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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1988

MEMBERS PRESENT

Hon. Titus Allooloo, Mr. Angottitauruq, 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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Red Pedersen): Orders of the day for Wednesday, February 17th. Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, a point of privilege. I think all the Members, all 24 of us, should go by the rules. I believe there is no food allowed in this House except water. I wonder why the Government Leader has an apple on his table.

---Laughter

---Applause

It makes me hungry.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk, for your point of order. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Government Leader.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Ministers' Statement 11-88(1): New School, Grise Fiord

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, during the past several days, there has been considerable concern expressed by residents of Grise Fiord, the chairman of the Baffin Divisional Board of Education, the MLA for High Arctic and others concerning the decision to postpone for at least one year the construction of a new school in Grise Fiord.

I have decided to postpone the project because of the possibility of many residents from Grise Fiord relocating to Inukjuak as early as 1988-89. This possibility is not just a rumour but is fact. An agreement will be finalized in the next few weeks between the Government of Canada and the Government of Quebec for construction of 10 housing units for people who relocate from Grise Fiord and Resolute Bay. The federal government has already agreed to cover relocation costs including transportation, air freight, hotel accommodation, meals and unforeseen travel costs for returnees.

I intend to visit Grise Fiord in the spring with my colleague, the Hon. Gordon Wray, to discuss this matter with representatives of the community.



Construction costs in Grise Fiord are the most expensive in the NWT. I cannot agree to build a school at great expense which in a year or less could be half empty. Therefore, before going ahead with this project, I must be more confident than I am today about the number of residents who will choose to remain in Grise Fiord.

On February 16th, CBC radio carried a news item which left the impression that the school is likely to collapse at any time. Beams were described as rotting and the floor sagging. My department checked these concerns with the Department of Public Works and Highways. It is true that the school is not in good condition, but it does not pose any risk to students or staff. In 1986, it was found that some floor beams and flooring in the mechanical room area were rotting. By November 1986, these were replaced with new support beams and flooring. In January 1987, a thorough inspection was made of the entire school. The building was found to be structurally sound but in need of general repairs and renovations if it is to continue to be used for many more years.

Mr. Speaker, I want to assure the Legislative Assembly and residents of Grise Fiord that as long as the school continues operation, all essential repairs and maintenance will be done. The Department of Public Works and Highways maintenance staff continue to make regular trips to Grise Fiord for this purpose. The school is safe. No children or staff are at risk in any way. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Nerysoo.

### ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

#### Member's Statement On Ordinary MLAs' Involvement In Development Of Government

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to express concern about the method and manner in which ordinary Members are being dealt with in the development or direction of the government. Ordinary Members are not being involved in the process of devolution; we are not party to discussions or the negotiations. This, despite the fact that representatives of communities are involved, despite the fact that even staff of native organizations are involved in confidential discussions. I do not oppose the involvement of these people but what I am concerned about is that MLAs, duly elected, are not involved. I am concerned about the unwillingness of the Executive Council to make ordinary MLAs aware of even general principles, or to debate and receive direction from MLAs regarding the very important issues and responsibilities being negotiated by the Government of the NWT.

Mr. Speaker, I also do not agree or appreciate it when ordinary MLAs ask for information or introduce specific motions and are threatened with resignations by the Executive Council. I am not an MLA who is easily manipulated but I can and have shown that I am prepared to listen to pragmatic and reasonable arguments, including why issues should not be dealt with or discussed in a public forum, but not to threats of resignation or Executive Council Members arguing privately with my intentions or the actions of responsible Members in this House. This is the forum for public debate and this is where we are accountable to the public, not in the privacy of caucus rooms.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Ernerk.

#### Member's Statement On Dissatisfaction With Government Ministers

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise under Members' statements to express to this House my concern and dissatisfaction with the Ministers of our government. I feel that the Ministers of our government were placed in their positions by all Members of this House to run, for the good of the people of the Northwest Territories, the government...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

---Applause

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, I am dissatisfied with the answers that we are getting from our government. When I rise to ask a question, we are asking questions on behalf of all our constituents to whom we are accountable and who have placed their trust and confidence in us to represent and speak for them to the best of our ability.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, we must not let them down; we must make every effort to serve them to the best of our ability and one way of doing this is to question the government. Mr. Speaker, I am beginning to feel that we have in place a "why" government, as it appears to me that I am hearing from the Ministers in their responses to our questions that they are asking why we are asking these questions.

Mr. Speaker, it is obvious to me and to all other ordinary Members that we are asking questions only to ensure the government is responsible and, I hope, responsive to the concerns of our constituents. Mr. Speaker, as I indicated earlier, I do not want to have a "why" government. I want to see a "why not" government.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ernerk. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Butters.

Member's Statement On Corrections To Record

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I wish to use this opportunity to make two corrections to the record. In my remarks on the opening of the Calgary games I incorrectly identified the young Athapascan singer who sang 'O Canada' at the ceremonies' close as a native of Alberta. In fact, he is Daniel Tlen of Burwash Landing, Yukon, a member of the Tutchone tribe of the Athapascan nation.

Secondly, yesterday, in making a point of privilege in response to the Member for Yellowknife Centre's statement, the Government Leader said, in part, "We supported the Inuvik Member's motion." That motion on the Olympic torch was not put by myself, sir, although I would have been pleased to do so. It was put by my colleague, the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. Members' statements. This would appear to conclude Item 3. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Mr. Alloofoo.

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

Further Return To Question 012-88(1): Financial Support To Indigenous Survival International

HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO: Mr. Speaker, I have a return to Question 012-88(1), asked by Mr. Ernerk on February 11, 1988 regarding funding for Indigenous Survival International.

Over the past year, the Department of Renewable Resources has provided substantial amounts of funding to Indigenous Survival International and other native organizations to fight against the animal rights anti-harvesting movements. We provided \$100,000 in direct support for the ISI British Museum project and \$5500 to the Dene Nation to allow the travel of two delegates to that opening of the exhibit. We also paid \$3900 in travel expenses for delegates from the NWT to attend the ISI conference in Whitehorse last summer. In addition, we have given the Dene Nation a contract for \$10,000 to organize and conduct a trapper conference regarding humane trapping and we have paid a portion, about \$4400, of the expenses for a delegation to go to the European parliament in Brussels to lobby against the anti-fur movement.

We spent about \$13,300 to allow delegates from Baffin, Keewatin and the Inuvialuit to attend the CITES conference in Ottawa last summer. During the conference we helped the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada with \$2500 to support their lobbying activities and paid the travel costs, about \$850, for an Inuit Broadcasting Corporation employee to go to Ottawa to report on the proceedings from a northern perspective.

These expenditures, totalling over \$140,000, represent only a portion of the money the department spends on the fight against the anti-harvesting movements. We are also very active in our support of the Fur Institute of Canada and in our participation in the various national and international forums, such as CITES and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, as well as our many programs that directly support the industry in the North. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Returns to oral questions. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Gargan.



ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 061-88(1): Meeting Of LEA, Fort Providence

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Government Leader. I asked the Minister on Friday of last week, concerning conflict of interest, whether the local education authority did establish a position with regard to the adult education facility. I asked whether the Minister could give me for the record, information of when the meeting establishing this position took place; whether minutes were taken at that meeting; and whether there was a motion that gave them authority for the position that they have taken. I have not received any replies. I would like to ask the Government Leader whether he has information regarding this, in view of the fact that it was an informal meeting.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am still gathering the information on those informal meetings that took place. I do not have the information yet. I will provide it as soon as it is received.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Gargan, have you a new question or supplementary?

Supplementary To Question 061-88(1): Meeting Of LEA, Fort Providence

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I would also request from the Minister whether or not the individual in question, being an employee of his department and being chairman, is in actual conflict. If so, I would like to ask the Minister what he intends to do about it, perhaps during this session?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is no policy right now, or law, that prevents an employee from becoming a member of the local education authority or even becoming a chairman of the local education authority. Once those people are elected by the community there is no impediment to them filling those positions. I thought I already answered the Member's question that on the face of it, in my view, just being a government employee and on a local education authority does not, in itself, mean that there is a conflict of interest. However, if a government employee uses that position on the local education authority to advance his own particular personal career or interest as an employee, then clearly, there is a conflict. Since the Member has raised those concerns, I have asked my department to look into the particular situation. I have also pledged to table the guidelines that apply to employees with respect to conflict of interest situations. Clearly if there is a conflict and if that employee has abused his privilege as an employee in the office, then that employee might be subject to removal from that office by law. So I am open to investigating these particular circumstances carefully, as the Member has raised the matter, and to taking appropriate action if it is warranted. I have not rendered a final verdict on the situation because I have yet to receive my department's full report on it, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. You are taking the question as notice and will be returning with an answer. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Lewis.

Question 062-88(1): Increase Of Salaries And Benefits, Hay Plan

MR. LEWIS: So that the Minister of Personnel would not feel uncomfortable now that his Department of Personnel has been dealt with as a budget item, I would like to ask this question. Members of the public service are expected to get something like a four per cent increase in their salaries. Could the Minister tell us what kind of increase the people who are on the Hay Plan are getting? I am including in that figure not just simply monetary awards, but also any other benefits that would represent an addition for the senior people in this government who do not have a bargaining agent but who depend on the good will of the people across the House here. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: I will take that as notice because there are a number of elements and I cannot quite remember them all, so I will take it as notice and I will have a reply for tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Question taken as notice. Oral questions. Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Point of privilege, Mr. Speaker. The Member for Yellowknife Centre indicated that the people that are on this side of the House are part of the government. I would like to make a correction...

---Laughter

---Applause

That is not correct. There are three ordinary Members who are also on this side of the House. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Zoe, for calling attention to the fact that there are three extraordinary Members on the other side of the House. We are still on Item 5, oral questions. Mr. McLaughlin.

Question 063-88(1): Minister's Attitude To Write-Off Of Debts

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister responsible for Economic Development and Tourism. Basically, it is regarding a situation which came to our attention during the last session when we were dealing with Bill 4-87(2), which was the Write-off of Assets and Debts Act, 1987-88. What we dealt with there, if Members will recall, Mr. Speaker, was a write-off of over \$20,000 and because it was over \$20,000 it had to come to the attention of this House. During the discussion it was brought up also that this write-off was an overruling by the Minister of the Business Loans Board at the time. So I would like to ask the Minister what the attitude is that he takes, in general, when he feels he should use that discretion that he obviously has used.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sibbeston.

Return To Question 063-88(1): Minister's Attitude To Write-Off Of Debts

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, the attitude that I take in matters such as this is, firstly, that these debt write-offs are very few. During my tenure as Minister of Economic Development I believe I have dealt with two, and the one that was dealt with here in the House was, I think, the second one. The attitude that I take is that the Business Loans Board is simply an advisory board to myself, as Minister and whereas they make recommendations and generally I abide by them, I should not see them as completely binding on me. So when the occasion presents itself to overrule them I will use that discretion.

The attitude that I take in considering whether a debt should be written off is, of course, the personal situation of the debtors in question; their ability to repay the debt; their age and experience in business; the financial resources that they have to meet the debt; whether they have other personal property or business interests that could meet the debt; and finally I think I do take into consideration the cultural background of the person. So these are all matters that I consider.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Mr. McLaughlin.

Supplementary To Question 063-88(1): Minister's Attitude To Write-Off Of Debts

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In this regard I think I am generally satisfied with what the Minister has expressed as reasons because I, too, feel that a lot of times we probably even encourage people to get into businesses that nobody should be in and they end up in a bad situation. Sometimes people end up in a situation where there is no point in keeping the debt on the books because you never are going to collect it.

But my question, Mr. Speaker, regarding this is that Ministers do have powers where they can use their discretion and do not have to bring matters to the Assembly or even to the Executive Council, as far as the law says, but in actual practice, for example in my own experience as Minister of Health and Social Services...



MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin, would you put your question, please?

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, the point I am trying to make is that Ministers have discretion to make these decisions on their own but in actual fact most of the time this discretion is brought to the Executive Council. I would like to ask the Minister if, when loans write-offs are less than \$20,000 and do not require a supplementary appropriation, he advises the Executive Council of these write-offs of less than \$20,000.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. You are taking the question as notice.

The Chair would like to recognize in the gallery His Worship Mayor Michael Miltenberger from Fort Smith, Councillor Bill Tordiff, Chief Jerry Paulette from Fort Smith and Frieda Martselos, the president of the Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce. Welcome.

---Applause

We are on Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Zoe.

Question 064-88(1): Alternatives To STEP

MR. ZOE: I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Economic Development and Tourism. Going through the budget books I realize that the Minister has deleted the short-term employment program from the budget. I would like to ask him what alternatives the government is undertaking to replace this particular program? I believe the program was quite successful and a lot of smaller communities relied on this particular program for short-term employment.

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

Return To Question 064-88(1): Alternatives To STEP

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, it is true there was \$420,000 in the budget last year, which I have deleted from the budget this year. I did this primarily because I considered that the STEP program is a very short-term make-work type of program that the department has been handling for a number of years. In its stead the department has more moneys available to help small businesses, to help a variety of sectors in our economy -- tourism and such. Whereas there has been this deletion of money, there has been an addition of money to other, I think much more worthwhile and long-term types of projects.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Mr. Zoe.

