



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

2nd Session

11th Assembly

HANSARD  
Official Report  
DAY 1

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1988

Pages 1 to 13

Speaker: The Hon. Red Pedersen, M.L.A.

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

## Speaker

The Hon. Red Pedersen, M.L.A.  
General Delivery  
Coppermine, N.W.T.  
XOE OEO  
(403) 873-7629 (Office)  
(403) 873-5788 (Home) (Yellowknife)  
(403) 982-5788 (Coppermine)  
(Kitikmeot West)

Allooloo, The Hon. Titus, M.L.A.  
5024 - 57th Street  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
X1A 1Y6  
(403) 873-7113 (Office)  
(403) 873-4813 (Home)  
(Amittuq)  
Minister of Culture & Communications  
and Renewable Resources

Angottitauruq, Mr. Michael, M.L.A.  
General Delivery  
Gjoa Haven, N.W.T.  
XOE 1J0  
(403) 360-6600 (Office)  
(403) 360-6704 (Home)  
(Natilikmiot)  
Deputy Chairman  
Committee of the Whole

Arlooktoo, Mr. Joe, M.L.A.  
General Delivery  
Lake Harbour, N.W.T.  
XOA ONO  
(819) 939-2363 (Home)  
(Baffin South)

Ballantyne, The Hon. Michael, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 1091  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
X1A 2N8  
(403) 873-7658 (Office)  
(403) 920-2963 (Home)  
(Yellowknife North)  
Minister of Finance and Justice

Butters, Mr. Tom, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 1069  
Inuvik, N.W.T.  
XOE OTO  
(403) 979-2373 (Office)  
(403) 979-2373 (Home)  
(Inuvik)

Cournoyca, The Hon. Nellie, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 1184  
Inuvik, N.W.T.  
XOE OTO  
(403) 873-7128 (Office)  
(403) 977-2405 (Tuktoyaktuk)  
(403) 979-2737 (Inuvik)  
(Nunakput)  
Minister of Health

Crow, Mr. Charlie, M.L.A.  
General Delivery  
Sanikiluaq, N.W.T.  
XOA OWO  
(819) 266-8940 (Home)  
(Hudson Bay)

Ernerk, Mr. Peter, M.L.A.  
Box 182  
Rankin Inlet, N.W.T.  
XOC OGO  
(819) 645-2800  
(819) 645-2500  
(Aivilik)

Gargan, Mr. Samuel, M.L.A.  
General Delivery  
Fort Providence, N.W.T.  
XOE OLO  
(403) 873-7999 (Office)  
(403) 699-3171 (Home)  
(Deh Cho)  
Deputy Speaker and Chairman,  
Committee of the Whole

Kakfwi, The Hon. Stephen, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 1320  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
X1A 2L9  
(403) 873-7139 (Office)  
(403) 873-8215 (Home)  
(Sahtu)  
Minister of Government Services  
and Housing

Kilabuk, Mr. Ipeelee, M.L.A.  
General Delivery  
Pangnirtung, N.W.T.  
XOA ORO  
(819) 437-8827 (Home)  
(Baffin Central)

Lewis, Mr. Brian, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 1320  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
X1A 2L9  
(403) 873-7999 (Office)  
(403) 873-5549 (Home)  
(Yellowknife Centre)

Marie-Jewell, The Hon. Jeannie, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 1051  
Fort Smith, N.W.T.  
XOE OPO  
(403) 873-7959 (Office)  
(403) 872-2940 (Home)  
(Slave River)  
Minister of Social Services

McLaughlin, Mr. Bruce, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 2637  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
X1A 2P9  
(403) 393-2939 (Office)  
(403) 393-2226 (Home)  
(403) 920-3166 (Office)  
(403) 873-6220 (Home)  
(Pine Point)

Morin, Mr. Don, M.L.A.  
General Delivery  
Fort Resolution, N.W.T.  
XOE OMO  
(403) 394-3471  
(Tu Nede)

Nerysoo, Mr. Richard, M.L.A.  
Fort McPherson, N.W.T.  
XOE OJO  
(403) 979-2668 (Home) (Inuvik)  
(Mackenzie Delta)

Patterson, The Hon. Dennis  
P.O. Box 310  
Iqaluit, N.W.T.  
XOA OHO  
(403) 873-7112 (Office)  
(819) 979-5993 (Office)  
(403) 873-2802 (Home)  
(Iqaluit)  
Government Leader,  
Chairman of Executive Council,  
Minister of Executive and Education

Pollard, Mr. John D., M.L.A.  
Box 1095  
Hay River, N.W.T.  
XOE ORO  
(403) 874-2345 (Office)  
(403) 874-2600 (Home)  
(Hay River)

Pudluk, Mr. Ludy, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 240  
Resolute Bay, N.W.T.  
XOA OVO  
(819) 252-3719 (Home)  
(High Arctic)

