine of the economy over the last 20 years. That is changing obviously. Certainly, I recognize the seriousness of the issue and, again, repeat, I will have to check with Mr. Voytilla as to what kind of forms there are. If they are available, I will table them in the House tomorrow so that we can have a look at

them. I am working as quickly as I can to bring some confidence and some clarity to how we proceed in the future.

Page 498

Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Miltenberger.

Supplementary To Question 246-13(6): Post-Employment Policy Administration

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It would seem that one of the issues here is that there does not appear to be a one-window for this particular function for senior managers, that the Minister of FMBS relies on some other department reviewing things. My suggestion and question to the Minister is, would he consider if it does not exist, putting it in place? I think that a simple administrative process, where every senior manager who leaves the territorial government's employ, is checked off and reviewed for compliance, the same as all other employees are when they leave. I think it would avoid all this kind of discussion in the future. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 246-13(6): Post-Employment Policy Administration

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I want to remind my colleagues that we have an obligation to the individual as well as the collective. If it appears that there is a problem, whether it is perceived or real, then we need to find some way so that we can regain public confidence, so we can bring some confidence to our civil service that leaves and knows full well, thereafter leaves the government, there is a transition from government to the private sector, as other jurisdictions do. Maybe, as my honourable colleague suggests, something of that nature is something that I would certainly be able to be prepared to look at. We certainly have got to find some way where all our employees are comfortable when they know when they leave the government employ and wish to stay in

the territories, they can continue to earn a living. I will do the best I can and as quickly as I can.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Supplementary To Question 246-13(6): Post-Employment Policy Administration

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is obviously an issue of significance to many people. I am trying to offer a solution. I cannot change the past, nobody can change the past. Would the Minister commit to letting this House know, in fact, what exists in terms of a process? If it does not exist then, I think, steps should be taken fairly quickly regardless of what has happened with this other committee of deputies to address something that may be an oversight, or at this point, a hole in how government is seen to be transparent and accountable. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The question has already been asked and it has already been answered. Again, just to correct myself, the question has been asked again but the whole purpose of a supplementary is if the question has not been answered. I would like to ask the Minister to respond. Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 246-13(6): Post-Employment Policy Administration

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am well aware of the seriousness of this issue and how important it is, as I said to the House, to public confidence and I will move as quickly as I can to provide the information and to give some clarity to what the rules of engagement are. As I said, we are trying to re-examine them to get back some public confidence. I will try to do that as quickly as I can. I want to remind everybody that we also have an obligation to the individual out there and that is the fine line that we are trying walk right now. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Final supplementary, Mr. Miltenberger.

Supplementary To Question 246-13(6): Post-Employment Policy Administration

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The issue, of course, is the fine line but it is also the ability of the government to be able to, in fact, speak clearly, concisely and expeditiously to issues of this nature so that it is not coming to this House. I would ask the Minister, I know he said as soon as possible, I am asking if he would try to, in fact, give us a report back while we are still in session so that there is an indication to the public of the positive steps the government intends to take? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 246-13(6): Post-Employment Policy Administration

HON. JOHN TODD:

Frankly, Mr. Speaker, I have everybody working on this as we speak because I recognize the importance of it and the need for public confidence again. I will endeavour, to the best of my ability and to the staff's ability, to bring forward improvements, if you want, to this policy and guidelines. Hopefully I can then seek the MLAs' direction and support and we will do that prior to the closure of this House.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Oral questions. Mrs. Groenewegen.

Question 247-13(6): GNWT Post-Employment Policies

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are again for the Minister of Finance and Chairman of the FMBS. In regard to the Minister's Statement that he made yesterday regarding the post-employment policy and I quote, as an individual, the former employee has a right not to be unfairly restricted in his or her ability to earn a living. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Todd has spoken extensively today on how we must balance as a government the rights of an individual, versus the rights of the collective. For the Minister's information, Mr. Speaker, there are more people out there who would like to earn a living and if we want to talk about

restriction, certainly in the case of the Aurora Fund, other people who were out there, who would also like to earn a living besides Mr. Bailey, were restricted from having access to that particular opportunity because of the direct appointment of Mr. Bailey to that position.

How might we rationalize the other interested parties? How might we rationalize to the other interested parties the handling of not only contract awards in violation of the post-employment policy, but also to the exclusion of other interested parties? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister of Finance, Mr. Todd. I heard two questions.