Supplementary To Question 064-88(1): Alternatives To STEP

MR. ZOE: Mr. Speaker, I believe the program was very successful at a time when a lot of our smaller communities totally relied on this important program because of its nature, because it is a short-term employment program. Now, as the Minister indicated, the priorities that they set within his department are geared more to developing small businesses and so forth. But in the meantime within the smaller communities where business is slowly developing, the Minister is suggesting that this particular program will not recur. My question to the Minister is: Although the plans of the department are good, there are many young people in the communities who would like to have this program as it was before and I would ask the Minister if he would consider reinstating this particular program in his department.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 064-88(1): Alternatives To STEP

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, with due respect, I think the answer is not to reactivate a program such as the STEP program. As I stated, in the budget there are programs that will help people get into business and a variety of businesses. Our government will also have a number of

initiatives that will shortly be announced in the next few weeks and months, that deal with trying to promote and enhance the economy of the North. So therein is the answer, to be involved in projects and be involved in promoting the various sectors in our economy which have a very long-term effect. That is, I think, where the emphasis of my department of government should be; promoting and making jobs for the long term possible. So I simply cannot abide by the request to reactivate this program. To do so, in my view, would be short-sighted.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Oral questions. Mr. Gargan.

Question 065-88(1): Direct Involvement Of Communities In Capital Projects

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to perhaps maybe go a bit further on Mr. Zoe's question regarding the elimination of that short-term employment program. I would like to ask the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism whether part of the plan that he is going to introduce includes negotiating directly with the communities on capital projects that would improve employment in the community?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 065-88(1): Direct Involvement Of Communities In Capital Projects

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Yes, Mr. Speaker. The matter of capital projects in communities and the possibility of the communities being much more involved in the capital projects through management or other means agreeable to the community is a program that the government is presently considering. A paper on this matter has been given to the Assembly for consideration last spring, of how capital projects might benefit the communities more than they have been. I believe that we will have a program under way which will considerably enhance people's prospects of getting a job and business opportunities, when the proposal is finally agreed to by our government.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Oral questions. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister responsible for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development, who with my colleague from Yellowknife South, appeared before the Select Committee on Constitutional Reform of the Ontario Legislative Assembly, as our representatives. I was hoping for a report by the Minister to this House. Possibly, sir, my question is to you. If, when we arrive at Item 11, might my colleague from Yellowknife South provide the House with a report on their experiences in the wilds of Upper Canada?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. Questions cannot be posed to the Chair and the Member for Yellowknife South may, at a different period of the day, provide information to the House. Oral questions, Item 5. Oral questions. Item 6, written questions. Mr. Nerysoo.

ITEM 6: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question W7-88(1): Position On National Child Care Policy

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I could ask the Minister responsible for Social Services the following written question: Did any officials participate in the recent federal-provincial Ministers' meeting regarding the development of a national child care policy? Would the Minister indicate to this House the government's position or policy as presented to this federal-provincial Ministers' meeting? Further, would the Minister indicate when she will be tabling the government's position on a national child care policy for discussion in this House?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Written questions. Item 7, returns to written questions. Mr. Clerk.

ITEM 7: RETURNS TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Speaker, return to written Question W2-88(1), asked by Mr. Arlooktoo of the Minister of Health.



Return To Question W2-88(1): Regular Physical Check-Ups For People Of Remote Communities

Hon. Nellie Cournoyea's return to Question W2-88(1), asked by Mr. Arlooktoo on February 12, 1988, regarding regular physical check-ups for people of remote communities:

At one time, people from the Eastern Arctic were given regular medical examinations by visiting doctors when the ship came in for this specific purpose. With the establishment of nursing stations in each community, the overall health of residents in all communities is monitored by the nurse. Doctors travel to remote communities on regular visits to see patients who are referred by the nurse. Often the doctors are specialists who only see patients with particular conditions. As a result, not everyone is seen by the visiting doctor.

All residents of the NWT are entitled to have a regular physical examination. Usually this will be conducted by the nurse. If there is a problem which requires further attention, the patient will often be referred to a visiting doctor, or may be sent out to a larger centre to see the doctor. In either case, the welfare of the patient is most important.

Sometimes medical conditions arise which are too late for immediate cure, and this causes great hardship for the individual and the family. It is important that all residents realize that they should consult the nursing station about their own health, especially if they are experiencing difficulties. When patients share their concerns about their own health they become equal partners in health.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 8, replies to Opening Address.

Item 9, replies to Budget Address.

Item 10, petitions.

Item 11, reports of standing and special committees. Item 12, tabling of documents. Mr. Kilabuk.

ITEM 12: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I would like to table Tabled Document 57-88(1), Minutes of the Baffin Leadership Summit Meeting, held in the Baffin Region December 1st to 4th, 1987. These are the minutes of the meeting.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Item 12, tabling of documents. Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to table Tabled Document 58-88(1), a motion dated 15 February, 1988 from the Grise Fiord hamlet, concerning the new school. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Tabled Document 60-88(1), Resolutions of the Keewatin Region Youth Conference. The first one has to do with the formation of a youth council in the Keewatin Region. These documents include the resolutions of the conference in January, 1988. Can I submit two documents at the same time? Thank you. The other one is Tabled Document 59-88(1), Resolutions of the Leadership Summit Meeting, held in the Keewatin Region. The resolutions were produced at that conference in January, 1988. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ernerk. Item 12, tabling of documents. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Minister responsible for the Status of Women I am tabling two documents today. Tabled Document 61-88(1), Equality for Women, a Five Year Plan of Action, progress report to March 1987. With this report I am also tabling a covering letter of explanation which I have prepared for the MLAs.

I am also tabling Tabled Document 62-88(1), Advisory Council on the Status of Women, 1984 to March 1987 report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. Tabling of documents.

Item 13, notices of motion.

Item 14, notices of motion for first reading of bills. Item 15, motions. Motion 2-88(1), Federal Bill C-72. Mr. Richard.

ITEM 15: MOTIONS

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

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS the people of the Northwest Territories and the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories have in recent years taken large steps toward the achievement of responsible government;

AND WHEREAS there is presently, before the Parliament of Canada, a federal bill which provides for a reduction in the legislative authority of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, 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.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Richard. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Would you like to lead off?

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Speaker, in June of 1984 the 10th Legislative Assembly passed a bill which established French and English as official languages in the Northwest Territories and also established seven aboriginal languages as official aboriginal languages in the Northwest Territories.

Last November when we met here in our first session I was advised, by one of the Ministers or one of the officials, very late in the session, in fact it was on the last day of the session that I learned of the existence of this federal Bill C-72. Unfortunately it had been in Parliament since June of last year and, on a side issue, I was rather disappointed that our office in Ottawa or perhaps our Executive -- I know we went through a transition there with the election -- had not brought this to the attention of Members of this Assembly and the public at large at an earlier date. Our constitution, the Northwest Territories Act, was being amended and yet -- and I would like to think that I follow most important political matters, including that at the federal scene as it affects us -- I was unaware that this was happening until late November.

In any event, Mr. Speaker, this federal Bill C-72 deals primarily with official languages at the national level but it contains a minor provision which amends the Northwest Territories Act, which is our constitution. Clause 90 of that bill lessens or decreases or diminishes or reduces the legislative authority of this Legislative Assembly. It is a repugnant piece of federal legislation. It is an insult to this Legislative Assembly. It is paternalistic. It is colonialistic and, in my respectful view, Mr. Speaker, we must oppose it. It is a backward step. If on a scale of one to 10, our legislative authority, currently with the strides we have made in recent decades, is at an eight, once this federal bill is passed with this clause 90 in its current state, we will be back at 7.5. It is a regressive step.

In addition to that, Mr. Speaker, it is not only an insult, it is not necessary. All of us know, and I believe the public is aware that the federal government of the day can disallow any law that we pass in this Assembly. They already have this larger power and they do not have to pass this repugnant clause.

Agreement Signed And Legislation Passed By 10th Assembly

Mr. Speaker, the issue has its roots in 1984. There was then a federal bill before Parliament which would have made French and English official languages in the Yukon and Northwest Territories. There were at that time discussions with the then government of the day in Ottawa and the then administration in Yellowknife. It led to the signing of an agreement. Arising out of



that agreement, the 10th Assembly did pass legislation on official languages. We have received some funding, I understand, from the Government of Canada to enable us to implement French language translation of our statutes and related issues. We have received some funding from the Government of Canada. I am not sure if we have received all of the \$16 million or all of the portion of that to date but I know we have received some of that money. However, at that time, in 1984, the federal government and Parliament did not amend, as promised, the then federal bill. They did not even proceed with it at that time. It died on the order paper in 1984 prior to the federal election.

Now, since then, Mr. Speaker, we have a new government in Ottawa. We have a new Legislative Assembly in the Northwest Territories, this 11th Assembly. It is a new ball game in that sense, so the question that we must ask, Mr. Speaker, is: Are we prepared as legislators to stand by and let our Assembly's authority, our power, our very raison d'etre, be taken away or diminished? Without voicing any opposition, are we prepared to allow the federal government to force us to take this one step backward after all the gains that we and our predecessors in this Assembly have made in recent years?

The principle, Mr. Speaker, what is at stake here, is the legislative competence of this Assembly. This is not a Francophone issue. It is not a language issue. I have advocated the cause of Francophones in this jurisdiction. I support the intent of the federal bill on official languages in this country. I did not support the previous Executive Council's three year delay of implementation of French language services when they brought that amendment into this House in the 10th Assembly in June of 1986. So Mr. Speaker, I am one who is on the side of the interests of Francophones in this jurisdiction and I think we should take some pride in having in our laws, one of the most progressive pieces, if not the most progressive piece of language legislation in this country.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

#### Legislative Competence Of Assembly At Issue

MR. RICHARD: But having said that, Mr. Speaker, I again reiterate that this motion does not deal with the language issue or the rights of Francophones. The issue is the legislative competence of this Assembly. The federal government in clause 90 of Bill C-72 is saying that we are not worthy of trust with our own laws; that we cannot be trusted to respect our own legislation. And if, on that larger issue, Mr. Speaker, my Francophone friends disagree with me, I can only say that I am sorry, je suis desole. The issue is not the rights of Francophones, the issue is the authority of this Assembly. If we do not fight this one, Mr. Speaker, what is to prevent the federal government from doing the same thing next year, or the year after, or each year hereafter in some other legislative area? What if, next year they want to do it with one of our labour standards legislation, human rights legislation or day care legislation? What is to prevent them from saying we cannot be trusted to live within our own laws? We cannot, Mr. Speaker, sit idly by and let this happen. If we do not oppose this federal bill, Mr. Speaker, we are admitting that we are not worthy of trust. I would ask all honourable Members to support the motion and send this message to the Parliament of Canada. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Richard. Secunder of the motion, Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, the mover has ably identified the reasons Members should support this motion. The motion is directed at the federal House and indicates to the Canadian Parliament that such legislative amendment has harmful and side effects on the evolution of responsible government in the NWT. I do not believe that the federal government is seeking to intrude itself on our constitutional growth and development and I trust that, on being warned of the implications of its action, it will take the necessary steps, sir, to redress the regressive legislation being proposed in association with the bill. Thank you.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. To the motion. Mr. McLaughlin.

Yukon And The NWT Singled Out Under Federal Bill C-72

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to speak in favour of the motion. I think that it is reprehensible that the Yukon and the NWT are being singled out in this regard for special treatment under the act, whereas provinces are not going to be singled out like this. As the mover pointed out, the federal government already has the right to arbitrarily override any legislation we have, so why did they have to make this specific point and amendment to the end of the NWT Act, to indelibly set in place this authority for this specific circumstance?

If I remember correctly, Mr. Speaker, our government took the initiative, when the Liberal government was in power in Ottawa, and made an agreement at that time -- and I also believe that, at that time, the agreement indicated something like this might happen to us. I believe that was there specifically because the Yukon government was not making any moves in the area of making French an official language. We, on the other hand, entered into an agreement and passed a piece of legislation which will eventually establish French on an equal basis with English as far as the legalities of the situation go, and its usage in government, which should be done as that is an official language of the country.

But, I am opposed to clause 90 in this legislation because it does single us out separately when, in fact more so than some provinces and more than the Yukon Territory, we have been positive in this regard. I also would like to point out that under the Constitution, French is an official language and if any province or any territory does something within its legislation regarding official languages which is against the Constitution, then individuals or an organization or the federal government itself can go to the Supreme Court of Canada, or through the court system ultimately to the Supreme Court, to prevent any legislation which they do not figure treats French or English or any other language adequately. So I would like to speak in favour of the motion and hope that the federal MPs, who are dealing with this, will bring pressure to bear on the Minister responsible in Ottawa to make changes. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. To the motion. Mr. Lewis.

Federal Bill C-72 And Francophone Minority

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker. This is a very cleverly worded motion. I must give credit to the mover of it for the care which he has taken in writing it, because although what the Member has done is to move a motion which suggests that this House is being outraged and its sovereignty being questioned and our development being held back, this motion in fact addresses the proposed Official Languages Act, Bill C-72. It is not about anything else. It is about one piece of legislation. So do not get misled about the intention of the motion.

I am not going to go back into history, as far back as Mr. Richard has done, although we could go back even as far as the voyageur who came up this Mackenzie Valley 250 years ago. What this motion does has nothing to do with institutions. It has nothing to do with the federal government and the territorial government. It has to do with a small group of people, a minority, and this minority in the NWT are called Francophones. As I understand it, it was this group of people who went to the federal government lobbying for such a change that would be included in this federal legislation. And they had good reasons for doing it.

In 1984, in order to prevent having French imposed on us, we passed our own legislation, making French and English and seven other languages official languages of the Territories. It is my belief that the eight Members, who are sitting across the road from us today, have done a lot of thinking about that decision that was made in 1984 and wondered how this is going to affect us for the next 100 years, to have nine official languages serving 55,000 people. The small group of people who asked to have that legislation include that clause, have good reason for concern about the good will of this government and this Assembly, because there was an amendment which has delayed introduction of French. For those people who looked very carefully and closely at what the government has done, all they have seen is delay. They have every reason to believe that there is no good will.