Richard, Mr. Ted, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 1320  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
X1A 2L9  
(403) 873-7920 (Office)  
(403) 873-3667 (Home)  
(Yellowknife South)

Sibbeston, The Hon. Nick, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 560  
Fort Simpson, N.W.T.  
XOE ONO  
(403) 873-7123 (Office)  
(403) 873-6215 (Home)  
(Nahendeh)  
Minister of Economic Development  
& Tourism

Wray, The Hon. Gordon, M.L.A.  
Baker Lake, N.W.T.  
XOC OAO  
(403) 873-7962 (Office)  
(819) 793-2700 (Home)  
(Kivallivik)  
Minister of Municipal & Community  
Affairs, Personnel and  
Public Works & Highways

Zoe, Mr. Henry, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 1320  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
X1A 2L9  
(403) 873-7999 (Office)  
(403) 873-4136 (Home)  
(Rae - Lac la Martre)  
Deputy Chairman,  
Committee of the Whole

## Officers

Clerk  
Mr. David Hamilton  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Clerk Assistant  
Mrs. Rhoda Perkison  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Law Clerk  
Mr. Joel Fournier  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Editor of Hansard  
Ms Marie J. Coe  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Sergeant-at-Arms  
Mr. Raymond Mercer  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

TABLE OF CONTENTS  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1988

	<u>PAGE</u>
Prayer	1
Opening Address	1
Ministers' Statements	
- 1-88(1) Notification of Budget Address	7
Oral Questions	8
Tabling of Documents	11
Notices of Motion	11
Orders of the Day	12



YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1988

MEMBERS PRESENT

Hon. Titus Alloo, Mr. Arlooktoo, Hon. Michael Ballantyne, Mr. Butters, Hon. Nellie Cournoyea, Mr. Crow, Mr. Ernerk, Hon. Stephen Kakfwi, Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. Gargan, Mr. Lewis, Hon. Jeannie Marie-Jewell, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Morin, Mr. Nerysoo, Hon. Dennis Patterson, Hon. Red Pedersen, Mr. Pollard, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Richard, Hon. Nick Sibbeston, Hon. Gordon Wray, Mr. Zoe

SPEAKER (Hon. Red Pedersen): Canon Buckle, would you lead us in prayer?

ITEM 1: PRAYER

CANON BUCKLE: Let us pray. O Eternal Lord God, from You alone comes wisdom and understanding. We ask You to direct in a right way the minds of those of the Legislative Assembly about to take counsel together on matters pertaining to the common life of this Territory; that in all their deliberations and decisions they may faithfully discharge the duties of their office and ever promote the health, the safety and the well-being of those whom they seek to serve; for the honour and glory of Your holy Name. Amen.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Please be seated. Mr. Clerk, would you ascertain if the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories is prepared to address this Legislature?

ITEM 2: OPENING ADDRESS

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Please be seated. Mr. Speaker, Members of the Legislative Assembly. It is my pleasure to welcome you to this second session of the 11th Legislative Assembly.

In late November, shortly after the adjournment of the first session of the newly elected Assembly, our government took immediate action to begin planning the directions and priorities for its four year mandate.

In a concentrated strategy session at Snare Rapids, the new cabinet, under the direction of the Government Leader, considered the programs and services of the territorial government; current political, economic and cultural trends; and the more immediate and longer-term needs of our people. The result was the establishment of a new direction, taking us into the 1990s.

A strong economic emphasis emerged. Jobs in the North for northerners are a high priority for northern people and our government. Education was also stressed, especially since it can be critical in ensuring that northerners are able to take advantage of existing and potential employment opportunities. The political direction established by our government also has economic implications. The orderly development of public government in the Northwest Territories and strong support for the settlement of aboriginal claims go hand in hand with development of a more stable and viable economy. Developing relations with other circumpolar nations can also lead to northern economic growth, as well as fostering social and cultural exchange.

Later in this session the government will table a paper on the new direction for consideration of the House.

### An Economic Emphasis

The emphasis given by our government to the economy at this time is, to some extent, influenced by current economic conditions and potential problems if action is not taken. 1987 was a tough year, particularly influenced by a drop in investment and lead/zinc mining. Although it is common to focus on Black Monday -- the October 19th plummet in the stock market -- that is not all we have to be concerned about. A slowdown in the North American economy is a reality. A recession in the economy is a possibility and, because of the nature of our northern economy, that could seriously harm our mining, oil and gas and other primary industries.

Our government believes that creative approaches can be taken to improve our economic picture, including developing practical education programs and taking greater advantage of our own renewable resources.

It is important to realize that the jobs we foster need not necessarily be the urban types. Some could indeed be more related to the renewable resources sector and closer to the traditional lifestyles of native people who have been harvesting the land and sea for centuries. In addition to country food and fur industry development, there is also a potential for better commercial development of our forest and fish resources and small scale agriculture.