Return To Question 247-13(6): GNWT Post-Employment Policies

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is an important question my honourable colleague asks and that is another part of the research and the review that we are doing right now. I will endeavour to provide my honourable colleague with as much information as I can and some direction as to where we are going to head in the future. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mrs. Groenewegen.

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My colleagues across the House are making sign language at me. I do not understand what they are saying. The clock is running out and I think they would like me to ask, Mr. Speaker, for unanimous consent to extend question period today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Hay River is seeking unanimous consent to extend question period. Do I have any nays? There is no unanimous consent. Mrs. Groenewegen, your supplementary.

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have no further questions today, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Oral questions. Mr. Ootes.

Question 248-13(6): Appointment of Aurora Fund Manager

MR. OOTES:

On the Aurora Fund appointment, my question is for the Minister of the Financial Management Board, Mr. Todd. My question relates back to earlier questions on the Aurora Fund appointment. I wonder if Mr. Todd could tell us in his knowledge whether anyone else was considered for an appointment as the Aurora Fund Manager? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Minister Responsible for the Financial Management Board. Question period is over. Mr. Todd.

Return To Question 248-13(6): Appointment of Aurora Fund Manager

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe there was. I will double-check the file, but if my memory serves me correctly, I believe that Avery Cooper was another candidate. There could be others. I will double-check and get back to my honourable colleague.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Item 7, written questions.

ITEM 7: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Written Question 8-13(6): Government Contracts with Former Employees

MR. KRUTKO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written question is addressed to the Honourable John Todd. Can the Minister get me a number of contracts with former deputy ministers, senior assistant deputy ministers, all forms of management contracts, leases with the government of the Northwest Territories, RFPs and also types of appointments to boards and agencies of the government of the Northwest Territories?

MR. SPEAKER:

Written questions. Item 8, returns to written questions. Item 9, replies to opening address. Mr. Henry.

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I do not have a reply to opening address but I would request unanimous consent to return to recognition of visitors in the gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Yellowknife South is seeking unanimous consent to go back to item 5. Do we have any nays? We have no nays. Mr. Henry, you have unanimous consent. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Henry.

REVERT TO ITEM 5: RECOGNITION OF VISITORS IN THE GALLERY

MR. HENRY:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, colleagues. Mr. Speaker, I do not often get the opportunity to recognize visitors in the gallery, the constituents of mine, because of my position here in the Legislative Assembly. I have asked a number of times to have a mirror on the back wall so I could see people who are there. It gives me pleasure, Mr. Speaker, to recognize Mr. Dave Talbot, from the Union of Northern Workers, in the gallery. Thank you.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

I think Mr. Talbot has left the building.

--Laughter

Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Arlooktoo.

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a friend of mine and hard working clerk-to-be of the Nunavut Legislative Assembly, Mr. John Quirke.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, recognition of visitors in the gallery. Item 10, petitions. Item 11, reports of standing and

Page 500

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

ITEM 13: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

Tabled Document 39-13(6): Letters from NTI President Regarding Legislative Consultation on Division Bills

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have the pleasure of tabling three letters from Mr. Jose Kusugak regarding the Legislative Consultation Division Bills. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Tabling of documents. Mrs. Groenewegen.

Tabled Document 40-13(6): Nunatsiaq News Article Entitled, "Goo Arlooktoo: Inquiry Cost Too Much Money"

MRS. GROENEWEGEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table a newspaper article which appeared in the Nunavut edition of the Nunatsiaq News dated November 30, 1998. It headlined Goo Arlooktoo: Public Inquiry Cost Too Much Money. The NWT's Justice Minister and Acting Premier is giving lukewarm reviews to Anne Crawford's public inquiry report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Tabling of documents. Mr. Morin.

Tabled Document 41-13(6): Letter Signed by Ministers Arlooktoo, Dent, Todd and Ng Regarding Cabinet Discussions on the Fort Resolution Office Complex

MR. MORIN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have six documents to table. Negotiated Lease - Proposed Office Complex in Fort Resolution. A letter signed by the Honourable Goo Arlooktoo, Charles Dent, John Todd and Kelvin Ng.

Tabled Document 42-13(6): Letter From Deninu K'ue Development Corporation Regarding the Fort Resolution Office Complex

A letter for the Deninu K'ue Development Corporation, Mr. Andrew G. Butler.