Mr. Speaker, government is about people and the interests of people. Native people find nothing wrong with going to the federal government to protect their interests, even though we do the same thing in this chamber. So why should the Francophones feel any different? Why should they not go to the federal government and ask for some small measure of protection?



Written Law Permits Challenge In Courts

Once you have something in law, once you have a little clause, you can challenge that in the courts, if people do not pursue it and do not meet their interests. It is okay to say the federal government can disallow things that we may want to change, but what does the poor guy who sits on 50th avenue in Yellowknife do? Can he then phone up somebody and say "I am not happy because they are disallowing something"? If it is in writing, he can then say, "This government is, in fact, breaking the law." And we know what happens to people who break the law. I, like Mr. Richard...

MR. RICHARD: I like you too.

---Laughter

MR. LEWIS: ...I, similarly to Mr. Richard...

---Laughter

...respect the legislative competence of this House. I like to believe that we all act out of a sense of good will for all of the people of the NWT. But what is wrong with having a small group of people, who feel like a minority, appealing to the federal government to give them that extra, added piece of protection? Native people, aboriginal people, do it all of the time. Why can this small group of people not do the same thing?

I could carry on at length on this subject, Mr. Speaker, because I have been interested in language issues for most of my adult working life and could elaborate much further. But the issue is very clear here. This piece of legislation does not have to do with the competence of this House, it has to do with people and the concerns of people. Since we are all elected people who should be concerned about people, not about institutions, we should think very carefully before we just simply add our weight to a motion which seems to outrage us and make us angry because of the way it was worded. And, as I said originally, I give credit for the masterful way in which my friend, Mr. Richard, has worded this motion, to get the result that he wants.

I am speaking this way today, Mr. Speaker, because not only do we act sometimes as ajauqtit against our honourable Members across the road, we sometimes disagree among ourselves. So today I am going to disagree with one of the colleagues on this side of the House, with what he is trying to do, because what he is trying to do offends the efforts of a small group of people who feel unprotected and they have every right to do everything they can to seek protection under the law. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Lewis. To the motion. Mr. Alloo!oo.

Native Languages Not Recognized In Official Languages Act

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be supporting the motion that is on the floor. In the Official Languages Act, it recognizes the English and French languages as being the official languages of the NWT, but the Official Languages Act -- I have a section there that I disagree with because our native languages in the NWT, the languages of the NWT aboriginal people, will not be recognized in this legislation. I know that those of us in the NWT, especially the aboriginal people, are minorities in Canada. But in the NWT the native people are the majority of the population and there are seven languages that are not included in this legislation. (Translation ends)

Mr. Speaker, I would like to lend my support to this motion. I feel that we should be able to amend our legislation and pieces of legislation in the NWT as we see fit. The clause in the act that we are talking about will prevent us from making an amendment without going to the federal government. That I oppose.

(Translation) Mr. Speaker, I am very happy that we can have many languages within the NWT: Dene, Metis, English, French and Inuktitut and other languages. They are to our benefit and enhance our culture because we have a diverse population and they are able to help us. (Translation ends)

There are so many cultures in the NWT -- the native, aboriginal cultures, English, French and other cultures that make our culture in the NWT unique. To represent our people, I feel we should be fair to all of them. I would be very glad to see any of the aboriginal languages used in all

offices in all the companies that deal in the NWT, in our future. But in the duration of our Legislative Assembly, this 11th Assembly, I do not foresee that the native people's languages will be official. That I am sad to say. But I support the motion, like the people who spoke before me, and again, Mr. Speaker, I will pursue in my time in this Legislative Assembly to recognize our native heritage and culture. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Alloo. To the motion. Mr. Ballantyne.

#### Constitutional Not Language Issue

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Richard gave most of the technical aspects of what we are facing here and, like Mr. Richard, I think we are dealing with a constitutional issue here, not a language issue and I really differ from Mr. Lewis' approach.

I think if you look at the essence of Mr. Richard's motion, it is talking about removing one very small clause, clause 90, four lines with some ancillary definitions. That is all we are talking about here. We are not talking about language. We are not talking about the protection of any segment of the population. I, like Mr. Richard, am a very strong supporter of the Francophone community in the Northwest Territories and I think I would like to emphasize that if we are to go forward here in the Territories, if aboriginal languages, French and English are all to be treated with respect, we have to go forward with an element of trust.

Now, Mr. Lewis says there is no trust. I say that trust has to be built. I think pushing this aspect, as an indication for all that there is no trust, is not a good beginning point and I have some difference with Mr. Lewis' approach. From the government's point of view, we have been involved with this particular issue for a number of months, at the bureaucratic level, right through most of the fall, through the election and actually through the first Assembly of this Legislative Assembly and after.

We thought we had made some progress but ultimately the bureaucratic dialogue broke down, at which point we contacted, in person and by letter, Mr. Hnatyshyn, Mr. Clark, Mr. Crombie, Mr. McKnight and as many federal Ministers as we could talk to and there is obviously some sympathy with our point of view but up to this point they have refused to budge. As Mr. Richard pointed out, what we are very much afraid of, if this bill passes with clause 90 still intact, is the sort of precedent that it sets. And we are finding in other pieces of legislation that this sort of mentality is creeping in. We are having discussions now on the transfer of land titles and the federal government is talking about reserving certain federal rights as to how we can amend our legislation.

#### New Ball Game Since Meech Lake Accord Signed

After Meech Lake, I think everybody here in this Legislative Assembly and everybody in the Territories has to recognize, as Mr. Richard said, that in the larger picture it is a new ball game. We have had some constitutional setbacks and we cannot afford to allow any one of them to pass unopposed.

I think that the intent of our official languages legislation, in good faith, was to support the furtherance of the French language and of the aboriginal languages. As part of the government that postponed the realization of our bilingual commitment, I can offer some apologies to the Francophone community and I can understand their concern but in my discussions with the Francophone community we made it very, very clear that we had some major logistical problems. Now the Department of Justice has three or four lawyers on staff translating all our laws. We have two or three computer operators on staff. We are making a concerted effort right now to fulfil our commitment to make the Northwest Territories officially bilingual.

At the same time that we do that though, as my colleague has said and as Mr. Ernerk has said, as many aboriginal Members have said, we have a responsibility to further aboriginal languages and, I guess, our feeling as a government is that these have to go hand in hand.

(Speaks in French. No translation)

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Hear, hear!



HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I apologize for my French and hopefully over the next three or four years I will speak better French and I will speak better Dogrib, I guess, as I want to learn the language of my own constituency, but I just want to give whatever comfort I can to the Francophone community that this government is committed to fulfilling our commitment to make the Northwest Territories officially bilingual.

Dialogue Between Francophone And Aboriginal Communities Important

In my discussions with the Francophone community I suggested that it is very, very important that meetings and dialogue take place between the aboriginal community and the Francophone community. I think that this sort of progress has to be made. Some concern has been given to me about what happened to the Bastarache report, which is a report dealing with this issue, and in talking to my colleagues, the Government Leader and the Minister of Culture and Communications, I find that different government departments are just now having their final input into the report. We will be making that report public in the near future and I hope that it is another indication of our good will as a government.

So, to end my comments, I want to say we have tried very hard, as a government, to get across our constitutional points to the federal government. For whatever reason -- and we have a little bit of trepidation with the reasons -- we have not been that successful. So as a government we welcome this motion and hopefully it will strengthen our hand as we deal with the federal government on this issue and on many other constitutional issues that are going to be facing us. As a government, along with pursuing this constitutional issue, I would like to assure my Francophone friends across the Territories that we will pursue with as much dispatch as possible our commitment to make the Northwest Territories officially bilingual. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. To the motion. Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Firstly, let me indicate to the mover and seconder of the motion that I do support the arguments that have been raised, in particular that there is a difference between the issues that we are raising and the question of the language. I think that Mr. Ballantyne made clear some of the issues as they are.

However, Mr. Speaker, I also want to suggest some caution on the part of our future government in terms of amending the legislation protecting the official languages of the Northwest Territories. I think one of the problems that has arisen -- and it is a strange one because I would have hoped that our Francophone community could have come to this particular institution to protect their interests. It is a sad indication, I think, to Members here that instead they are going to the federal government rather than seeking our support in this House. If anything, I think the experience should show that our government has at least made a sincere effort in proposing legislation that can protect all the applicable languages in the Northwest Territories.

MR. BUTTERS: Hear, hear!

More Than Sense Of Good Will Needed

MR. NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, in terms of the comments made by Mr. Lewis, I think the Francophone and the aboriginal community, as well, need more than a sense of good will from Members in this Assembly. They have to be able to trust the people that serve them here. We also have to show a sense of justice to those people in the NWT who must have their languages protected. Mr. Speaker, what I worry about is that one comment with regard to what Mr. Lewis said. Yes, the aboriginal people have approached the Government of Canada to protect their interests. The sad part is that the federal government is not prepared to deal with their interests. This is the only Legislative Assembly in North America that I know of, and in Canada, that is prepared to protect the interests of the aboriginal people and in fact, to go further than that, to indicate that we are officially bilingual in this country. The only one.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

---Applause

MR. NERYSOO: I think we should be extremely proud of that. I think that it has been through the efforts of Members in this House now, Members that were here before and Members that were here previously. I think that I should be so fortunate to say that. Nonetheless, I think that it is important that we deal with and separate that particular issue because it still requires our efforts even though we have done a lot of work.

More Important Issues Not Dealt With By Amendment

On the question of the constitutional issue that this particular motion is to deal with. Mr. Speaker, what is sad about the amendment is that it is a suggestion that we should amend our constitution when what we require are further and -- more important, I think -- some very crucial amendments to the constitution of the NWT that reflect the authority of this Legislative Assembly, that reflect and direct the development of our Legislature, and that recognize the development of our Executive Council. And those issues are not even being dealt with. They are not even being looked at. I think that it is a sad commentary, further, that the amendment is not even prepared to recognize aboriginal languages as was in fact recognized in our own legislation. It is a sad commentary on the part of the Government of Canada that they are not even prepared in one piece of legislation to deal with aboriginal issues and aboriginal rights, in particular aboriginal languages.

I just want to say that I will be supporting the motion. I hope that in future, when we do come to this Assembly with amendments to our language legislation, that it is clearly thought out and that we do not give the impression to any of the communities, in which we protect language, that we are not prepared to protect their interests. Any amendment should also look to the future so that we assure aboriginal people that no particular language group will look back in history and say, "Oh, but they abused their numbers! They said that to us because they were the majority. They could abuse that majority and refuse to recognize the obligations they have to us." I hope that we recognize that in amending our legislation in the future. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. To the motion. Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was not going to speak but Mr. Lewis' comments prompted me to. The phrase, "Sometimes one cannot see the forest for the trees" came to mind. In this case, the forest being the constitutional issue and the trees being the language issue. This is not a language issue. It is very much a constitutional issue.

Francophones View NWT's Official Languages Act As Progressive

I got the impression from the honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre's comments that somehow the Francophone community were afraid of us or did not trust us and they felt that they needed the federal government to protect them against this bad Legislature and yet, from a letter distributed to all MLAs today from Fernand Denault of the Association Culturelle Franco-Te N Oise I quote, "It is our opinion that the Official Languages Act of the NWT is the most progressive in all of Canada." And if in fact that is their opinion, then why would they seek to have extra protection from the federal government?

I think what worries me most about this, and I think Mr. Lewis is missing the boat, is that during the Meech Lake debate one of the points I made was that what worried me most about Meech Lake and Langevin Block was not only what they had done then but what it was going to lead to. I get the feeling, and the Minister of Justice has alluded to it, that the Langevin Block accord has sent a signal to the bureaucracy in Ottawa that the NWT is once again a colony of Ottawa and it is open season on us. This amendment is just one example of bureaucrats asserting that little bit more authority over us than they would in any other jurisdiction, just to show us who is in charge. That is what worries me about this issue more than anything else. So obviously, Mr. Speaker, I would be supporting Mr. Richard's motion because I think Mr. Richard has actually seen the forest.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Wray. To the motion. Mr. Arlooktoo.



MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am going to make a brief comment on the motion. I would like to support the movers of this motion. I am aware that the Inuit language, the aboriginal language is not going to be enhanced very much at this time but after they pass this motion perhaps they will be able to recognize our language. Also in the Baffin Region there was a summit meeting and aboriginal languages was a big issue. There was a resolution made at that time and it was addressed to Titus Allooooloo. At this 11th Assembly they were stating that they will not be recognizing aboriginal languages as official languages. I think there are a lot of residents of the Baffin and the Keewatin who will not be very happy with it because they are really trying to preserve their language, even though we hear these comments today at this time. But as an aboriginal person, I am very happy to be able to have support from the other MLAs for trying to preserve our language. When we were talking about Francophones, I remember when they were discussing aboriginal languages and having to have a French curriculum introduced in the schools and it was stated at that time, as I recall. I will be supporting the motion. I just wanted to inform you and I am very sorry for my people, the aboriginal people, as the Minister stated that the aboriginal languages will not be official. But even in this case I will be trying to work hard toward having our aboriginal language recognized.

In the Assembly there are interpreters right here who are being used to interpret what is going on here and perhaps through this we can look into the future and hope we can have our language recognized. I will be supporting the motion and I am very happy this motion was brought up. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Arlooktoo. To the motion. Mr. Richard, would you like to conclude?