A critical element in sustaining economic growth is the need to improve our northern transportation facilities, including roads, airports, docks and wharves. Mobility is becoming increasingly important in today's economic and social environment. People and goods must be able to move more expeditiously and at less cost. But achieving that new level of service will be expensive and will require a commitment of funds from the Government of Canada. Our government will be approaching the federal government for their support in an area considered crucial to a stable northern economy.

Related to that issue, our government has some concerns about the acquisition of NWT Air by Air Canada and the possibility that the change from a main-line to a feeder-line service may result in poorer service. We feel that a close watch must be kept to guard against any negative effects from this lessening of competition.

Another key objective of our government is to support the private sector and encourage the viability of northern business. We will be reviewing all our grants, contributions and loan programs to achieve a more coherent approach to business support.

Increasing the availability of jobs in the North depends to a degree on obtaining greater local control of our economy. Our government is examining import substitution programs to move in the direction of greater self-sufficiency.

Examples of just some of the areas worthy of further investigation include meat slaughtering and processing facilities and the distribution of country foods. Small-scale agriculture, small-scale manufacturing of such materials as doors, windows and manufactured homes, a test tannery, and clothing manufacturing are others.

### Energy Agreements Crucial

We are actively seeking a northern energy accord with the federal government. The federal cabinet is considering the principles for the transfer of provincial-type responsibilities for oil and gas resources to the Government of the Northwest Territories. We are expecting an answer this month.

An accord would not only introduce stability into the investment climate for the industry but mean an important new independent source of income for the Government of the NWT. The significance of this is emphasized by the latest Geological Survey of Canada estimates that the Northwest Territories have almost half of western Canada's oil and gas reserves.

We are also on the verge of an agreement with the federal government on the transfer of the Northern Canada Power Commission. The signing this week of an agreement on the principles for the transfer by our Minister responsible for Energy, Mines and Resources and the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development was a major step. Once these principles have been agreed to by the cabinets of both governments, they will be made available for review by Members of the Legislative Assembly. In anticipation of the successful conclusion of the NCPC transfer, the Assembly will be asked to approve a number of legislative changes at this session.



There is no doubt that our Department of Economic Development and Tourism will have an important role to play in this government's determined efforts to stimulate economic growth. During the past year, effective negotiating culminated in the signing in October, 1987, of a new three year Economic Development Agreement with the Government of Canada, providing \$39 million.

#### Promoting Tourism And Cultural Activity

During the year ahead, Economic Development and Tourism will be involved in the intensive study and planning associated with the government's new economic directions. One area of special attention will be development of the tourism industry. Emphasis will be placed on developing facilities and attractions that reflect cultural and historic themes, giving tourists more interesting things to do and see when they visit us.

The Department of Culture and Communications will be promoting cultural industries, including support of northern arts and entertainment. During the year ahead, Culture and Communications will also continue its major efforts to provide quality interpreting and translating services in aboriginal languages. French language services will also be expanded in 1988 under federal funding. The department will continue to take a lead role in encouraging the development of Television Northern Canada, a co-operative effort of the two territorial governments, northern native broadcasters and the CBC Northern Service, to provide a new public educational television service. A funding proposal is now with the Government of Canada and we have encouraging indications of support.

On February 22, Culture and Communications will mark the 20th anniversary of the official opening of the Centennial Library in Hay River and the beginning of the modern Northwest Territories public library service. Built as a Northwest Territories centennial project, the library is a tribute to the community spirit which led to the choice of Hay River as the main service facility from among a number of contenders. The spirit continues today.

#### Renewable Resources Initiatives

The Department of Renewable Resources assumed responsibility for forest management and fire suppression from the federal government last year. They had a successful first year of operation. Forest management plans are now being prepared, with public involvement, to determine how best to develop timber while protecting other resources.

Other initiatives for Renewable Resources in 1988 include preparation of a conservation strategy; public consultation on a number of management plans, including the Bathurst caribou herd and polar bear; and development of a land use regional plan for the Lancaster Sound area.

#### Support For Local Construction

During the past year, the government accelerated its capital construction program, particularly responding to long-standing needs for recreational facilities in communities. The Department of Public Works and Highways followed a policy of supporting the development of the North's economy, local businesses and local workers, by awarding over 80 per cent of the value of its construction, maintenance and service contracts to Northwest Territories contractors.

The government's new economic strategy supports this approach, encouraging local and northern employment by such means as breaking projects into smaller components, if necessary, and involving community councils in project management.

Public Works and Highways will assume responsibility for the interterritorial road reconstruction program, which will be transferred from the federal government in April.