Tabled Document 43-13(6): Letter From Conflict of Interest Commissioner Fournier Regarding Fort Resolution Property

A letter from the Conflict of Interest Commission, Joel Fournier, Chief Commissioner, June 6, 1996.

Tabled Document 44-13(6): Letter From GNWT Principal Secretary Avison Regarding Fort Resolution Property

A letter from the office of the Principal Secretary, Government of the Northwest Territories, to the then Conflict Commissioner, Joel Fournier.

Tabled Document 45-13(6): Letter From Premier Morin Regarding Amendments to Disclosure Statement

A letter to David Hamilton, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Amendment to Disclosure Statement, from myself, Don Morin.

Tabled Document 46-13(6): Affidavit of Donald Morin to the Supreme Court of the NWT in the Matter of a Decision of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner

An Affidavit of Donald Morin in the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Tabling of documents. Item 14, notices of motion. Item 15, notices of motions for first reading of bills. Mr. Todd.

ITEM 15: NOTICES OF MOTIONS FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

Bill 20: Division Measures Act, No. 2

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, December 7, 1998, I will move that Bill 20, Division Measures Act, No. 2, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Notices of motions for first reading of bills. Mr. Arlooktoo. You have three bills, you can proceed with all three of them.

Bill 21: Nunavut Statutes Amendment Act, No. 2

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, December 7, 1998, I will move that Bill 21, Nunavut Statutes Amendment Act, No. 2, be read for the first time.

Bill 22: Legal Registries Division Measures Act

Mr. Speaker I also give notice that on Monday December 7, 1998, I will move that Bill 22, Legal Registries Division Measures Act, be read for the first time.

Bill 23: Nunavut Legal Registries Statutes Amendment Act

And finally, Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, December 7, 1998, I will move that Bill 23, Nunavut Legal Registries Statutes Amendment Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Notices of motions for first reading of bills. Ms. Thompson.

HON. MANITOK THOMPSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to proceed with the first reading of Bill 24, Community Employees' Benefits Program Transfer Act.

MR. SPEAKER:

We are on notices of motions for first reading of bills. Ms. Thompson.

Bill 24: Community Employees' Benefits Program Transfer Act

Page 501

HON. MANITOK THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Sorry, Mr. Speaker. I have so many papers in front of me. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on

Monday, December 7, 1998, I will move that Bill 24, Community Employees' Benefits Program Transfer Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Bill 25: Workers' Compensation Division Measures Act

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, December 7, 1998, I will move that Bill 25, Workers' Compensation Division Measures Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Bill 26: Nunavut Workers' Compensation Statutes Amendment Act

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, December 7, 1998, I will move that Bill 26, Nunavut Workers' Compensation Statutes Amendment Act, be read for the first time. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Bill 27: An Act to Amend the Wildlife Act

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Sorry, this is indeed a confusing day, Mr. Speaker and I appreciate your tolerance. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, December 7, 1998, I will move that Bill 27, An Act to Amend the Wildlife Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Bill 32: Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1998-1999

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, December 7, 1998, I will move that Bill 32, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1998-1999, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Notices of motions for first reading of bills. Item 16, motions. Item 17, first reading of bills. Mr. Todd.

ITEM 17: FIRST READING OF BILLS

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 20, Division Measures Act, No. 2.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Keewatin Central is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with his first reading of bills. Do we have any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Todd, you have unanimous consent.

Bill 20: Division Measures Act, No. 2

HON. JOHN TODD:

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Baffin South that Bill 20, Division Measures Act, No. 2, be read for the first time.

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. Bill 20 has had first reading. First reading of bills. Mr. Arlooktoo.

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 21, Nunavut Statutes Amendment Act, No. 2.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Baffin South is seeking unanimous consent to deal with Bill 21. Do we have any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Arlooktoo you have unanimous consent.

Bill 21: Nunavut Statutes Amendment Act, No. 2

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and colleagues. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Keewatin Central, that Bill 21, Nunavut Statutes Amendment Act, No. 2, be read for the first time.

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. Bill 21 has had first reading. First reading of bills. Mr. Arlooktoo.

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 22, Legal Registries Division Measures Act.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Baffin South is seeking unanimous consent to deal with Bill 22. Do we have any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Arlooktoo, you have unanimous consent.