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Speaker, I intended to acknowledge in making the motion, and I neglected to, that the Minister of Justice has, in recent months, been lobbying on behalf of the Executive Council with the federal government, particularly with Mr. Hnatyshyn who is the Minister in the federal Parliament who has advanced Bill C-72. I want to acknowledge that because I think Mr. Ballantyne and his officials have been doing what they can at that level. Also, Mr. Speaker, I wanted to acknowledge that one of our Members of Parliament, Dave Nickerson, who was in the gallery earlier this afternoon, has also tried to assist by contacting Mr. Hnatyshyn about this repugnant provision. In fact, my recollection is Mr. Nickerson pointed out a point to Mr. Hnatyshyn, a point that Mr. Wray was making earlier this afternoon when Mr. Wray was relating this to Meech Lake. If I recall, the expression Mr. Nickerson used in writing to Mr. Hnatyshyn was that this provision adds salt to the wounds of Meech Lake. I think that is correct and I believe that was what Mr. Wray was pointing out.

Mr. Speaker, my disagreement with Mr. Lewis is simply on what is the issue in this motion. Mr. Lewis points out that the federal bill is about languages and not about legislative authority -- I agree with him. This motion is about legislative competence and not languages. So I think Mr. Lewis and I are in agreement on languages and we are in agreement on legislative competence. We are just not in agreement on what the issue is here.

---Laughter

Mr. Speaker, finally, I want to point out that Mr. Lewis speaks of the concerns of a minority, of a few people, that is, the Francophones in this jurisdiction. This motion is about another minority, a different minority, a minority of 55,000 people, Canadian people, among a larger group of 25 million Canadians, and the right of the 55,000 minority to have an autonomous legislature like other Canadians have.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

---Applause

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Speaker, I would ask for a recorded vote. Thank you.

Motion 2-88(1), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Richard. A recorded vote has been asked for. Mr. Clerk, would you call the vote? All those in favour of the motion, please stand. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Crow, Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. Nerysoo, Mr. Butters, Mr. Richard, Mr. Morin, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Ernerk, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Wray, Ms Cournoyea, Mr. Allooloo, Mr. Ballantyne, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Sibbeston, Mrs. Marie-Jewell, Mr. Zoe, Mr. Angottitauruq, Mr. Gargan and Mr. Kakfwi.

MR. SPEAKER: Would those opposed to the motion, please stand?

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Pollard, Mr. Lewis.

MR. SPEAKER: Those abstaining from the motion, please stand. Thank you, this motion is carried.

---Carried

Item 16, first reading of bills. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, might we go back to Ministers' statements?

MR. NERYSOO: You mean Members' statements.

MR. BUTTERS: I thought if we returned to Ministers' statements it would provide an opportunity to the Minister responsible for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development to provide us with an oral report on his trip to Toronto and appearance before the hearing convened by the Ontario Legislature on the Meech Lake Accord.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. I would only entertain a call for unanimous consent to return to Ministers' statements if the Minister would like to request it. The Chair has no assurance that the Minister has a statement to deliver to the House. So your request, Mr. Butters, is out of order. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Might we return to oral questions?

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent to return to oral questions is being requested. Do I hear any nays? Mr. Butters, you have unanimous consent.

REVERT TO ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 066-88(1): Report Of Presentation On Meech Lake Accord

MR. BUTTERS: With apologies to the Minister for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development but I know he is an articulate man and can inform this House extemporaneously of the results that he feels occurred from the visit he made with his colleague, the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, to Ontario and get some indication whether he thinks that further visits by Members of this House and this government would assist us in attempting to convince Canada and the 11 first ministers, that they have made a serious mistake in establishing the Meech Lake Accord.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. The honourable Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs.

Return To Question 066-88(1): Report Of Presentation On Meech Lake Accord

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you. I do not mind giving the report today, but you will have to excuse some of the material, I did not have a pair of scissors.

---Laughter

On the presentation that was made on Tuesday to the committee on the Meech Lake Accord of the Ontario Legislature. Mr. Ted Richard and I made a presentation, directed by the Legislature. As the Members know, we had a direction to attend all public hearings of this sort to make the case known to all Canadians about our concerns as northerners and as Canadian citizens in the NWT, about the negative impact that Meech Lake will have on us and to bring it to the attention of other Legislative Assemblies and other jurisdictions in Canada.



We had prepared a presentation which I will table, that I think, for the most part, Mr. Richard and I followed. It was not exactly word for word but presents, I think, fairly well what our position has been on the Meech Lake Accord.

#### Summary Of Presentation

If I could just make a brief summary of it. What we did tell the committee Members is that we had a number of concerns and recommendations that we wanted to have them make to their respective governments. The most immediate concern we had was on the power that the provinces could get under the Meech Lake Accord to extend their boundaries into the Territories without our involvement, that is, without our consent or approval, to have provinces gain the authority and the power to basically divide us up into extensions of British Columbia perhaps, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Quebec, Ontario or whatever the possibilities are. We think that is probably the most immediate threat and we had alluded in our presentation to that fact, as the Government Leader of the Yukon did later in the day; that we felt that perhaps there was a scenario developing where some of the provinces, some of the Premiers, may have designs on parts of the Northwest Territories. The former Premier of BC had once indicated in a meeting some years ago that he had drawn a diagram before the Premiers indicating that most of the Yukon should become a northern portion of British Columbia. In our presentation, which you will have copies of, we indicated that some of the statements that were made by officials in Quebec indicated that they did have and do have designs on the land and waters around Hudson Bay.

The other recommendation we had was that, for the establishment of new provinces we did not want the provision that would allow for the unanimous consent of all 10 provinces plus the federal government for the establishment of new provinces and that, again, we should have a say in this matter and that the matter should rest as it has been historically, between Parliament and the Territories.

I hope you do not mind, I am going to be very long-winded about it. The third point we made is on constitutional conferences; that the Territories should be invited to participate in all conferences on the economy and other matters that may be deemed appropriate and that basically the constitutional conferences should be held at least once a year -- I suppose with the view that the Constitution of Canada should be seen as a live document and that we should have a part in making it a very live and appropriate document for all citizens of Canada.

The other two points we made were, of course, on the nominations to the Supreme Court of Canada and the Senate. We felt those were very vague and weak as to our rights as Canadian citizens to nominate and be nominated for the Supreme Court of Canada as judges and for nominations to the Senate. We felt that our rights as Canadians to be eligible and to have equal rights, as other Canadians have, are a bit compromised under the Meech Lake Accord.

The summary that could be made is a line in the presentation which says, "We do not believe that it is a seamless web. The Premiers said if you make any changes to the Meech Lake Accord, it is all going to fall apart." Basically because shortly after the Meech Lake Accord they reconvened in Ottawa and made some substantial changes and again came out saying once again, "Look, this is a seamless web. We cannot make any changes otherwise it will completely fall apart." We argued that that was not the case; that it did not require, in order for Quebec to be more "in", that the Yukon and the Northwest Territories would have to be more "out"; that we should not have to pay the price. We tried, Mr. Richard and I, to convince particularly the Liberal Members of the committee, who are Members of the Government of Ontario, to take a very strong principled stand and forget momentarily party politics and to insist that the Meech Lake Accord be amended to meet our demands; that our demands are perfectly legitimate and they would not upset the inclusion of Quebec; that they should be sympathetic and do something to make us ever more "in", as well as Quebec.

#### Presentation Very Worth While

We had a very good discussion. We spent two hours with them. We had, I think, some really good questions. We had some press coverage in the Globe and Mail and Toronto Star. I am not sure about the Edmonton Journal but there was some local TV coverage last night. I can ask to have prepared a summary of whatever press coverage there was, and I will pass that around as well. So my personal view is that it was very worth while. The reception was good. They are thinking about the procedure and the impact the proposed accord will have on us.

As to whether they, as good committee Members and good conscientious legislators, do anything to take a strong stand, it is impossible to say at this time. We just indicated we hope that people will not become so complacent that they let the rights of fellow Canadians be eroded simply to expedite the political negotiations of 11 people. So having said that, I recommend that we continue to do this type of work, we attend other hearings and we send other good people to follow up on our behalf.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. We are on Item 17, second reading of bills. Item 18, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Report of Standing Committee on Finance on the 1988-89 Main Estimates and Bill 1-88(1), Appropriation Act, 1988-89, with Mr. Gargan in the chair.

ITEM 18: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS AND OTHER MATTERS

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE ON THE 1988-89 MAIN ESTIMATES; BILL 1-88(1), APPROPRIATION ACT, 1988-89

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): The committee will now come to order.

Department Of Economic Development And Tourism

We are on the Department of Economic Development and Tourism with Mr. Sibbeston. Does the committee agree the Minister brings in his witnesses?

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, can I have the deputy minister, George Braden, and our finance officer, Jim Kennedy, available?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): It is agreed that the Minister brings in his witnesses. I would like to ask if the deputy chairman of the standing committee on finance, Mr. Lewis, would like to make an opening statement.

Comments From The Standing Committee On Finance

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, in the review of the standing committee on finance of this department, we were told that there was a written mandate for the department, although the committee does not have a copy of that mandate that it can share with the Members. A new program that was identified by the department was an economic planning unit consisting of three people. The committee during its discussions wondered how a Department of Economic Development, which was established in the 60s, has taken so long to establish such a planning unit. The department indicated that it had an evaluation system in place so that before beginning new ventures, it would evaluate those ventures and would evaluate programs before dropping them. The committee, however, does not have an example or a copy of such an evaluation system.

As far as person years are concerned, the department indicated that there was an increase of 7.7 person years. There are 14.4 vacant positions in this department. When asked about travel, the department indicated that this was one item that was carefully examined by senior members of that department.

When asked about the highlights of the budget, the Minister indicated that the budget included provisions to meet the needs of small business and expansion of the renewable resource section, as well as the small economic planning unit that I have just referred to. The department indicated that following the Snare Lake meeting, officials had been set to work on 13 different tasks which had been identified at Snare Lake for the development of an economic development strategy for the government.



### Issues And Concerns

One of the major issues and concerns raised by the standing committee on finance was the problem of moonlighting. In other words, of GNWT people being engaged in business which could result in conflict of interest between their jobs and their business interests. The Minister indicated that moonlighting was being very carefully monitored. On the economic development agreement the Minister explained the operation and financing of EDA. The differences between EDA programs and other departmental programs were also covered. The Minister indicated that where overlaps of programs were identified, activities were altered in order to prevent duplication.

Another issue was the work of regional loans boards. During questioning on the criteria used to evaluate grants and loans, the success of regional loans boards and their contributions to the loans system were discussed. The Minister indicated that the boards provided a valuable service and had improved the effectiveness of the department.

On privatization, Members requested information on numbers of businesses privatized and on the subsequent success of these businesses. The committee was concerned that privatization ventures should be examined carefully to indicate how successful they had been. Concern was also expressed for the need for a skills and training data base. Members of the committee emphasized the need for an adequate skills and training data base to allow for effective economic planning. The responsibility for this data base seems to be unclear at the moment to the committee. The Minister indicated that the department was discussing this need for information with the Department of Education.

In response to a concern regarding the rationale behind eliminating programs, the Minister explained the criteria used to select programs for elimination and perhaps we can elaborate during our discussions on how things are, in fact, dropped from the activities of the department.

Another issue was the business development division. Members questioned the role of the oil, gas and mineral section of this division and the potential for overlap with other departments and secretariats. The Minister described the department's attempts to meet a unique need and avoid overlap of mandates with other GNWT agencies and departments. As far as Expo was concerned, the department gave an indication of its plans for possible participation in future international expositions.

### Co-ordination With Special Committee On Northern Economy

That finishes the main remarks of the standing committee on finance on this department, Mr. Chairman. One major issue was raised, however, and that was to do with the co-operation that would be required if this department is going to continue planning the economic development program for the government while the special committee on the northern economy is about the same business. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Lewis. Are there any general comments concerning the department? Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not know exactly where to begin my remarks with respect to Economic Development but I think I was really going to reserve some of these comments until we get into the discussion on the special committee on the economy. If you do not mind, I will take just a few minutes and bring to the House, my thoughts on some of the things. I apologize but I never took part in the finance committee's discussion of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism because I was not here. I come from the East where things are slightly different than here in the West, where we have no transportation in terms of roads, trains and things like that. We depend heavily on air transportation. Cost of living becomes much higher than in this part of the NWT. I think that if we are going to take this issue of economic development, Mr. Chairman, we have to take a look at a number of possibilities. I am talking about six or seven items that I would like to bring up for discussion purposes.

### Elimination Of Middlemen In Fur Marketing

Firstly, one of the big wage economies in terms of renewable resources is trapping in the NWT and the fur industry. When I made my Member's statement yesterday, I talked in two minutes about the problems that we face right now, especially with regard to the trappers themselves. The returns

that are coming in to the trappers are very small. So what does this mean? I talked about the fact that I noticed at the Frankfurt fur fair in April of 1987, that polar bear skins all mounted were selling for as much as \$20,000 American. That indicates to me that we have to cut out certain middlemen. If the trapper receives, for instance, \$500 to \$800 for a small polar bear skin, five or six feet long, or if he is lucky, and this is not very often, he gets a good polar bear skin, nine to 12 feet long, and receives \$2000 to \$3000, that indicates to me that we need to help the hunters and trappers organizations to establish their own companies so that they begin to deal directly with the buyers in Europe. It means that we do away with Vancouver fur auction and all the other companies in between. So that is one point.

There is also the issue of non-renewable resources; mining, oil and gas. Then there is the issue of arts and crafts and the issue of sewing centres which were closed down in 1987. I know that there have been some studies with regard to arts and crafts in the NWT. Arts and crafts in my view can be a very successful business just as long as we have proper marketing programs. We want to make sure that the producers of arts and crafts receive the highest possible benefits from arts and crafts.