#### Providing Effective Education

Education more directly related to employment development is a critical area of concern and a major emphasis of this government. We believe that efforts are needed to better prepare students and adult northerners to take advantage of existing jobs and jobs that will be created by economic growth. Efforts will be made to improve literacy, provide training that matches skills with opportunities, and provide for career options, including traditional occupations, business and professional careers. Regular school attendance will be supported by counselling students and involving parents.



The Department of Education will continue to increase public involvement in the delivery of education. In April, two new divisional boards of education will be established, one in the Kitikmeot and one in the Keewatin. Like the Baffin board, they will be responsible for managing and delivering kindergarten to grade 12 programs in the regions. Adult education will be transferred to Arctic College.

The Arctic College campuses in Fort Smith, Iqaluit and Inuvik will extend the courses offered, including interpreter/translator training in Iqaluit as well as at Thebacha, and introduction of a health career preparation program. Other initiatives will include development of travel industry and mining industry programs.

#### Developing Public Government

There is concern within our government about the many special committees that have been established at the community level, and the proliferation of regional boards and bodies. We need a clearer vision of how public government should evolve in the Northwest Territories. Our government will clarify the relationships between territorial authorities, regional bodies and local governments. The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs will play an important role in ensuring that there is effective community participation and that community councils can take part in shaping public government in the Northwest Territories.

Negotiations are continuing and Municipal and Community Affairs is expecting to assume responsibility for Arctic B and C type airports from the federal government in 1988-89.

There is no doubt that the Meech Lake Accord on changes to the Canadian Constitution, agreed to by the provinces and the Government of Canada last year, was a devastating blow. Northerners and our government strenuously oppose the accord in its present form. It is appalling that this agreement could make it very unlikely that any senators or Supreme Court justices would come from the Yukon or the Northwest Territories in the future. Even more unacceptable are the provisions requiring unanimous consent of the provinces and the Government of Canada before the Territories could achieve provincial status, while at the same time provinces could extend their boundaries northward without our consent. Our government continues to act on a variety of fronts to encourage change, preferably before the accord becomes law.

In November, our Government Leader met with the Prime Minister and discussed, among other things, our strong objections to the accord. In January, he also met with the Premiers of Ontario and Quebec on this issue.

On February 16th, the Hon. Stephen Kakfwi, Minister responsible for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development, and Ted Richard, Member of the Legislative Assembly for Yellowknife South, will be in Toronto to present our position to the special committee of the Ontario legislature examining the constitutional accord. Our government will also appear before any other committees established by concerned provinces such as the Province of Manitoba.

#### Support For Aboriginal Claims

Another main objective of our government is to facilitate the successful conclusion of aboriginal claims agreements. Such agreements could encourage orderly development by introducing greater stability and less uncertainty, while providing aboriginal people with the resources to take full advantage of economic opportunities.

The Dene/Metis negotiating group only have a few months left to reach agreement within federal deadlines. Crucial issues remain to be resolved, including compensation and resource revenue sharing arrangements. The TFN negotiating group for the Inuit have more time. Key issues still unresolved, however, include compensation and revenues from subsurface resources. Our government is doing its utmost to assist the aboriginal groups in their quest toward greater self-reliance. Canadians must realize that over one third of Canada's land mass cannot remain under dispute.

When the talks to guarantee aboriginal rights in the Constitution broke down on March 31, 1987, it was a sad day for all Canadians. Despite attempts by aboriginal groups and our government to keep that process going, it was ended. We will be making efforts to encourage the renewal of talks at the political and constitutional level. This is an important issue for the Northwest Territories where the majority of our residents are aboriginal people, reflected in both this Assembly and the cabinet.



Last February as I opened the main budget session for 1987, I conveyed to you the support of the government for the boundary accord reached by the Dene/Metis and the Inuit. Since that time, the groups have been unable to finalize an agreement, with land claims boundary issues still causing problems. We will be following the negotiations with interest as they are crucial to resolving the matter of dividing the Northwest Territories.

#### Sovereignty And Intergovernmental Affairs

The Government of Canada would be wise to recognize that the existence of viable public government in the North provides this country with its best argument for sovereignty over arctic waters. For instance, for a fraction of the eight billion dollars estimated cost of Canada providing nuclear-powered submarines in arctic waters, we could substantially improve our transportation systems in the Northwest Territories, give a major boost to economic growth and encourage stability for our northern population.

We believe that the free trade agreement negotiated by the Government of Canada with the United States holds more positive than negative implications for the Northwest Territories. Basic elements of our economy such as mining, trapping and tourism stand to benefit from the agreement. Generally, enhanced exports and lower import costs would be advantageous for us. We are also continuing to make the case for our native people to gain parity with Alaskan native people who are exempted from the Marine Mammals Act.