Bill 22: Legal Registries Division Measures Act

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and colleagues. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Aivilik, that Bill 22, Legal Registries Division Measures 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? The motion is carried. Bill 22 has had first reading. First reading of bills. Mr. Arlooktoo.

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek

unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 23, Nunavut Legal Registries Statutes Amendment Act.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Baffin South is seeking unanimous consent to deal with Bill 22. Do we have any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Arlooktoo, you have unanimous consent.

Bill 23: Nunavut Legal Registries Statutes Amendment Act

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and colleagues. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nahendeh, that Bill 23, Nunavut Legal Registries Statutes Amendment 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? The motion is carried. Bill 23 has had first reading. First reading of bills. Ms. Thompson.

HON. MANITOK THOMPSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 24, Community Employees' Benefits Program Transfer Act.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Aivilik is seeking unanimous consent to deal with Bill 24. Do we have any nays? There are no nays. Ms. Thompson, you have unanimous consent.

Bill 24: Community Employees' Benefits Program Transfer Act

HON. MANITOK THOMPSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nahendeh, that Bill 24, Community Employees' Benefits Program Transfer 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? The motion is carried. Bill 24 has had first reading. First reading of bills. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 25, Workers' Compensation Division Measures Act.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Keewatin Central is seeking unanimous consent to deal with Bill 25. Do we have any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Todd, you have unanimous consent.

Bill 25: Workers' Compensation Division Measures Act

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, colleagues. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Baffin South, that Bill 25, Workers' Compensation Division Measures 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? The motion is carried. Bill 25 has had first reading. First reading of bills. Mr. Arlooktoo.

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 26, Nunavut Workers' Compensation Statutes Amendment Act.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Baffin South is seeking unanimous consent to deal with Bill 26. Do we have any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Arlooktoo, you have unanimous consent.

Bill 26: Nunavut Workers' Compensation Statutes Amendment Act

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to express my appreciation on behalf of the government for their cooperation. I move, seconded by the honourable

Member for Keewatin Central, that Bill 26, Nunavut Workers' Compensation Statutes Amendment 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? The motion is carried. Bill 26 has had first reading. First reading of bills. Mr. Antoine.

HON. JIM ANTOINE:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 27, An Act to Amend the Wildlife Act.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Nahendeh is seeking unanimous consent to deal with Bill 27. Do we have any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Antoine, you have unanimous consent.

Bill 27: An Act to Amend the Wildlife Act

HON. JIM ANTOINE:

Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Aivilik, that Bill 27, An Act to Amend the Wildlife Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Miltenberger.

MR. MILTENBERGER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to request for a recorded vote please. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

A recorded vote has been requested by the Member for Thebacha. All those in favour of Bill 27 please stand.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):

Mr. Antoine, Mr. Todd, Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Ningark, Mr. Evaloarjuk, Mr. Picco, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Krutko, Mr. Rabesca, Mr. Roland, Mr. Miltenberger, Mr. Ootes, Mr. Henry, Mr. Ng, Ms. Thompson.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. All those opposed please stand. You cannot record a Member that is not in the House when the vote is started. The results of the recorded vote are 15 for,

Page 503

none against and no abstentions. The motion is carried. Bill 27 has had first reading. First reading of bills. Item 18, second reading of bills. Mr. Todd.

ITEM 18: SECOND READING OF BILLS

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek consent to proceed with the second reading of Bill 20.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Keewatin Central is seeking consent to deal with Bill 20. Do we have any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Todd, you have consent.

Bill 20: Division Measures Act, No. 2

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Baffin South, that Bill 20, Division Measures Act, No. 2, be read for the second time. Mr. Speaker, this bill amends various statutes to implement plans and agreements relating to the establishment of Nunavut. The amendments are placed in separate schedules organized by subject matter.

The Psychologists Act is amended to provide that the Association of Psychologists of the Northwest Territories shall perform the duties and exercise the powers granted to it by the act. If the Association ceases to operate or is no longer in good standing under the Societies Act, the Minister may designate another person or body to perform its functions.

The Labour Standards Act is amended to provide that any province or territory may be recognized as a reciprocating jurisdiction for purposes of enforcement orders, judgments and certificates for the payment of wages. The amendments will ensure that both the Northwest Territories and Nunavut may recognize each other as reciprocating jurisdictions.