#### Support For Sewing Centres

Mr Chairman, I really do not mind paying for organizations like sewing centres that are losing money, for a little while. If there is proper marketing, I think we could see some successful businesses. I would like the government, the Minister and his department to look much more seriously at marketing than they have done in the past few years because I can tell you that in terms of sewing centres, parkas were being made in two or three communities in the Keewatin Region, in Baker Lake and Rankin Inlet. There may have been another place in the Keewatin Region, I do not know. My point is this: The Hudson's Bay Company, a great big company in Canada, in the meantime is selling imitations of Inuit parkas for \$345 in Rankin Inlet and Coral Harbour. These imitation Inuit parkas are being made in Winnipeg.

So what does it mean to the government when you say that you support local businesses? I think that is something that we have to be able to study and research more, in terms of providing economic development and employment opportunities at the community level. I would rather support a money-losing sewing centre than support a company in Winnipeg that is actually making Inuit parkas by imitating Inuit designs. In the meantime, Inuit-run or community-based sewing centres are being closed down while at the same time we are supporting a Winnipeg-based business. It does not seem to make sense to me.

#### Fisheries Issues

Then we get into fisheries. One of the things that has been concerning me for some years now is the issue of capital equipment; quarter million dollar boats to a few individuals. There may not be that money in the NWT but when it comes to fisheries, I think we have to start planning in terms of establishing a fisheries strategy. Is it necessary to provide a quarter million dollar fishing boat to a fisherman or is it better to assist those fishermen with \$3000 boats and try to establish a good fishery strategy in the NWT? With respect to fisheries, there are many, many details that we have to take a look at. The quotas for instance. Do we have the right quotas for the amount of fish in places in the NWT where there is commercial fishing being done? My question is...

(Translation) When we go out fishing the lakes we fish in in the NWT, for example for Arctic char, do we have adequate number of fish to fulfil those quotas, for conservation purposes? There is commercial fishing and there is fish we catch for ourselves. Are the quotas and the amount of fish we have in the lakes compatible with the quotas that are being set? (Translation ends)

These are the kind of things we should be taking a look at. Should we be constructing more fish plants and for what type of fish? I am talking about Arctic char, shrimps, scallops, and different species of that kind of fish. I go back to this other question about capital purchases. If we are going to assist fishermen throughout the NWT, how much are we willing to assist or how much is the government willing to assist in terms of providing dollars for capital purchases? Should we even be depending on the government to purchase those boats? Should we be taking a look at other organizations, such as the banks?



The other issue I want to bring out when we are talking about fishing is who should be buying and selling fish. Should private business people? Should we encourage private business people to establish their own companies so that they could sell fish? Do we give them to the existing organizations like co-operatives throughout the NWT? Should hunters and trappers organizations be encouraged and assisted to establish their own companies so that they could sell their fish? That is going back to the point that I was talking about when it comes to renewable resource industry.

So I think when it comes to economic development, we have a lot of choices that we could take a look at as we go along in the future. The other thing I think we have to be doing is to begin to think big. We have to, in so many ways, begin to stop depending on southern Canada. We should begin to talk about manufacturing goods. It often amazes me when, for example, we must depend on southern Canada as well as within the international community, to buy a pair of jeans. Everybody wears jeans and yet we do not have any manufacturers to manufacture a pair of jeans up here. I believe that we could, with the best minds, establish really good manufacturing companies making for example, a pair of jeans up here.

Another possibility, and I am referring particularly to the Keewatin Region, is a bakery, for instance. When I was Minister of Economic Development between 1975 and 1979, I requested the department to look into the establishment of a regional bakery. They said it could not be done. No way. Today the same situation is occurring. We could have a good bakery in the Keewatin Region. We are still depending on a Toronto bakery to get our bread in Rankin Inlet. It means that the money that we have in all of the region is not generating at the community level, or throughout the NWT level. At one point one company started to buy bread from Yellowknife but due to many reasons, buying of bread stopped from Yellowknife.

So the money does not generate at the community level. The money does not generate at the regional level as well as the territorial level. I think we could imagine a number of things that we could do up here. I think we have a number of points we could talk about. I am going to quit here for now, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Ernerk. We will take a 15 minute coffee break.

MR. BUTTERS: Might the ajauqtit committee convene during the coffee break for a few moments?

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): The committee will come to order. Mr. Nerysoo.

#### Member's Comments Based On Budget Address

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am going to make these general comments based on the Budget Address and some of the comments have been made to me and this Assembly already. I want to deal first with the question of free trade as was brought to our attention by the government. I want to indicate here that I am not personally opposed to eliminating the tariffs and whatever additional taxes are associated with imports, or exports for that matter. But I do have to say that I am a bit disappointed with the kind of information that I have received so far about the effect that the agreement has on the North and the economy of the North. The reason I say that is that there has been no clear information given by the department on such things as the effect that the free trade agreement has on incentive programs. There has been nothing to indicate what problems may arise as a result of the preferential treatment for northern businesses that we continue to argue for: the type of employment benefits; the type of investment preferences that we give to businesses that have established themselves in the North; and the incentives we give to have them remain in the North. Those incentives have created an expansion of business in the North, even here in Yellowknife. But nothing, in my assessment of the information that is before us, in any way has given us a clear indication of what that means.

I want to say also, Mr. Chairman, that I have not seen yet, even from the federal government, an assessment as to how that agreement affects the economic benefits that might be negotiated in land claims agreements. There is nothing in the trade agreement that in any way protects future arrangements that might be negotiated in aboriginal claims -- does not protect. It does protect those agreements that were negotiated 90 days after the initial agreement. But none of the agreement that I know of, protects anything beyond that.

The other point I wanted to raise, Mr. Chairman, is with regard to this suggestion that it is of great benefit to the oil and gas industry, or at least it is going to have advantages. What is interesting, Mr. Chairman, is that incentives have been protected for the oil and gas industry in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and BC, under the Western Accord that was negotiated. They were also protected under the Atlantic Accord for the Maritime Provinces. But in the recent trade agreement, nothing was suggested in which the northern accord and any incentive programs would be protected. In fact, the agreement says that those agreements would not occur.

#### Protection Of Northern Economy

Now maybe I am not clear about it, but I worry about the idea of the suggestions that are made with regard to the economic benefits from that agreement, not knowing what those other issues might be, nor what the arguments in terms of the trade agreement will be. Not knowing or having any certainty that we are having our northern economy protected in the process worries me, as it has not been dealt with. Again I want to reiterate that I agree with the comments made about the removal of tariffs that the Minister of Finance indicated in the budget, but none of the other elements seem to have been clearly reviewed.

Mr. Chairman, I want to get some clarification at some time, and it does not necessarily have to be today, as to the effect that particular agreement might have on our textile industry in the North, on the fur industry, the parka industry, and the canvas project in Fort MacPherson. What could be the effect, in terms of incentives that might be provided by our government, by such an arrangement? Particularly if the trade links are between the NWT and Alaska for instance, what does it mean in terms of those arrangements? But that also occurs in other jurisdictions.

One other element I was concerned about in terms of the economy of the North happens to be, what does it mean with regard to such decisions as might be made with regard to the oil and gas industry, in terms of transportation? We have always, in this Assembly, favoured the so-called gas pipeline, which would, in fact, accrue more benefits to the North and to the economy of the North and generally to the economy of Canada. I know that there are many that have argued also for the issue of shipping by tankers. Not all of it has come from Canadian companies. In some instances it has been based on arguments by major American companies. That, in my opinion, could be affected because much of the land in the Beaufort and the Mackenzie Valley is leased to American oil companies, not to Canadians. Amoco has some of the largest areas of land and Chevron recently got lands.

At some time, not necessarily today, I would like to have those issues addressed and at least some report on the part of government, so that we can assess the advantages or disadvantages thoroughly. I do not want to be making my judgments on one paragraph and I do not want to be basing them on some quick analysis on which I do not have all the information. So could I ask the government and the Minister to provide that assessment for me at some time during the session or whenever it is possible? I assume that that type of assessment may have to be considered by our government as well.

Mr. Chairman, I wanted to make a couple of other comments. One, a note of compliment to the Minister for responding to some of the issues in my constituency; and to the department, thanks for their efforts, to the Minister and deputy minister and to the staff, including the people in Inuvik.

I wanted to ask a couple of questions. I am not certain if the Minister alone can respond at this particular time and it may have to be from Government Services. Could you give an indication as to how many of the dollars have actually been spent in the North, in terms of our capital expenditures for this part year? Also how much of that was directed toward northern businesses?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, just in response to the last question. My department's budget is just three million dollars so we do not have a large capital budget and most of this will have been spent in the North.



#### Indications Of Effect Of Free Trade On North

I just wanted to make some comments with respect to the issue of free trade, a matter that Mr. Nerysoo expounded on for some length. Maybe my responses today will not be conclusive and may not answer all of the questions he has raised, but I think it is important that I make some comments with respect to this because there are enough positive indications to know the likely effect free trade will have on the North. I appeared before the House of Commons committee that came to Yellowknife sometime in November and presented our government's position at the time. Of course while Mr. Patterson was at the First Ministers' meeting, he indicated our government's position.

We have had a consultant look at the likely effect of free trade on the NWT and so we are guided by that. The general conclusion is that the net effect will be small but positive on the North. The removal of tariffs will mean lower-priced goods for people in Canada and the NWT.

With respect to mining, I think it is generally recognized that the NWT is a producer of raw materials. We do not do any substantial amount of manufacturing. So with our mining industry, oil and gas, we are essentially a producer of raw material, raw goods, that are sent south for further refining and manufacturing. So those industries are affected quite substantially by the free trade agreement. We expect that there will be increased mining exports. Also with the reduction of tariffs on mining equipment, the operating costs of mines will be less in the North. The duty of 9.5 per cent on mining equipment will be dropped and it will immediately put us in a much more competitive position with a number of minerals that are produced in the North, namely tungsten, zinc and uranium.

There will be a removal of US tariffs on clothing and this has been as high as 18 per cent. Although we do not manufacture a tremendous amount, we do make parkas and we use furs on parkas and so this reduction on clothing will be to our advantage. There will be a removal of US duties on all of the raw furs that are shipped into the United States. The United States is our biggest purchaser of raw furs and so it will be to the benefit of the northern people and primarily native people who produce the raw furs.

There will be a removal of a 25 per cent duty on ships and off-shore drilling rigs, which again is significant because the oil and gas companies use these in the Beaufort, in particular, and so there will be reduced industry costs and reduced costs of exploration, which I think will be of advantage to people of the North.

There are a number of other things that affect oil and gas. Canada apparently will be foregoing its two-price system for energy and Canada will not discriminate in its policies in rationing energy exports and the regulatory measures affecting cross-border trade are to be eased. So all of these things, I think, go well for oil and gas discoveries and development in the North. Consider tourism that uses a lot of goods, preserved foods, equipment and things of that sort, those prices will end up being reduced too.

#### Outstanding Issues In Free Trade Agreement

In saying this, it is not completely clear sailing. There are a number of outstanding issues. One of these is the Marine Mammals Act. At the moment this act prohibits the export of ivory, sealskin products, polar bear skins, stuff of that sort, to the United States. Canada has been seeking an exemption such as has been provided to the Alaskan native people. But so far we have not been successful in accomplishing that.

Regarding land claims and the effect of any moneys from land claims on any industries, it is a question of whether this would be seen as unfair and subject to countervailing action. I guess our studies indicate that the effect is likely to be very minimal. We are not a manufacturing state, as it were, and so we are not likely to be affected very adversely by this.

So these are just some general observations on the likely effect of free trade. I know that I will have covered some points raised by Mr. Nerysoo; if not, then I am prepared to provide him with more detailed information during the session.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I could ask the Minister, has the department done an assessment with regard to the issue of economic benefits and how that might be affected by any trade arrangement? For instance, preferential hiring. I will give you an example. If the Government of Canada decides to accept, and let us talk about the North Warning System, for instance if the Government of Canada makes a decision to employ or contract that construction with a company from Canada because they are providing more employment -- the cost may be higher but they are providing more employment to Canadians and the northern people -- my assessment is that under the free trade arrangement, that could be countervailed. Now that is my assessment. I do not know what the situation will be, but that could occur with other contracts as well. It is not only this one particular contract. It is a number of other contracts. The other thing is, what about northern businesses that have received incentives to bid on the contract, which makes it advantageous to a northern business as compared to a business that comes from the United States? What happens in those particular cases?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, can I just ask Mr. Braden to respond to that?

#### Preferential Benefits And Subsidies

MR. BRADEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our understanding with respect to the first question is that any policies or legislation with respect to preferential hire will be grandfathered under the agreement. I think I could add one other point to that; regarding companies, particularly multinational companies who are working in Canada's North, presumably it is Amoco Canada that is working here, in our analysis and discussion these companies, because they are Canadian subsidiaries of American multinationals would presumably comply with Canadian and provincial or territorial laws with respect to hiring policies and affirmative action policies. That is our understanding on that particular issue.

The second issue with respect to subsidies. As the Minister indicated earlier on, we are not a manufacturing jurisdiction and as such the potential for a countervail suit is minimal. I think what we have to recognize though, Mr. Chairman, is that right now there are no mechanisms in place whereby an impartial body or tribunal could assess whether a subsidy is really causing damage to an American manufacturer or a Canadian manufacturer. The points that we have been getting back, because we have raised these with our consultants in the free trade negotiator's office, is that under the free trade agreement what has been set up, initially, is a panel of representatives who would be appointed by both the United States and the Canadian government, which will examine complaints that a subsidy is incurring some unfair competition. That has not existed before and Canada, for example in the past, has felt the consequences of decisions respecting shingles and other items which are produced in Canada.

So I think that is one point, Mr. Chairman, that Members have to recognize. For the first time we have a panel which can examine disputes. Secondly, what both nations have agreed to do -- over a period of five years, I believe it is, but I would have to check in more detail -- is to examine all of our trade laws to try to bring in amendments which would reduce a potential for countervail and protectionist actions. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Mr. Nerysoo.