#### The Budget And Financial Concerns

The main business before you at this session will be consideration of the 1988-89 budget, which will be addressed in detail by the Minister of Finance. In general, the budget you will shortly be dealing with will maintain essential services throughout the Northwest Territories and improve the capital infrastructure while not overspending in a time requiring restraint. The budget will reflect some tough choices your government has had to make in a difficult fiscal environment. The territorial accumulated surplus has almost been exhausted, thus restraining our spending choices for the year ahead.

Deficit financing last year mitigated the effects of reduced economic activity in the Northwest Territories, but there is a limit, and eventually a ceiling must be put on government spending. We must learn to live reasonably close to our means, avoid undue taxation and continue to support the private sector which will be the source of jobs in the future.

Renegotiating our government's formula financing agreement with the Government of Canada beyond March, 1990, will be a major challenge. The Department of Finance is beginning evaluations in conjunction with the Government of Yukon and the federal government. These negotiations are crucial, especially since the grant from the Government of Canada accounts for over 70 per cent of our revenues. Negotiations are not expected to be easy. Despite its sustained efforts, the federal government has only made a small dent in its own budget deficit of over \$29 billion.

The objectives of phase one of the federal tax reform, initiated by Minister Michael Wilson, were supported by the Government of the Northwest Territories, despite some detrimental provisions affecting the mining sector. On the other hand, phase two will be marked with the introduction of some form of national sales tax. As costs in the Northwest Territories can be double those prevailing in the South, any national sales tax will doubly penalize northerners. We are seeking to educate federal decision-makers on the North's special cost circumstances.

#### Social Development And Other Initiatives

Our government is also aware that while economic growth will alleviate some social problems by creating employment opportunities, there must continue to be proper safety net provisions for those unable to work or temporarily out of work. In many ways, the Northwest Territories is one of the most advanced providers of social services in the world. This is partly due to our extreme climatic conditions, enormous distances and small population which can somewhat distort per capita statistics, but is also evidence of our social consciousness and awareness. We will continue efforts to improve living conditions for our elderly, facilities for our youth and properly look after our sick and disabled. We will also strive to do as much as our resources allow to ensure that people are adequately housed.



The Department of Health is preparing to receive the staff resources and assets required to operate health services in the Northwest Territories, which are being transferred from the federal to the territorial government in April. With this transfer of health services, new regional health boards will be established for the Kitikmeot, Inuvik and Keewatin Regions and a future board will also be developed for the Mackenzie region. A board is already in operation in the Baffin Region. The new Stanton Yellowknife Hospital will open its doors to patients in the spring, providing an increased level of medical and hospital care for the people of the Western Arctic.

The Department of Social Services will continue to provide improved facilities associated with its programs. For instance, a new senior citizens facility was opened in Yellowknife last year and a new home for senior citizens will be completed this year in Fort Simpson. A facility for handicapped adults will open in Iqaluit this summer. Construction will also start in the coming year on two new secure facilities for young offenders to serve the eastern and western areas of the NWT.

Social Services is now funding transition houses in Yellowknife, Iqaluit and Fort Smith under its family violence prevention program. Shelter, counselling and prevention services were also provided in a number of other communities. The department is helping to organize the first conference in the NWT on family violence, which will be held in March.

The Department of Justice is developing a training program for court interpreters which will result in improved translation services being available in the courts and new employment opportunities for native people. The first course is scheduled to begin in June.

The Justice department and Workers' Compensation Board have signed an agreement by which the board will fund two employees to provide safety training to employers and employees, concentrating on small business. The department has developed a graphic computer program on excavation safety, which has been translated into the Slavey language. They are also working with the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety to have soapstone carving dust hazards put on a graphic program and translated into Inuktitut, as well as French and English.

The Department of Government Services and Supply and Services Canada signed a memorandum of agreement last month that reflects the willingness of both governments to co-operate in developing mutually agreeable purchasing arrangements. The agreement should help small businesses and suppliers in the Northwest Territories. It is a response to this government's call for promotion of northern buying and development of our own northern economy.

During the year ahead, the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation will also continue its efforts to foster economic development in the communities, including splitting construction contracts into separate supply, ship and erect components to support local business. They will also encourage local mills by separating out dimensional lumber from the lumber package. The Housing Corporation's approach of delivering housing programs in a manner that fosters community and economic development is in direct response to recommendations of the special committee of this House which examined housing needs in the NWT.

#### Commissioner's Awards And Acknowledgements

Through the medium of the Commissioner's Awards, outstanding public service and acts of bravery are recognized. It is my pleasure and honour to advise you that the Commissioner's Award for public service at the highest level will be presented to your recently retired Speaker, Donald Morton Stewart, for his outstanding public service. Mr. Stewart served as mayor of Hay River for 14 years, his last term ending in 1978. He has been president of the Northwest Territories Association of Municipalities and a director of NCPC and the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation. Mr. Stewart was elected four times as a Member of this Legislature and served for a total of 16 years. As the third Speaker of this Assembly, he became the dean of Canadian Speakers.