The Legal Services Act is amended to permit the Minister to appoint additional members of the Legal

Services Board at his or her discretion and to permit the Minister to enter into agreements with the Interim Commissioner of Nunavut or the people of Nunavut for the provision of the services of the board in Nunavut and for the division of the assets and liabilities of the board.

The Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) Act is amended to provide that any province or territory may be recognized as a reciprocating jurisdiction for purposes of the enforcement of maintenance orders. This amendment will ensure that both the Northwest Territories and Nunavut may recognize each other as reciprocating jurisdictions.

The Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments Act is amended to provide that any province or territory may be recognized as a reciprocating jurisdiction for purposes of the enforcement of judgements. This amendment will ensure that both the Northwest Territories and Nunavut may recognize each other as reciprocating jurisdictions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Just for the record, who was your seconder?

HON. JOHN TODD:

My honourable colleague from Baffin South, 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? The motion is carried. Bill 20 has had second reading and accordingly stands referred to a standing committee. Second reading of bills. Mr. Arlooktoo.

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek consent to proceed with the second reading of Bill 21, Nunavut Statutes Amendment Act, No. 2.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The Member for Baffin South is seeking consent to deal with Bill 21. Do we have any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Arlooktoo, you have consent.

Bill 21: Nunavut Statutes Amendment Act, No. 2

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Keewatin Centre, that Bill 21, Nunavut Statutes Amendments Act, No. 2, be read for the second time. Mr. Speaker, this Bill adjusts the laws of Nunavut by amending several statutes that will be duplicated for Nunavut by the Nunavut Act. All the amendments come into force on April 1, 1999.

The Nunavut Dental Profession Act is amended to provide that the Registration Committee established by the Dental Profession Act (Northwest Territories) is also the Registration Committee for Nunavut, and the Review Officer appointed under the Dental Profession Act (Northwest Territories) is also the Review Officer for Nunavut. The act is also amended to ensure that one member of the Board of Inquiry established to inquire into discipline matters, will be nominated by the Northwest Territories Dental Association.

In addition, the Nunavut Evidence Act is consequentially amended to ensure that a reference to the Northwest Territories Dental Association will continue to relate to that body, rather than to a new Nunavut body.

The Nunavut Medical Profession Act is amended to provide that the Medical Registration Committee established by the Medical Profession Act (Northwest Territories) is also the Medical Registration Committee for Nunavut. The act is also amended to ensure that one member of the Board of Inquiry, established to inquire into discipline matters, will be nominated by the Northwest Territories Medical Association.

In addition, the Nunavut Evidence Act is consequentially amended to ensure that a reference to the Northwest Territories Medical Association will continue to relate to that body, rather than to a new Nunavut body.

The Nunavut Psychologists Act is amended to provide that the Association of Psychologists of the Northwest Territories shall perform duties and exercise the powers granted to it by the act. If the association ceases to operate in Nunavut or is no longer in good standing under the Societies Act (Northwest Territories), the Minister may designate another person or

Page 504

body to perform its functions.

In addition, the Nunavut Evidence Act is consequentially amended to ensure that a reference to the Association of Psychologists of the Northwest Territories will continue to relate to that body, rather than to a new Nunavut Body.

The Nunavut Legal Services Act is amended to provide that the Legal Services Board of the Northwest Territories is designated as the Legal Services Board of Nunavut. The Minister of Justice, on behalf of the Government of Nunavut, may enter into agreements with the Government of the Northwest Territories respecting the provisions of services by the Legal Services Board of the Northwest Territories and respecting the division of the assets and liabilities of that board. Terms and conditions of such an agreement prevail over inconsistent provisions of the Act.

The Northwest Territories Teachers' Association Act is renamed the Federation of Nunavut Teachers Act and is amended to replace references to the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association with references to the Federation of Nunavut Teachers. Other references specific to the Northwest Territories are similarly replaced with terms appropriate to Nunavut.

In addition, transitional provisions are added to the act to provide that the regional presidents of the Baffin, Keewatin and Kitikmeot regions of the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association will serve as the Interim Central Executive of the Federation of Nunavut Teachers. The Interim Central Executive will have the powers, functions and duties of the central council and central executive and of the elected representatives in a general meeting, and may make by-laws subject to later confirmation by the elected representatives in a general meeting. The Interim Central Executive shall conduct elections for the central council and central executive before June 30, 1999, and shall convene a general meeting of the elected representatives of the federation before July 31, 1999.