#### Implications For The North Not Clear

MR. NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, I think with regard to the suggestion that we are not a manufacturing jurisdiction at this particular time, I will say that we do manufacture, the problem is quantity as opposed to numbers. I will give you an example, if the rules changed, and changed immediately, you may as well tell our lumber industry in the North that they had better take a quick turn for themselves and reassess what they are going to be doing if we were to know that we were unable to use incentive arrangements to encourage them to produce, knowing that that might be considered to be a disadvantage to an American company. I think those are the kinds of things that I worry about. I really do not care about what the larger picture shows us. I am more worried about what happens in the North and what may happen to those who are interested in businesses.

I will also give you an example of what effect it might have in tourism. If for instance, there was not protection for a motel in Eagle Plains, which is not in the NWT but just across the border. Now, one of the decisions that the Yukon government made in its approval for that



particular establishment was that there would be no other establishment in that particular area for a period of 10 years so that that particular business could, in fact, retrieve its investment and establish itself. That same situation could occur in communities in the NWT and in fact, Mr. Chairman, on a number of occasions this department has encouraged that very type of policy. They have established businesses in communities and said, "We will not give any more money to any other business venture which comes into that community." Those are the kinds of policies that I see may be affected.

Again, I have no problems about the argument made by the Minister in terms of relief from tariffs. I can support that argument. But I just say that I worry about the smaller problems that might arise in terms of not knowing what they are. I mean, it is great for some consultant to be telling us, "Well, this is what the trade agreement is supposed to mean." But, I would like to know what it means from where we stand and the kinds of programs we have implemented and the kinds of programs that we may want to implement in terms of encouraging the development of the northern economy.

Let me give credit to the Minister, to the department and also to our Government Leader, because we have done an extremely good job in improving the economy of the North over the last 10 years. And probably I have been part of that but nonetheless I think we have done an extremely good job. I think the policies that exist right now are continuing to encourage the development of our economy. Despite the fact, of course, that we can do a better job in the smaller communities, we have done an extremely good job with our programs. In that sense it worries me and I am not certain yet what this means.

I will give you another good example. We just had a report recently about the fact of expenditures in the North, providing services to our mining industry. The fact that there are some \$12 to \$13 million that could be spent in the North. If we are trying to encourage that kind of investment in businesses in the North and at the same time say, "Well, open the doors," you have to be extremely cautious about how far you open the door and to what extent you review issues. Or how, I guess, you encourage that door to be opened. But I will not take up any more time on this particular item.

I will ask the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources when she comes up for questioning on the oil and gas industry. I would like to maybe get some idea as to what her thoughts are on the type of information she might be receiving with regard to the intentions of the oil and gas industry in the upcoming year and in the very near future, so that we might have some prior knowledge.

Mr. Chairman, if I might ask, what has been the success rate of the department in terms of privatization of various ventures in government and have we been successful in those turnovers?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

#### Privatized Commercial Enterprises Successful Ones

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, the department has privatized a number of commercial enterprises that it has had in the last couple of years. Generally, those that have been turned over to private enterprise have been successful. There have been a number. This past year there was a privatization of the Fort Simpson craft shop and Iqaluit laundry and last year, Inuvik parka industry and Pelly Bay craft shop. There have also been some shops that have simply closed -- government enterprises, primarily arts and crafts shops. Sewing centres in Whale Cove, Baker Lake, Rankin, Iqaluit and, back in 1983, Frobisher Bay knitwear. So some of these closures, of course those that have simply shut down, have not been successful at all. They simply shut down and are not operating. But, without question, those that have been privatized and turned over to private individuals have been successful. The government has at least seven other shops for which privatization plans are pending, hoping that private individuals or municipal corporations will take them over.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Any further general comments? Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Could I just ask the Minister, where is the status of the preparation of the economic development strategy and what are the elements that are going to be considered in that particular strategy?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mr. Minister.

Proposed Planning Unit

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I do believe the Member is referring to the three man planning unit that our department also has planned for this coming fiscal year. The department is still working out the criteria in terms of reference of this planning unit. We had proposed this as part of our budget before the Assembly decided to set up a committee on the economy. We anticipate that this planning unit will work very closely and be available to the Assembly's committee on the economy, if it so wishes. So our department's planning unit will be available and ready to be of any assistance it can be to the Assembly. But in terms of the final details, precisely what its mandate is and terms of reference are, we have not worked that out and we have not had that approved by cabinet yet.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): General comments. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: I wonder if the Minister would bring us up to date on the ongoing saga and struggle of the department with the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation. What is FFMC doing to you now?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I apologize, but I cannot disclose at this stage the department's and government's plans with respect to this matter. I can tell you that the paper, the strategy in this regard, is completed and is before the Government Leader and will be made available very shortly to the cabinet. We have a strategy worked out, but I simply cannot disclose it to the Member today. But the matter is in good hands and very well taken care of.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I am glad to see the Minister and his staff are wrestling the problem to the ground. Some time ago the previous government became all alarmed at reports emanating from Ottawa relative to DRIE, Special ARDA and the grants that the federal government has provided, for many years, in conjunction with the Territories to northern producers and entrepreneurs. I wonder if the Minister could give us a report on just what is happening with regard to Special ARDA grants and DRIE funding?

MR. POLLARD: Point of order.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Point of order, Mr. Pollard.

Documentation Delivered

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a few moments ago the Minister of Finance delivered to me, as chairman of the standing committee on finance, some documentation with regard to this particular department before us right now. With your permission, Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister, is it translated?

MR. RICHARD: I thought it was one of those Curley notes.

MR. POLLARD: The fact remains that we have just been given further information on this department and the committee has not had time to review it. I am asking whether it has been translated because it may become important in the questioning.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mr. Pollard, your point of order is not quite valid in this particular situation because we are dealing with a specific department that is under consideration and I am not too sure if the information that the Minister of Finance may have given you, has been circulated to all the other Members. So that is not a point of order.

MR. POLLARD: Then on behalf of other Members here, I will make it a point of privilege that I have information that they do not, that pertains to this department, and I would like to get some time to circulate it, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to know if it has been translated.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): I will consider your point of privilege. Mr. Minister, would you kindly respond to Mr. Pollard's question in terms of the translation of the document you have given him?



HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: It would be my privilege, Mr. Chairman. As the Member knows, we have our staff working night and day to try to get you information and this information amongst volumes of information has just been made available to me. It would have been another day before it had gone through the proper procedure and I thought perhaps the chairman would like to have it in his hands so we would not be accused of keeping information from him. It has not been translated; it is there for the chairman to use and I said I would try to short-circuit the system so you would have it as ammunition to use as you see fit.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Mr. Pollard, since the document is not translated, do you feel that the committee should take a short recess? I am not too sure how long the document is, but if it is not too long, maybe it could be translated. If not, then with your permission, we could take a short recess to circulate the English version of that report.

MR. POLLARD: I think it would assist the committee and other Members in the House, Mr. Chairman, if they did have this document before them.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): With that I will take a short, five minute recess.

MR. RICHARD: Do we get one too?

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): I would like to call the meeting back to order. Mr. Minister.

#### Future Of Various Funding Programs

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I would be pleased to answer Mr. Butters' question with respect to the future of these various funding programs. I will state the situation for the time being. For the time being, funding for the EDA is secure. We signed a three year contract -- we signed an agreement with the federal government for three years which provides \$37.8 million and so this money is relatively secure. We also signed a two year agreement covering a Special ARDA funding and there are one and a half years left on that. The federal government at the time being is doing a study of all native economic development programs. Both the NEDP and Special ARDA fall within that review. We are presently in the process of advancing a proposal to devolve the EDA funding under DRIE and DIAND to our government where it is in the works to eventually take over the full management and control of that funding. So, I would say the future looks relatively good, although there is a review of part of the funding that we presently get.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I wonder what the Minister might be able to tell us about import replacement.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, this is generally the concept of doing away with the importing of goods and foods and so forth that are used in the North; the idea that we in the North can produce materials and goods and foods so we do not have to import them from the South. That is that notion and that is that concept.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Just to make a suggestion to the Minister when he and his staff study that matter. If you look at current imports into the Territories, you will recognize that a significant proportion of those imports consist of water. I would suggest to the Minister that we have some beautiful fresh water in the NWT. All we need to do is identify those imports which come in with water so that we would ask the manufacturer to send them in a dry state and we will just add the water. We would save money on transportation and have an industry selling local water. You could use that thought if you want, Mr. Minister.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Yes, Mr. Chairman. We take Members' advice in these matters very seriously.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Are there any further general comments? Order! Are there any further general comments? Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: We do not have very good water in Rankin Inlet. I just wondered if the Minister has any statements regarding my observations or my suggestions or my recommendations? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I did have some general comments, I guess. Just to say that I agree and concur with many of the things that the Member has said in his opening statement. I did not reply because I thought he was really just making statements and maybe I should have said at that time that I concurred generally with what he says. If the Member wants, I can go point by point on some of the things he raises, if he wishes, but would it suffice to say that I generally concur with the statements that he has made?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mahsi cho. General comments. Mr. Gargan.

#### Increase In Person Years Questioned

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman. The Minister of Economic Development and Tourism did indicate during our question period today that the program concerning the STEP program, the short term employment program, has been dissolved to look at some other alternatives. However, if you look at the increase in PYs, the PYs have gone up by five per cent. I do not know where this increase in PYs is required if you eliminate a major program that affects 52 communities in the NWT. I want to ask the Minister what this five per cent increase is for when in fact you have eliminated a major portion of your program.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mahsi cho. Mr. Minister

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I should, in response to the Member, say that the STEP program that our department ran, which for the most part was used to provide labour funds in housing projects -- that program was not considered a major program as such. It was seen simply as a stopgap and assistance to an ongoing program. In my view, it did not fall within the mandate of our department, creating business opportunities and creating employment for people on a long-range type basis. So this is the reason why we cut the program.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): General comments. Mr. Gargan.

#### Success Of Government Privatization Program

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also would like to know from the Minister -- this has been brought to my attention time and time again, and I really have not found any answers. This is with regard to the privatization program that this government has encouraged and implemented. I realize that in some areas, after a certain length of time that the government negotiates with a company, the company is eventually expected to go on its own. What I would like to know is the success of the government's privatization program. Has it been successful? Has it benefited the communities, for example? Has it benefited particularly the aboriginal people, for example?

I have already indicated a wood contracting program that was implemented in Fort Providence that no longer exists because of mismanagement in some parts and I ask whether the government does have some programs in place that would ensure the success of the programs that are implemented. I would like to find out on a ratio basis, the amount of privatization that has occurred. How much of it is now in existence? How much of it has actually failed, has gone under? This has been going on for about five, maybe four years, this privatization program. Certainly there must be indicators now to say whether this government should keep on going in that same direction, if it is being successful. If it is not, why not?

I would like to note that the other portion, with regard to the economic development agreement and the promotion of those agreements in the area of renewable resources and arts and crafts, mineral development, tourism, planning and small business development -- I as a Member, I have heard that for the last five years and it has been implemented. Certainly in the area of arts and crafts,



Expo '86 must have done something in that area and we no longer should be dealing with that. Maybe I should be corrected on that. I do not know what is happening. I realize that there was a big deal made out of Expo '86, but in the area of arts and crafts, I am just wondering whether that is still the case or whether we are now starting from the bottom and working our way up and repromoting arts and crafts.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: I will try to answer the questions. I am sure the Member will guide me if I do not quite hit all the questions he raised. With respect to the privatization plans, I assume you are talking about the privatization plans of government as a whole, because just a while ago I talked about the privatization of a number of government projects the department has. I thought that discussion was fairly exhaustive.

With respect to privatization plans of the government, we have had plans under way for a number of years and our department has been mandated to oversee the privatization plans. To date there have been a number of departments that have come forward with privatization plans -- six departments in fact -- and other departments have not. So various departments have had a privatization process under way for the last couple of years. Our department is just now in the process of reviewing the privatization that is going on, to see the effects of it and to see whether it has been successful. There is a report that will be done for our government on the privatization of departments throughout the government.

#### Arts And Crafts

With respect to the arts and crafts, this is a six million dollar industry in the North and \$15 million once the goods have been sold. It is a large industry and it is growing year by year. Recently there has been some concern, some attention on this area and we are approaching it from regional levels. We have asked all of the regions to come forward with enhanced plans for the development of our arts and crafts industry. We are in the process of doing that. In our EDA we have three million dollars that is available for the development of arts and crafts. It is an area that is going to receive a lot more attention in our department and government in the next few years. It is recognized that there is a tremendous number of people in the North who are involved in arts and crafts. Particularly in the small communities, it is the women who do a lot of arts and crafts so it is recognized that it is an important activity. We will be concentrating on that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): General comments. Mr. Richard, you have your name here. Mr. Lewis.

#### Economic Planning Unit

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, we usually use about \$100,000 as the cost of a public servant if we include salaries, benefits -- all hidden costs -- transportation, removal and so on. So my question is this: We have \$300,000 right now wrapped up in a small economic planning unit. Could you tell me who these three people are and could you give us a status report, just a brief status report, on exactly what they are doing?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, the department has not done very much in this regard because the three PYs become available on April 1st, so we are waiting until we have authorization and approval of the budget before we begin definite plans. The department plans to provide guidelines, terms of reference, for the three persons that will be working in this planning unit and the positions will eventually be advertised. Those positions have not been filled. There is no one that has been identified in the department or from anywhere for those positions yet. It is something that will occur in the next few months once this budget has been approved.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Lewis.