---Applause

It is my privilege and honour to announce that the Commissioner's Award at the highest level will be presented to the Right Reverend John R. Sperry, Bishop of the Arctic, for his dedicated service to the people of the North as a linguist, Inuktitut translator, teacher, humanitarian, and for his tireless efforts toward the achievement of a better ecumenical spirit throughout the North. Bishop Sperry commenced his ministry in Coppermine in 1950 and became Bishop of the Arctic in 1974.

In February of last year, Leonard Masuzumi of Fort Good Hope entered a fiercely burning house and rescued two four year old girls and an elderly man from what would have been certain death. For his brave action during which he took no thought for his personal safety, Mr. Masuzumi is to receive the Commissioner's Award for bravery at the highest level.

Murray Ugyuk, whose home is in Eskimo Point, rescued a five year old boy from a water-filled ditch in May 1987. The person he rescued was in a dangerous situation and might have drowned without Murray's quick action. He will receive a letter of commendation for his unselfish act of assistance.

I am sure that all Members of this House join with me in offering our most sincere congratulations to the three territorial residents recently named to the Order of Canada. Sharon and Shirley Firth, both previous recipients of the Commissioner's Award, distinguished themselves as international class cross-country skiers. They have served as wonderful role models to a generation of young people. Brent Boddy of Iqaluit was a member of the Steger expedition which travelled unassisted to the North Pole by dog-team in 1986.

#### Distinguished Elders Recognized

It is with regret that I note the passing of two well respected elders. Pauloosie Qappik of Pangnirtung died last month at the age of 76. He was a highly regarded carver and prospector.

Mary Leonard of Yellowknife died in late December at the age of 82. Mrs. Leonard spent her whole life in this area and gave prominent and dedicated assistance to several organizations, particularly the Canadian Legion and the Ladies of the Royal Purple.

#### Sessional Legislation

During this session, a legislative program including the following bills will be introduced for your consideration. Amendments to the following acts will be advanced: Evidence Act, Fire Prevention Act, Income Tax Act, Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, Student Financial Assistance Act, Boilers and Pressure Vessels Act, Education Act, Home Owners' Property Tax Rebate Act, Labour Standards Act, Liquor Act, Northwest Territories Energy Corporation Act, Northwest Territories Public Service Association Act, and the Property Assessment and Taxation Act.

New bills include the Land Titles Act and the Public Utilities Act.

Four financial bills will be presented: Appropriation Act, 1988-89; Loan Authorization Act, 1988-89; Borrowing Authorization Act, 1988-89; and Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1987-88.

The government considers these bills essential to the good conduct of government business. I recommend the passage of each of these acts.

I now commend to you for your earnest consideration and wise judgment the business of this House as I declare open the second session of the 11th Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now recess for coffee, which is being served in the lobby. I invite all honourable Members and visitors in the gallery to join us in the lobby for coffee.

---SHORT RECESS

Item 3, Ministers' statements. Mr. Ballantyne.

#### ITEM 3: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

##### Minister's Statement 1-88(1): Notification Of Budget Address

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Minister of Finance and in accordance with Rule 22(1), I am pleased to inform the House of my intention to present the Budget Address on Thursday, February 11th. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Item 3, Ministers' statements.



Item 4, Members' statements. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Arlooktoo.

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 01-88(1): Cape Dorset Museum

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) My question is directed to the Minister of Economic Development or to the Government Leader regarding a letter written on December 9th, 1987. The letter was written by Terry Ryan, the manager of the co-op in Cape Dorset. I heard this morning on the news from the Baffin Region -- perhaps when you were still sleeping -- that he has not had any reply to his letter from the Minister of Economic Development and he would like to get a response to his letter concerning the museum in Cape Dorset. They are going to have some prints that they will be showing in the co-op. He would like to get a response and support from Economic Development concerning the museum they are proposing to build. I was wondering if the Minister of Economic Development can respond as soon as possible to Terry Ryan's letter. He commutes from Toronto to Cape Dorset. I am wondering if you know that person.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I will take the question as notice and provide a response to the Member as soon as possible.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. You are taking the question as notice. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Nerysoo.

Question 02-88(1): Effect Of Federal Budget On The NWT

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Through you to the Minister of Finance. Will the Minister of Finance be tabling a detailed statement of the effect of the federal budget on the residents of the communities of the Northwest Territories?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ballantyne.

Return To Question 02-88(1): Effect Of Federal Budget On The NWT

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Yes, Mr. Speaker. The honourable Member is aware that the Budget Address of Mr. Wilson has just concluded. We will analyse it and present it to the House as soon as possible.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Ernerk.

Question 03-88(1): Abortions In The NWT

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Health. May I ask the Minister of Health to table a paper on the number of illegal abortions that have been performed in the NWT in the past year, at least up to the time that the decision was made by the Supreme Court of Canada with regard to abortion, making it legal in all of Canada? May I ask the Minister of Health to table a policy paper with regard to abortion policy in the Northwest Territories? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ernerk. Madam Minister.