In addition, the Nunavut Public Services Act is consequentially amended to substitute a reference to the Federation of Nunavut Teachers in place of a reference to the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association. 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? The motion is carried. Bill 21 has had second reading and accordingly stands referred to a standing committee. Second reading of bills. Mr. Arlooktoo.

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek consent to proceed with the second reading of Bill 22, Legal Registries Division Measures Act. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Baffin South is seeking consent to deal with Bill 22. Do we have any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Arlooktoo, you have consent.

Bill 22: Legal Registries Division Measures Act

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kitikmeot, that Bill 22, Legal Registries division Measures Act, be read for the second time. Mr. Speaker, this bill amends the Business Corporations Act, Co-operative Associations Act, Land Titles Act, Partnership Act, Securities Act, and Societies Act to implement plans and agreements relating to the establishment of Nunavut. Provisions are added to the relevant statutes to provide that Northwest Territories business corporations, extra-territorial corporations, societies, co-operatives, limited partnerships and extra-territorial limited partnerships are deemed to be no longer incorporated, registered or formed under the Northwest Territories statutes if the registered office, locality of operations or general partners of the entity, as the case may be, are in Nunavut on April 1, 1999. These entities may continue to operate in the Northwest Territories without registering under the relevant Northwest Territories statute until March 31, 2001.

In addition, a number of minor amendments are made as follows:

- certain transitional provisions of the Land Titles Act that are now spent are repealed to avoid confusion;
- the Partnership Act is amended to provide that a partnership or sole proprietor that has filed a declaration under the act may file a notice indicating that they continue to exist, but no longer carry on business in the Northwest Territories; and,
- the Securities Act is amended to provide that a registered broker or salesperson whose address for service is located in Nunavut on March 31, 1999, may

be served at the address in respect of proceedings in the Northwest Territories until that address is changed in accordance with the 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 favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 22 has had second reading and accordingly stands referred to a standing committee. Second reading of bills. Mr. Arlooktoo.

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

I once again seek unanimous consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 23, Nunavut Legal Registries Statutes Amendment Act. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Baffin South is seeking consent to deal with Bill 23. Do we have any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Arlooktoo, you have unanimous consent.

Bill 23: Nunavut Legal Registries Statutes Amendment Act

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you Mr. Speaker and colleagues. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Aivilik, that Bill 23, Nunavut Legal Registries Statutes Amendment Act, be read for the second time. Mr. Speaker, this bill amends the Nunavut Business Corporations Act, Co-operative Associations Act, Land Titles Act, Partnership Act, Securities Act, and Societies Act to implement plans and

Page 505

agreements relating to the establishment of Nunavut. Provisions are added to the relevant statutes to provide that business corporations, extra-territorial corporations, societies, co-operatives, limited partnerships and extra-territorial limited partnerships are deemed to have been incorporated, registered or formed under the Nunavut statutes if the registered office, locality of operations or general partners of the entity, as the case may be, are in Nunavut on April 1, 1999.

In addition, the Nunavut Land Titles Act is amended to allow the Land Titles Office to be located outside Nunavut. 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? The motion is carried. Bill 23 has had second reading and accordingly stands referred to a committee. Second reading of bills. Ms. Thompson.

HON. MANITOK THOMPSON:

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 24, Community Employees' Benefits Program Transfer Act.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Aivilik is seeking consent to deal with Bill 24. Do we have any nays? There are no nays. Ms. Thompson, you have unanimous consent.

Bill 24: Community Employees' Benefits Program Transfer Act

HON. MANITOK THOMPSON:

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that Bill 24, Community Employees' Benefits Program Transfer Act, be read for the second time. Mr. Speaker, this bill provides for the transfer to a federal, not-for-profit corporation of the benefits program administered by the Community Employees' Benefits Program Board under the Community Employees' Benefits Act, together with the ownership and responsibility for all of the assets and liabilities of the board under the act.

This bill also dissolves the Community Employees' Benefits Program Board, repeals the Community Employees' Benefits Act and makes consequential amendments to the Charter Communities Act, the Cities, Towns and Villages Act, the Hamlets Act and the Settlements 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 favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 24 has had second reading and accordingly stands referred to a committee. Second reading of bills. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seen unanimous consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 25, Workers' Compensation Division Measures Act.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member from Keewatin Central is seeking consent to deal with Bill 25. Do we have any nays? Mr. Todd, you have unanimous consent.

