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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Speaker

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Officers

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

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

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Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Editor of Hansard
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Yellowknife, N.W.T.

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 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 Friday, February 19th. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Kakfwi.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Ministers' Statement 12-88(1): Northern Exchange Program

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a short statement I would like to make on a northern exchange program. I am pleased to inform the Members of the Assembly that the NWT Housing Corporation is sponsoring an international exchange project in co-operation with Frontiers Foundation.

As you are aware, 1987 was International Year of Shelter for the Homeless. During 1987 the corporation was involved in a number of activities to promote awareness of the issues of homelessness locally, nationally and internationally. One such program involved the sponsorship of a community development worker from Kenya, Africa. Robert Kilonzo travelled to the North where he met and spoke to people in a number of communities about community development and participation in housing. Robert's visit to the communities fostered a new awareness of homelessness in developing countries and created an interest in the idea of international exchange.

Frontiers Foundation was approached and agreed to develop a proposal for a northern exchange program. Frontiers, as you may know, is the organization that delivers Operation Beaver, a national and international volunteer program active in many northern communities.

The northern exchange program that Frontiers developed and is co-ordinating involves the participation of two northern volunteers, Allan Beaulieu from Fort Smith and Dennis Inglangasuk from Aklavik. Allan and Dennis were recommended to Frontiers by Operation Beaver contacts in the communities. They will travel to Toronto for orientation with Frontiers and then on to Bolivia in South America to participate with a local group, Volunteers in Action, on a community-based housing project. Allan and Dennis will be involved in this project for six months and will be returning to the Territories in October.

The corporation is pleased to sponsor this project between the North and a developing country such as Bolivia. As Robert Kilonzo's visit demonstrated, people and conditions may be very different but there are still lessons to be learned from international exchange. This is an exciting opportunity for these northern volunteers to take part in and learn from a project that helps local people to work together to solve their housing problems. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. At this time the Chair would like to recognize the many distinguished guests in the gallery. We normally recognize by name, but today there are so many that I would like to, on behalf of the Assembly, recognize all of you and welcome you to Yellowknife. It is indeed an honour to have you here.

---Applause

Item 2, Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Ms Cournoyea.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I had my hand up for Members' statements.

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister, I am sorry. I did not see you. We will return to Item 3, Members' statements. Ms Cournoyea.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Encouragement Of Economic Development, Fort Smith

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, there is a saying that if you want something, go and fight for it. In this government's new economic thrust, the government is being directed to give incentives to encourage economic development. As well, communities are also encouraged to give incentives to encourage economic development and business development.

In my appreciation, coming from a community of interest, Nunakput, which also works very hard to encourage and take part in economic opportunities, I would like at this time to give special credit to the community of Fort Smith for their very active involvement in attempting to bring to Fort Smith an economic opportunity. They have been presented with a bulb, "Fort Smith loves NCPC". Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms Cournoyea. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Patterson.

Member's Statement On Abe Okpik's Role In Political And Constitutional Development Of Assembly

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I do acknowledge that there are too many distinguished people in the visitors' gallery to permit each one to be mentioned by name. However, I would like to take note of the presence of one of my constituents from Iqaluit here in this Assembly today because I think he played an important role in the political and constitutional development of this Assembly and the Northwest Territories and that is Mr. Abe Okpik, who was the first Inuk Member of territorial Council. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Pudluk.

Member's Statement On Medical Evacuations In High Arctic

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My statement will be brief. We have a concern in the High Arctic about the difficulty of travelling on the scheduled planes in the middle of the night; especially for those who have to be medivaced, this is a problem. Travelling on the plane is not so difficult but they have difficulty in transportation and being looked after when they get to their destination. This is the problem. Canadian Airlines International, when they took over Nordair and PWA, are not as concerned about their passengers to the other communities. In this regard, the people of the High Arctic are really concerned about how to solve the problem in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My two minutes are up.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Members' statements. Mr. Arlooktoo.

Member's Statement On Welcoming Visitors To The Assembly

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My statement will be brief. As you know, we are fighting for our airstrip in Lake Harbour and fighting for more housing in Cape Dorset. I would like the Ministers to be aware that I am not alone here, that there are a lot of people from my constituency in the gallery. When I cannot get things approved very often, I think I stand alone. However, there are quite a few of my people from my constituency in the gallery. I am happy that our visitors are here and I know a lot of them from Iqaluit and the Baffin area. We welcome you. When we are sitting on a Friday it seems different from usual. It seems a little nervous right now this morning. Perhaps I am a little nervous because there are a lot of new people here and we welcome you to the gallery. Although we might look nervous because the new people are here it is not so. I think my two minutes are up.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Arlooktoo. Members' statements. Mr. Ballantyne.

Member's Statement On Welcoming Visitors To Yellowknife

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, as the longest serving Yellowknife MLA, I would like to offer a very...

---Laughter

AN HON. MEMBER: What?

---Laughter

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The longest serving present MLA.

AN HON. MEMBER: How about the tallest?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: And the best-looking MLA. As I said, as the longest serving Yellowknife MLA in this House, Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer a very warm welcome on behalf of my two Yellowknife colleagues, the mayor and city council and all the people of Yellowknife, to our visitors. I hope you have a tremendous weekend and really enjoy the ball.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Members' statements. Mr. Gargan.