Return To Question 03-88(1): Abortions In The NWT

HON. NELLIE COUNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I believe that was a request for information which I am prepared to attempt to gain for the honourable Member.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. Oral questions, Item 5. Mr. Arlooktoo.

Question 04-88(1): Wildlife Officer, Baffin South

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is directed to Renewable Resources Minister, Titus Allooosoo. Last summer I was going to ask you this. There is a representative in Pangnirtung for Renewable Resources and also in Igloolik and Pond Inlet and

perhaps in the other settlements as well. I want to know if there could be a representative in my constituency, Baffin South, in the same way as the other settlements have representatives. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Arlooktoo. Mr. Allooloo.

Return To Question 04-88(1): Wildlife Officer, Baffin South

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the Member's constituency, in Lake Harbour, right now there is not that much work available for a Renewable Resources officer. There is no person year available at the moment. In this budget we have not indicated whether there are going to be new PYs. I can talk to the Member on this matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Zoe.

Question 05-88(1): Tabling Of Report On Regional And Tribal Councils

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Municipal and Community Affairs. When does the Minister anticipate tabling the report on regional and tribal councils?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Zoe. Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Mr. Speaker, I would defer this question to the Government Leader. The report is being given to the Government Leader and it is under his office that the report is being prepared.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Return To Question 05-88(1): Tabling Of Report On Regional And Tribal Councils

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have just received a copy of that report. It has over 100 pages. I have asked that a shorter version, summarizing the essential recommendations, be prepared and at that time I will consider tabling it for this Legislature. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Zoe, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question 05-88(1): Tabling Of Report On Regional And Tribal Councils

MR. ZOE: Mr. Speaker, the Minister is indicating that he will be presenting the report to the Legislature but I am wondering if he can give us a specific time frame. Would it be during this particular session? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Zoe. Mr. Patterson.

Further Return To Question 05-88(1): Tabling Of Report On Regional And Tribal Councils

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Pudluk.

Question 06-88(1): Fuel Costs, Resolute Bay

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In my settlement, Resolute Bay, they are using gas instead of electricity. Now, this is very much more expensive and my question is regarding the utility payments. Is there going to be any decrease toward that or is it going to remain the same? I was wondering why they cannot decrease that to compensate for the difference that we have to pay more. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pudluk, your question was directed to Mr. Sibbeston.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I guess I have the option of asking the Member to provide more details. It is a bit difficult to respond, with the amount of information that he has provided. Alternatively, I guess I can just take the question as notice and attempt to provide a response to him. So, maybe I will just leave it to you or the Member to consider.



MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pudluk, supplementary.

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Perhaps if I had asked you in a written question. I will ask you in a written question. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Oral questions. Mr. Arlooktoo.

Question 07-88(1): Airstrip, Lake Harbour

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is directed to the Municipal Affairs Minister. I am sure he will be aware of my question. I have been a Member since 1979 and I have been repeating this and now I will bring it up again concerning the airstrip in Lake Harbour. It is very bad and they say it is a hazard. Bradley Air will be forwarding a letter stating that the airstrip is hazardous. My question is: Who will be responsible for airports in March? I would like to know what priorities you are going to be implementing. Perhaps my community could be one of the first priorities because if there were to be a crash in Lake Harbour, if some of those people were in that plane, the settlement would decrease dramatically. There is only a small population and before any accidents happen, I would like to find out if you are responsible for airports and if you are going to have Lake Harbour as one of the priorities because it is a very bad airstrip. They have airplanes coming in three times a week and it is going to be quite impossible sometimes due to weather hazards. These are the reasons I have. We only have a Twin Otter coming in. The flights are going to decrease because of weather and I would like to know if our community will be one of the first priorities. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wray, if you would like to answer some of those.

Return To Question 07-88(1): Airstrip, Lake Harbour

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Indeed, I am aware of the Member's concerns. However, I would like to reiterate what I said in the last session. The federal government is responsible for all capital funding for airstrip construction in the Northwest Territories. They have refused and continue to refuse to provide funding for Lake Harbour. They say that it is not a hazard and Lake Harbour has the airstrip under the Arctic B and C policy that it is supposed to have. So unless the federal government sees fit to change its mind and provide us with the funds, no funds are available for any improvements to the Lake Harbour runway.

In terms of the airports coming over to the GNWT, there are 11 airports which the federal government has agreed to fund and unfortunately Lake Harbour is not one of them. I can provide the Member with that list of communities and the reasons why they have made them the priority. However, I can indicate that in the majority of cases, priority is going to the communities that at present do not have any airstrips. That is the first priority. The second priority is airstrips that have severe navigational hazards. I can indicate that the top priority airstrip in the NWT at this point in time is Paulatuk, which has an extremely dangerous runway. That will be our first priority. However, I will provide the Member with a list of the 11 runways which the federal government has agreed to fund and the reasons determining those as priorities. But the federal government will not provide funds for Lake Harbour. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Arlooktoo.