MR. LEWIS: Supplementary then, Mr. Chairman. Since the government is embarked upon working on these 13 planning tasks for the economic development plan of the government, who is working on these 13 tasks if these people have not been hired yet?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I would not want to give the Member the impression that our department or government does not have any planning and policy-related type people. We have, in our department, a policy and planning section. We have eight people that are working presently on developing policies and plans in our government. Most of the tasks at the moment are being done by these people. We have a number of studies that have been put out and are being done presently by consultants, but most of the work is being done in-house and the difference is that the planning that the three man unit will be doing will likely be long-range type planning rather than specific work and tasks that they are presently doing. So there is a difference in the type of work and type of undertaking that these planning tasks are.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Lewis.

MR. LEWIS: Another supplementary, Mr. Chairman. Would it not make more sense to do a long-range plan before you decide what all the pieces should be? It seems to me that this is a backward process. We have not had an economic planning unit to do all the major planning. It seems as if you are doing it in little bits and pieces. The problem for the economic planning unit, once it is put together, is that they have to make sense of little bits and pieces before they can put together this big plan. It seems to be backwards to me. That is all. Would the Minister not agree with that?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I think the Member would be critical of us, our department and our government, if we did not do any of the tasks that have been identified as important things for the new government to do. The long-range planning that the Assembly is beginning will likely take a year or two and the planning unit we have will be dealing with plans over the long range. So it may be one or two years before the long-range plan is complete. The type of planning is different. The long-range plan that will be undertaken is important and significant. At the same time, life goes on, and there are a number of areas in our sector that need to be dealt with and new initiatives taken. So that is what these 13 tasks are, tasks and things that our government will be doing in the short term, in the next few weeks and months.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): General comments. Mr. Morin.

#### Tourist Lodges In The East Arm, Great Slave Lake

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, what is the situation in the East Arm of the Great Slave Lake regarding outfitting and tourist guiding licences? It is still impossible for local native people to obtain this licence to supply this service to the local tourist industry. The way I understand it now is that local people in Snowdrift, for example, cannot get into the outfitting business or the guiding business because your department, in conjunction with the big lodge operators on the East Arm of the lake, have put a freeze on these licences. I, myself, feel that is very unfair since this government has said that economic development and the renewable resource sector is the main thrust of this government. In our area our biggest potential is tourist development and our own people cannot get into it. I think that you should look at that policy and try to change it so our people can get into business and get off welfare and start doing something. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, our department is working with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to do a management plan for the East Arm. The matter of granting of licences and permitting commercial or tourist type fishing is not one that is totally within our control. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans controls tourism activity, in controlling the extent of fishing that can go on in a particular area. The Member is right in indicating that there have been some problems this past year in attempting to give a licence to some of the local people. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans has stated that there ought not to be any more fishing lodges in the East Arm of Great Slave Lake. We have been trying to deal with them to have them open the quota and have an openness so that there can be more, but they have been very difficult and have resisted our attempts to license more people in that area. It is one that we have worked on this past summer and we are working with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans at the moment to do a management plan for the East Arm with our own department's view that the area can, in fact, stand more fishing.



So I am hopeful that when this is done it will be possible for people in the Snowdrift area to also get licences and permits so they can operate tourist lodges. The Member may know that we worked very hard last summer in attempting to help one or two local persons. We thought we were succeeding and at one point we even went to the extent of helping a person buy out an existing lodge, but that did not work, so we, in a sense, failed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Morin, a supplementary.

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, the way I understand it, your department issues licences yearly to the lodge operators. Is it your department's policy that in order for these lodges to operate in the Territories they must be based in the Territories and must fly out of a Territories' base? Is that a blanket policy or do you just apply that to certain individuals?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: These tourist lodge operators have long-term leases which were given to them by the government in existence before we arrived on the scene. So they, in a sense, because of the land leases, they have rights to the land so that they can operate and function in the North along these lakes. It is a situation where we, as a department and government, have attempted over the course of years to pressure them into hiring local people and basing their operations in the North. Some we have succeeded in but others we have not. But there still exists a problem that will ultimately, eventually, have to be dealt with.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): General comments. Mr. Gargan.

#### Individual Licences For Guides

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman. Just maybe to carry it a step further than what Mr. Morin has said. Can individuals in the NWT be provided with a business licence for guiding services rather than to operate a lodge? Can I go down to the business licence office to be able to get a licence to provide guiding services? Certainly there must be some avenues so that a person could take advantage of this government's programs. The way I see it now is that the government has got out of that whole short term employment program. The community now has absolutely no source of income. Unless there is a capital plan project in their communities, they lose out. They have absolutely no employment, nothing. And so I was wondering whether the government can provide licences to provide guiding services or tours?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I am advised by my officials that when one obtains a tourist establishment licence to run a tourist lodge, they have then the right to hire the people and the guides and so forth that work in the establishment. There is no requirement for all their guides, as it were, to have licences in order that they can guide -- being out in a boat helping fishermen catch fish. The other approach is that if a person wants to do some guiding with respect to animals, then you need an outfitter's licence and under that provision you ought to have some guiding experience. So there is some requirement provision for some guiding experience. Our department has moneys in the budget to pay for guiding courses for people throughout the North and it is run through the Arctic College program. I do not know if I am meeting your concerns.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): General comments. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Yes, Mr. Chairman. What I am asking the Minister of Tourism is whether this government, at present, has the power to issue licences to individuals to provide guiding services. Now there is nothing complicated about guiding a person through the bush. I mean, native people have lived here all their lives. The other issue with regard to providing guides is that they know what animals live where and what their habitat is like and those are all things that 100 per cent of the Dene persons can do. It is a way of life. They do not need licences to do that but I think it is required by this government -- if you want to provide guiding services, you need those licenses to do that. And the criteria required to fit under this particular career or opportunity -- I am sure the native person will fill that criteria quite comfortably. I do not know what the difficulty is. I would like to ask the Minister. If I wanted to provide a guiding service in Fort Providence, for example, and I go to the business bureau or whatever it is called, can I be given the licence to establish a guiding service in Fort Providence, without difficulty?

The Minister did indicate that the lodges provide those guiding services. But I am not interested in the lodges right now. I am interested in the aboriginal people in this area that could perhaps get into those areas. They certainly have got no avenue left because you have eliminated that short term employment program.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

Outfitters' Licences Can Be Issued To Individuals

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman. Yes, our government has the power to issue licences to individuals to provide guiding services and we do through the provision of outfitters' licences. If anyone wants to set up a business of outfitting and guiding, they can do so. It is recommended or suggested by the government that they do it in the proper way of getting a licence and establishing a small business to do that. Depending on the type of business or service that you provide, the people that come up and use the service expect a good service and knowledge and information about safety, guns and so forth. So there is some minimal requirement that the person be skilled and able to take people into the bush.

There is also an insurance requirement. I think tourists want some protection. If anything should happen, if an accident should happen, there must be some insurance coverage so that they are compensated for any loss and damages that occur. So there are some requirements. They are not stringent but there are some requirements which must be fulfilled in order for a person to get an outfitter's licence and provide guiding service. I think it is good; it is recognized that people have an advantage in being able to provide some of these services, but still there is a requirement. I do not believe it is onerous but I still think it should be complied with before getting a licence.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): General comments. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, just a point of clarification. Am I correct that the Minister is saying that, in fact, it is the outfitters that provide the guiding services, that they are the ones that issue these licences for guiding services and it is not really up to the government to decide who could get into the guiding business or not? Am I correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: I will just ask Mr. Braden to answer that.

Tourist Outfitter's Licence

MR. BRADEN: Mr. Chairman, in order for an outfitter to have the authority to guide people in the bush, and that could be for hunting purposes or, in some cases, for doing some fishing, a tourist outfitter's licence is required. And as the Minister has indicated, you can go out and buy a business licence but, in addition, a person needs a tourist outfitter's licence.

As the Minister indicated, there is consideration of the skills, safety and equipment that the outfitter provides to the guest or visitor who is being taken out on the land. I think, as well, you have to recognize that in granting a tourist outfitter's licence, we also have to be understanding of potential conflicts with traditional uses in a particular area. There might be a lot of hunting and trapping and fishing that is providing employment to local people. Would granting outfitters' licences conflict with those traditional uses? And similarly, I understand that granting tourist outfitters' licences takes into consideration the biological carrying capacity of an area. Can the caribou or whatever other species are being harvested there by outfitters and their guests -- can they stand that particular use? Does that help clarify it, Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: I guess the clarification I was looking for is whether, I remain to be corrected if I am wrong, but whether the outfitters right now that provide the guiding services -- and those are the people that tell this community, "We need so many guides for your area for people this summer" and they are then given the licence -- what I wanted to know is the kind of guiding services -- I have been talking about tours of the area, not necessarily for shooting animals but more as guides



so that the people are not lost, if you want to put it that way, or if a person in Fort Providence, for example, wanted to start a guiding service between Providence and Simpson, just so that the tourists are made aware and appreciate the land, that sort of thing. It is nothing complicated; you are not out there to shoot animals, maybe just shoot cameras. This is what I am trying to get at.

Is it still the outfitters that provide those guiding licences or has this government been able to get into those too? Not primarily for the purpose of shooting animals or hooking fish, but actually to appreciate nature, that sort of thing. That is something that I do not think too many people are in the business of. Canoe expeditions is another thing that is a real big potential but the potential could disappear very fast unless we move soon in that area.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: The answer is yes, a person who wants to get into the guiding work can apply to the government and get a guide licence. The requirements are not onerous and can be given.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): General comments. Mr. Ernerk.

#### Guide And Hospitality Service Training

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, just continuing on in the same sort of dialogue as Mr. Gargan's comments. Is there guide training that takes place in the communities throughout the NWT? I am talking about tourism now.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: I am advised that, yes, our department and government does run guide training programs throughout the North and it depends on the need and interest in holding such programs.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: What about the hospitality service training? How extensive is that type of training in the communities?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, the need for hospitality is one that has just been identified in the last year. Our department has moneys and so a course will be developed by Arctic College in this coming year to run the hospitality training programs. All the terms and provisions have not been worked out, but as we know more, I would be pleased to advise the Members of that particular course.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Ernerk.

#### Hiring Of Native People

MR. ERNERK: The other area that concerns me, and I would like to encourage the government to undertake -- actually I have two or three items here that I want to bring to the Minister and the House. There are a number of organizations that do not hire native people as much as they should. They include departments of health, transportation, etc. When I talk about transportation, I am talking about airlines in the Eastern Arctic, aside from First Air. First Air does employ a lot of native people, which I think is very good for tourism. However, when it comes to issues of pushing or encouraging hotels to train more native people in the management level, that seems to me almost non-existent in some of the communities, aside from native people being employed as maids and that is about the highest they could go. What about your department, Mr. Minister, encouraging and persuading these organizations to hire more native people or to train more native people at the management level? Obviously we see that there has got to be more guide training. We see that there has got to be more hospitality service. There has got to be more travel show attendance by the people of the NWT. All these things are good for the tourism industry -- native people being able to run their own affairs, run their own tourism establishments and manage accommodation facilities. So I think that is very good for tourism.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Are you finished, Mr. Ernerk?

MR. ERNERK: Yes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I am personally committed to hiring native people in my department and since I have taken over the department I have made it a special conscious effort to, wherever possible, hire native people. In fact, we elevated a native person to the position of assistant deputy minister of the department, Mr. Fred Koe, whom some of you may know. At the moment the department is also funding four native women who are attending Trent University in a business management area. I know throughout the department that there is a real consciousness to hire native people wherever possible and I am aware of many instances where this is being done. So I would like to think that our department has a reasonably good record in hiring native people.

MR. ERNERK: I am sorry but the Minister totally misunderstood my point. My point is this. I recognize that in order to promote tourism in the NWT that there has to be more training for guides, there has to be more hospitality service training at the community level. What I was asking earlier, maybe I did not make myself totally clear, is that when we take a look at hotel accommodation facilities in my region -- and I have seen them in the Eastern Arctic -- there are very few native people at the management level of these hotels. What I am asking of you, Mr. Minister, is to encourage you to take a look at more proper guide training for taking tourists out. I encourage you to continue to take on this hospitality service training, whether it is for summer operation of boats, lodge operation in the summertime, or anything else that concerns the tourist industry.

I indicated all these things are good for the tourism industry. It is good for the local people to get employment opportunities. It is good for people at the community level to establish their own tourism companies. I encourage you to talk to hotel operators, to train native people at the community level beyond being maids. I encourage you to take tourist operators in the Eastern Arctic to travel shows. I have been to several travel shows in my life and they are very good for promoting tourism in the NWT. Get me now?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Well I got him loud and clear. I do not think I could say anything except that I most wholeheartedly agree and I will be especially conscious of that in the next few months and years.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): General comments. Mr. Morin.

#### Guiding And Outfitters' Licences In The Snowdrift Area

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, it is my understanding that it is your department's authority to issue guiding licences to individuals. Is that correct? So if, for example, an individual in Snowdrift wanted to get a licence to operate his own boat and motor on the lake in his backyard, outside of Snowdrift, and have tourists fly in on the sched into Snowdrift, so he may take them for a few days out on the lake, is that quite possible?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, the person living in Snowdrift who wants to do some guiding, inviting and advertising for tourists and have them come in, really is doing more than simply guiding. He is purporting to establish a business. In that case it would be seen as an attempt to start a business, so he really should get an outfitter's licence. That is a little more involved than simply a guiding licence. Guiding is simply for the purpose of taking someone out in a boat, in the example that you cite. There is still the whole question of where is he going to stay and all those other concerns, safety and so forth, that still have to be reckoned with. So your person cannot provide that kind of service unless he has an outfitter's licence.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Morin.



MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So let us say there were five individuals in Snowdrift who wanted to supply this service. They had boats that met the safety standards, life jackets and all that, and they had a native experience -- something like Sam was talking about -- they would be living in tents or whatever. They would apply to your department for this outfitter's licence and if they met all the criteria for that, all the regulations about their boat, then would they have no problem getting a licence?

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: I am not saying the person would have no problems. We issue the licences but there is still the matter of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans controlling fishery in the lakes. They have some say with respect to whether commercial or tourist type of fishing is permitted in any particular area of Great Slave Lake. So while we may be sympathetic and so forth, the person must deal with the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans in order to get a permit to set up an establishment in a particular area of Great Slave Lake. So it is twofold. They get a licence from us to become an outfitter and do some guiding, but they also need to get a permit from the federal government that deals with catching fish from the lake.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Morin.

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So in reality Economic Development and Tourism has no say over that licence then. It is all tied into the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans. As I said before, that is one of the only resources we have in that area and I think the government should be doing more work in trying to get more licences for that area. That is the only thing we have open to us there for economic development. I am hopeful that you can do something about it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: I said yes, we are working with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to do a management study and plan for the East Arm of Great Slave Lake, so there does exist in the future a possibility of having more fishing lodges on the lake. Our department's view is that the area can stand more commercial fishing and tourist type of fishing lodges. So we are very sympathetic but it is a reality that the federal government controls quotas on Great Slave Lake, dealing with commercial and also tourist type of sports fishing.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Kilabuk.

#### Importance Of Training In Tourism

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Mr. Chairman, just a short comment. I was very glad to hear the discussions of that type because we rely on those kinds of renewable resources in our area, especially in Pangnirtung. Tourism is very important and they have been training the people who take tourists out. Just a while ago they designated a tourism site and there are some things in that site with writing about the artifacts. It is all numbered for the tourist to see. There is information on plaques for tourists to read. It was done by the Inuit people with the assistance of one non-native. There are some stories in that area about that place. I know we have received our assistance from the Department of Economic Development and Tourism while doing those types of projects. It is very good for the people of my area because when we go to another community, if we are not received very well by the people it is not very comfortable when that happens. For that reason the tourism people should try very hard to make tourists aware that they are very welcome. Especially when they deplane, they should be welcomed officially and asked what kinds of things they would like to see or do while they are in the community. I am just telling you about what I have experienced and I just thought I would make that comment. Thank you.

Also, I feel that training should be taught in the communities because the guides have to be able to protect tourists from accidents, such as drowning and other kinds of accidents. I think guides and people that work with tourists should be trained to do all kinds of things, such as first aid and hospitality training. Also, when I was taking that training I found out that there should be more training for the native people because the non-native people like to have their food prepared properly, otherwise they will not eat it. I feel that that type of training should be given to those people who deal with tourists, to give out good meals for the tourists that come to the North, because tourists do not always like to eat just Inuit food. Mr. Minister, I am encouraging you to fund these types of things so they could be planned and the training given to the people of



the Northwest Territories who deal with tourism. The part of preparing food is very important for the tourists. Sometimes they take the tourists out camping or caribou hunting or something along that line and I feel that if tourists are accompanied by people who are trained in those areas, they will always come back. Those are the types of things that should be given priority for training.

#### Marketing Renewable Resources

I would like to also say that in my area, in the Baffin Region around my constituency, maybe you are not dealing too much with that right now but you could start trying to take fisheries and oceans over from the federal government. They are doing a study on halibut fishing in our area and I was very thankful for your department being able to help us on that. They also did a study on scallop harvesting. You have given us assistance in funding in those areas also but we are not selling or marketing them right now. I would encourage you, Mr. Minister, to plan for marketing of those in the future, because we really cannot do anything on our own right now. We have not really done any planning. But after some people have gone through some training in marketing, then we could probably start doing it on our own. But I would like you, Mr. Minister, to think about assisting us in those planning stages. I know you assisted us a great deal with those types of things in the past, while we did the study, etc.

I heard recently about something that I was not really happy about. It was in another community, not my community. I heard that there would be a school for training to harvest halibut. But I heard that those people that were going to be taking the training were not going to be given any money. When I heard that, I was not really happy about it. They were going to pay for their transportation and accommodation, which is nice, but they would not be given any money for training. That is the thing that I really did not like about it. I heard the HTA in my community tell me that.

When something starts up, at the beginning I think you should give them adequate funding to encourage them to go ahead and be enthusiastic. We do not know yet whether this is going to go ahead. We do not know whether they are going to become a company or whatever. They do not have any facilities right now and they do not have any equipment. There is a freezer but it is very small and there is a cleaning facility but it is not all that big right now. I think you know that.

#### Economic Development Slow In Baffin Central

I just want Mr. Minister to think about the things that I have just stated here and also I would like to tell you that the business of economic development in my community is very slow. This may be because my constituents are just all unilingual right now, or because they do not approach Economic Development as often as they should, or because some Economic Development programs are available that you should be giving them information about, for example when they had a meeting in Iqaluit. There are all kinds of things that Economic Development could assist people with in the way of funding and other things. Maybe because Economic Development programs are not available to the people is why we are not getting up there as much as we should be. Maybe you can increase your staff to do with those types of things to assist the native people to develop economic development in the communities.

I got a phone call this afternoon from my constituency and they stated that Economic Development in their community of Clyde River is inadequate. They are not operating very well because they have an economic development officer from Arctic Bay and not very many people get to Clyde River that often because of the transportation problem. Mr. Minister, I would like you to consider that there should be an economic development officer put in Pangnirtung and have Clyde River and Arctic Bay put together to be serviced by an economic development officer. There are all kinds of things that are going to be happening in Pangnirtung and I feel there should be a person there. But the only thing that is going to be a problem is funding.

If you agree with me, I would like you to consider those things that I just mentioned, because to me economic development is very important, and so the people who would like to start up their own business could start up properly instead of receiving social assistance from Social Services. I just thought I would make those comments to you, Mr. Minister, and if you want to respond to some of the things I have commented on, you can do that. Thank you, very much.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.



HON. NICK SIBBESTON: I do not want to say too much. I appreciate what the Member has said and I believe everything he has said and see it as good advice to myself and the department.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): General comments. Mr. Lewis.

Encouraging The Development Of Our Economy

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, we asked the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism what he meant by encouraging or fostering the economy, because these were the words he used to describe the purpose of that department, "to encourage the development of our economy". Could he tell us what is the most important thing that his department does to foster or develop the economy?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: I will not get into too long or fancy a dissertation on this, but I would say the most important thing our department does is to be available in the small communities to help local people, who are interested in getting into business, to get into business. To me that is the most important function and the reason why the civil servants we have in Yellowknife exist. The matter of business and making a living in that way is a new thing to most people of the North. It is just in the recent years that native people have decided to and are trying to get into that endeavour of making a living.

So to me the most important thing that our department does, is done by the economic development officers, who exist in most of the communities in the North -- and there is an officer in Pangnirtung -- the work that they do to encourage local people to get into business and the services that they provide when someone walks through the door and wants to start a business. Information on how to start a business and all the various programs that exist. To me, that is the most significant task and undertaking of our department. All the people that exist here in Yellowknife, are really here because of that service to the people and are really back-up to the area economic development officers. To me, that is the rationale, the central, single, most important reason for existing.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Lewis.

Bureaucratic Red Tape

MR. LEWIS: I am glad the Minister gave me that answer and maybe he can respond to this. Very recently a gentleman came to me and said "I have been trying to develop a business for many, many, many years and all I get is harrassment from the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. I am trying to develop a hunting industry where people come here to hunt and I am being hounded by people that tell me that my facility should be this way or I should have more toilets or I should be doing things in a way that suits that department, not the clients who come to me to hunt." How does that then accord with your statement that what you are trying to do is to help people to make a living when your officials are accused of harassing somebody from doing exactly what you are trying to promote, which is some kind of private enterprise in our system? Maybe I could give some other examples but that would maybe suffice. One of the big problems, from the point of view of the entrepreneur, is that governments, instead of just promoting things, tend to have a lot of bureaucrats that want to regulate them too. So they have to go out of business because it costs far too much money to do all the things that bureaucrats tell them what to do. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, the Member talks about this one case that is a bit of a horror story, I guess. There are hundreds of other happy customers who deal with our department and I think are very happy with the service that we provide. It just seems as if this person is someone that for some reason is not being satisfied. In all cases, I guess one of the things that everybody finds when they want to become part of a system, whether it is government jobs or training or whether they want to start a business, is that there are rules and regulations and ways of doing things that the government insists upon, not for the sake of being difficult, but because of the requirement to satisfy certain health requirements or a certain level of service that must be provided to the tourist. So I suspect it is a situation where this person wants to get a licence without compliance with some of the regulations. If that is the case, of course our

department will be difficult and insist that he comply with the rules and regulations. I would be interested in meeting this person that the Member has because it is so out of whack, I think, with most of the people that we deal with. I would be pleased to meet the individual that the Member talks about and see if I can help him.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): General comments. Mr. Ernerk.

Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is to the Minister with regard to the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation. When I was a Member of the Executive Council responsible for Economic Development and Tourism we had a hell of a time with this organization in Winnipeg, in terms of trying to sell fish. There were so many regulations that did not allow us to sell any different species of fish to anyone we wanted to sell the fish to. I wonder if the Minister could explain to me what changes have taken place as a result of this? Arctic char has been promoted much more than it was 10 years ago. What I am getting into is this issue of selling arctic char out of the country. I recognize the regulations that are in place that stop us from selling fish internationally. As you well know, other countries, especially Japan, are buying things from up here, caribou antlers for instance. I guess that is what I really was trying to get at when I was talking about fisheries strategy -- how to sell the fish, how to market the fish just as long as we do not deplete the population. So my question with regard to the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation is to find out if there is still that kind of problem with regard to selling our arctic char to certain parts of Canada, and if it is possible to get into promoting arctic char to other parts of the world such as Japan. After all, we have had a good relationship with the Japanese for a number of years now. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, all I can tell the Member is that we are doing an exhaustive and thorough review of the state of fisheries in the North and invariably the matter of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation comes into our consideration. The possibility of exempting char from the normal provisions of the corporation is one of the options we are considering. It is one that is seriously being considered by our department and will eventually be dealt with by the government as a whole. If that is done, then the char fish, for one, can be exempt from the usual provisions of the corporation. So there may be some hope, I guess, or light on the horizon on this problem.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Supplementary, Mr. Chairman. What do you mean by "we"? That the department alone is looking into this fisheries situation? I know that the Keewatin Chamber of Commerce is looking into the fisheries situation. What do you mean by "we"?

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, by that I mean that I had discussions last summer with the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans to deal with this whole matter and we had some correspondence with them. When I say "we", if we are to be exempt and in any way not part of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation process, we have to get the concurrence of the federal government. So it is not us working alone, as it were. It is us in conjunction with the federal government trying to deal with this whole matter.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): General comments. Mr. Pudluk.

Additional Position In Economic Development For Baffin

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to make a short comment regarding the fact that we do not have very much business from the tourist industry but that could probably be helped by Economic Development and Tourism. When we are working on economic development there seems to always be inadequate information available. Many people are not aware of regulations down south. But trying to establish your own business is one of the most important things because many people want to establish their own businesses. I completely agree with what Ipeelee Kilabuk was saying earlier in that economic development officers are always in short supply.



Last year about this time I made a motion, when we were having a discussion about the EDOs. It stated that perhaps for the next two years we should increase the number of EDOs, especially in the Baffin Region, because the communities are remote and that is one of the biggest regions. Maybe there should be an increase of one person year so that the communities will have access to more information and get help when they want to establish their own businesses. I think this is part of creating employment opportunities. In the record, page 801 of last year's Hansard, what action has been taken regarding that motion? What I heard from Ipeelee was that no change has occurred in that area. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, in our budget this year we have provision for five new positions related to economic development. We have an area economic development officer in Fort Liard and Fort MacPherson. We have a renewable resource officer in Baffin. We also have a business development officer, both in the Keewatin and the Kitikmeot. So I feel that we are adequately meeting the needs out there for people. So it is really four or five new positions to help in the economic development area.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): General comments. Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Supplementary. Perhaps you did not understand me. You mentioned the one PY going to the Baffin Region. Is he a biologist or is he a renewable resource officer or is he an EDO? The motion I made was directed to Economic Development, trying to get more PYs in that region.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, the person for the Baffin is a fisheries person and he is an economic development officer who specializes in commercial fisheries. Without question, fisheries are becoming more significant in the Baffin and there was a call or a requirement or a request to have someone in our department who specializes in the fisheries area. So we have complied and are trying to meet that need.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): The Chair recognizes the clock. I will report progress. I thank the witnesses and the Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Angottitauruq.

ITEM 19: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE ON THE 1988-89 MAIN ESTIMATES; BILL 1-88(1), APPROPRIATION ACT, 1988-89

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering the report of the standing committee on finance on the 1988-89 main estimates and Bill 1-88(1).

Motion To Accept Report Of Committee Of The Whole, Carried

Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the committee of the whole be concurred with.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Angottitauruq. Is there a seconder for the motion? Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. To the motion. All those in favour please signify. Raise your hand. Thank you. The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Clerk, orders of the day please.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Announcements, Mr. Speaker. There will be a meeting of the ordinary Members' committee tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m. There will be a meeting of the standing committee on finance tomorrow at 10:00 a.m.

ITEM 20: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Thursday, February 18th.

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. Replies to Budget Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Tabling of Documents
13. Notices of Motion
14. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
15. Motions
16. First Reading of Bills
17. Second Reading of Bills
18. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters: Report of Standing Committee on Finance on the 1988-89 Main Estimates; Bill 1-88(1)
19. Report of Committee of the Whole
20. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Thursday, February 18th at 1:00 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT



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