Bill 25: Workers' Compensation Division Measures Act

HON. JOHN TODD:

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Baffin South, that Bill 25, Workers' Compensation Division Measures Act, be read for the second time. Mr. Speaker, this bill amends the Workers' Compensation Act to permit the Workers' Compensation Board and the appeals tribunal to act, after the establishment of Nunavut, as the Workers' Compensation Board and the appeals tribunal for both the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. 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? The motion is carried. Bill 25 has had second reading and accordingly stands referred to a committee. Second reading of bills. Mr. Arlooktoo.

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am seeking unanimous consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 26, Nunavut Workers' Compensation Statutes Amendment Act.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Baffin South is seeking consent to deal with Bill 25. Do we have any nays? Mr. Arlooktoo, you have unanimous consent.

Bill 26: Nunavut Workers' Compensation Statutes Amendment Act

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that Bill 26, Nunavut Workers' Compensation Statutes Amendment Act, be

read for the second time. Mr. Speaker, this bill amends the Workers' Compensation Act duplicated for Nunavut by section 29 of the Nunavut Act (Canada) to permit the Workers' Compensation Board to continue under the Workers' Compensation Act (Northwest Territories) and the appeals tribunal established under that act to act, after the establishment of Nunavut, as the Workers' Compensation Board and appeals tribunal for both the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

This bill also makes consequential amendments to the Public Service Act and the Financial Administration Act as duplicated for Nunavut by section 29 of the Nunavut Act (Canada). 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? The motion is carried. Bill 26 has had second reading and accordingly stands referred to a committee. Second reading of bills. Mr. Kakfwi.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 27, An Act to Amend the Wildlife Act.

MR. SPEAKER:

The Member for Sahtu is seeking consent to deal with Bill 27. Do we have any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Kakfwi, you have unanimous consent.

Page 506

Bill 27: An Act to Amend the Wildlife Act

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Aivilik, that Bill 27, An Act to Amend the Wildlife Act, be read for the second time. Mr. Speaker, this bill amends the Wildlife Act to recognize and give effect to the wildlife harvesting and management provisions of the Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement and the Sahtu Dene and Metis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement. 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? The motion is carried. Bill 27 has had second reading and accordingly stands referred to a committee. Second reading of bills.

I would like, at this time, I have a note here from the Member for Aivilik to recognize her best friend in the gallery, Ms. Celine Ningark. I think that is John's friend, too.

--Laughter

Also, Peter Kattuk of Sanikiluaq. He is the mayor of Sanikiluaq.

--Applause

Welcome to the Assembly. Item 19, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters. Item 20, reports of committee of the whole. Item 21, third reading of bills. Mr. Arlooktoo.

ITEM 21: THIRD READING OF BILLS

Bill 14: Nunavut Judicial System Implementation Act

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Keewatin Central, that Bill 14, Nunavut Judicial System Implementation Act, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. The question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 14 has had third reading. Third reading of bills. Mr. Arlooktoo.

Bill 15: Nunavut Statutes Amendment Act

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kitikmeot, that Bill 15, Nunavut Statutes Amendment Act, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. The question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 15 has had third reading. Third reading of bills. Mr. Arlooktoo.

Bill 16: Nunavut Statutes Replacement Act

HON. GOO ARLOOKTOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Aivilik, that Bill 16, Nunavut Statutes Replacement Act, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. The question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 16 has had third reading. Third reading of bills. Mr. Todd.

Bill 17: Division Measures Act

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Baffin South, that Bill 17, Division Measures Act, be read for the third time. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. The question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 17 has had third reading. Third reading of bills. Item 22, orders of the day. Mr. Clerk.

ITEM 22: ORDERS OF THE DAY

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):

Mr. Speaker, the meeting of the Standing Committee on Social Programs and the Standing Committee on Resource Management is at 5:00 p.m. this evening. At 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning of the Ordinary Members' Caucus.

Orders of the day for Friday, December 4, 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

Page 507

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
 - Tabled Document 37-13(6), Report of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner
20. Report of Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Before we close the House for today, I would like to invite my colleagues and people in the gallery to the lighting of the Christmas lights at 4:30. This House stands adjourned to Friday, December, 4, 1998, at 10:00 a.m.

--ADJOURNMENT