Supplementary To Question 07-88(1): Airstrip, Lake Harbour

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like a little bit of clarification. In 1988 the transfer will take place and there will be 11 communities that will be prioritized and Lake Harbour is not one of them, but later on can you provide funding for Lake Harbour?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wray.

Further Return To Question 07-88(1): Airstrip, Lake Harbour

HON. GORDON WRAY: The only capital funds that are being transferred to us are those funds for the 11 airports that were not completed under the Arctic B and C airports policy. At this point in time there are no other capital funds available for airstrip construction. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Ernerk.

Question 08-88(1): Impact Of North Warning System

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is directed to the Government Leader. When we were having a session in November 1987, I asked a question regarding the North Warning System, whether they will be assisting Inuit and the Inuvialuit so that the native people can get the contracts for the North Warning System construction. The contract has already been awarded. Some of the airstrips will be extended and maybe new ones will be built. One of these communities is Rankin Inlet, which will get a new extended airstrip; perhaps in March the contract will be awarded so construction can start in the summertime. Is the GNWT prepared for the tremendous impact, especially in social and economic issues, health and environmental protection programs? Also, how many local people will be trained and how many jobs will be given by the territorial government, to either the communities or the entire Keewatin Region to assist the people of the Keewatin? As well, are there appropriate plans to use local goods and services in the communities as much as possible? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ernerk. At this time I think it might be appropriate to remind the House that according to the rules of this Assembly, Rule 55(2) says that an oral question shall be concisely and clearly put and shall refer only to a matter which may reasonably be assumed to be within the present knowledge of the Minister to whom it is directed. Many of the questions today might better have fitted into the category of written questions. I wish Members to be reminded of this rule. Would the honourable Minister care to try to answer Mr. Ernerk's question?

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For perhaps obvious reasons and since this question involves a number of departments of this government, I would like to take it as notice and will provide an answer as soon as possible. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson, you are taking the question as notice. Oral questions. This would appear to conclude oral questions for today.

Item 6, written questions.

Item 7, petitions.

Item 8, reports of standing and special committees. Item 9, tabling of documents. Mr. Patterson.

ITEM 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following splendid document: Tabled Document 1-88(1), the 1987 Annual Report of the Government of the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Item 9, tabling of documents. Item 10, notices of motion. Mr. Butters.

ITEM 10: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 1-88(1): Meech Lake Agreement

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I wish to give notice that on Friday, February 12th, I will move the following motion: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for High Arctic, that this Legislative Assembly, in support of Government Leader Dennis Patterson and his Executive Council colleagues, entrust and delegate to the two representatives chosen from this Assembly, the honourable Member for Sahtu and the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, the responsibility for informing Canada and the government and people of Ontario of the hasty and unconscionable decision taken at Meech Lake which removed the people of Yukon and the Northwest Territories from participation as equals and partners in the Canadian confederation, and wish them Godspeed, the silver tongues of oracles and an understanding and sympathetic hearing by the legislators and residents of Upper Canada. Thank you, sir.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters, for that splendid notice. Item 10, notices of motion. Mr. Richard.



Notice Of Motion 2-88(1): Federal Bill C-72

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, February 17, 1988, I will move the following motion: I move that this Legislative Assembly declare its strong opposition, through the Speaker, to the enactment of clause 90 of federal Bill C-72, presently before the Parliament of Canada, which clause reduces the legislative authority of this Assembly.

AN HON. MEMBER: Shame, shame!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Richard. Item 10, notices of motion.

Item 11, notices of motions for first reading of bills.

Item 12, motions.

Item 13, first reading of bills.

Item 14, second reading of bills. Item 15. Mr. Clerk, orders of the day, please.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): An announcement, Mr. Speaker, of the meeting of the standing committee on finance at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning; of the meeting of ordinary Members committee at 10:00 a.m. tomorrow morning; the meeting of the standing committee on public accounts at 11:00 a.m. tomorrow morning.

ITEM 15: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Thursday, February 11th.

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Oral Questions
6. Written Questions
7. Returns to Written Questions
8. Replies to Opening Address
9. Budget Address
10. Replies to Budget Address
11. Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills

18. Second Reading of Bills

19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

20. Report of Committee of the Whole

21. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Thursday, February 11th, at 1:00 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT



Available from the  
Publications Clerk, Department of Culture and Communications  
Government of the Northwest Territories, Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
\$1.00 per day; \$30.00 for 1st session, \$20.00 for 2nd and 3rd session; or \$50.00 per year  
Published under the Authority of the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly  
of the Northwest Territories