Member's Statement On Arts And Crafts Award

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to say that in Fort Providence in the summer in July, a senior citizen in my community by the name of Margaret Sabourin, Senior, won a Canadian contest in the area of arts and crafts; this is, arts and crafts from right across Canada. That was at an exhibition in Calgary. She won the first prize in her area. She won \$2000 for a pair of mukluks that she made. On top of that, the mukluks that she made were sold for \$500 to the Canadian museum as an exhibition piece in Ottawa. So I just wanted the Assembly to know that I am very proud of this particular senior citizen in my home community who has achieved quite an award. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Members' statements. This would appear to conclude Members' statements for today. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Mr. Kakfwi.

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

Return To Question 046-88(1): Mail Service To Coral Harbour

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: This is a response to a question asked by Mr. Ernerk on February 15, regarding Coral Harbour mail.

Canada Post has a contract with Calm Air for mail delivery to Coral Harbour and Canada Post pays Calm Air less than the normal freight rate for mail shipped. Therefore, the contract stipulates that mail will be carried if space aboard the aircraft is available. As Canada Post is a federal Crown corporation, it is not under the jurisdiction of the NWT. We would be pleased to provide the Member with the name of the contact person responsible within Canada Post.

I should add that earlier in the year, I think it was January, I made a point of making a brief stop in Ottawa to see some officials within Canada Post to advise them that we had some concerns about the mail services to some of the remote communities in the North and that we believe they should perhaps come up here or pay more attention to the needs of our communities, since many of our communities do not have even yet, the luxury of regular or even frequent scheduled services. The official indicated he was prepared to try to come up some time in either February or March to visit and do a personal tour. I would be prepared to provide that information again to Mr. Ernerk and assist him, perhaps, to contact the person within Canada Post and perhaps arrange for some meetings when the official is here, if he is still intending to come up. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Returns to oral questions. Mr. Government Leader.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to oral Question 08-88(1), asked by Mr. Ernerk on February 10th, 1988, on the impact of the North Warning System.

Mr. Speaker, the North Warning System will gradually replace the existing DEWline system over 1988 to 1991. The proposed Rankin Inlet airport expansion mentioned by the honourable Member may be undertaken as part of North Warning System related construction if it is approved by the federal Treasury Board in April.

Three or more contracts could be awarded for construction at Rankin Inlet. The first, for rough fill at the north end of the airstrip, could be awarded as early as June of this year. An estimated 500,000 cubic metres of fill will be required. If the contract is awarded in June, the contractor will mobilize equipment during the summer. Rough fill will be put in place during the summers of 1989, 1990 and 1991. Foundations, aprons and taxiways will be built in 1991. Final earthworks, paving and lighting will be done in 1992 and construction of facilities will be started, with completion in 1993.

Until contracts are awarded, the exact manpower requirements will not be known. However, there would likely be a maximum of 50 people, local and outsiders, working on the site at any given time. Until 1992, construction will take place only in the summer. If no other major construction occurs in the community during the life of the project, and if qualified regional residents apply for jobs on the project, there should not be a significant increase in the number of southern workers in the community.

The honourable Member is quite correct to call attention to the fact that no detailed plan has yet been developed to assist people in the Keewatin to gain benefits from the project. Our government has experienced some difficulty in obtaining sufficient information from the federal government to develop such a plan.

We are convinced, however, that this is not for lack of good will on the part of the federal Departments of Indian Affairs and National Defence. Representatives of these departments and of our government visited Rankin Inlet on February 5 and 6. However, this visit in some respect left people with more questions than answers. I can now tell you that on our suggestion, a further visit from a high level DND briefing team is planned for next week in Yellowknife. Officials at the highest level in our government will be involved and I will ensure that the honourable Member and other justifiably concerned Keewatin residents, are immediately informed of the results.

Mr. Speaker, we have also learned that a full public consultation meeting is planned for March 20 and 21 in Rankin Inlet. Next week our officials will be emphasizing the importance of early community involvement in this significant project. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 088-88(1): Custom Adoption

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My constituents have indicated to me that custom adoption papers are taking a very long time to get through the system. They also indicated to me that suddenly there are many new forms to complete. Natural mothers are being asked who the natural father is and the natural father must sign a release prior to the completion of the adoption. Lately, the family of a child adopted in 1981 was asked to sign an additional paper indicating they understood the process of a custom adoption because they had signed in syllabics. Mr. Speaker, please let me ask the Minister of Justice what actions he intends to take to return the matter of deciding on custom adoption to the control of the native people; and to the justice system process regarding the change of name as had ordinarily been intended in the legislation. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ernerk. The honourable Minister of Justice.

Return To Question 088-88(1): Custom Adoption

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the tallest MLA in history I would like to answer this question. It is a serious question and I think the area of custom adoption is one area that is causing concern in the whole area of family law. One of the recommendations of the Status of Women's Secretariat a couple of years ago, was that we look at that whole area of family law. Myself, as Minister of Justice, and the Minister of Social Services, Mrs. Marie-Jewell, are jointly going to attack that over the next two years. We are putting together a team that is going to have representatives from aboriginal groups, her department and my department, and look at the whole area of family law. One of the most important elements of that will be the area of custom adoption. We think that it is very, very important as we deal with that area, to get the viewpoints of people in communities and aboriginal people will have to deal with it. So it is something we will be embarking on very soon and we will be asking for the advice of the people through the Territories as we get into it. I thank the Member for the concerns he has expressed and we will do everything we can do to come to grips with the problem. Thank you.

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

Question 089-88(1): Rushing Of Cases By Circuit Courts

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Justice. Concerning the court circuits, the judges that go to the communities on court circuits seem to be in a rush. Sometimes they do not even finish with the cases that they were supposed to be looking after. I would like to know, is it that they are trying to manage the funding properly? I would like to know from the Minister of Justice if he can identify the reason why the court circuits are always in a rush.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 089-88(1): Rushing Of Cases By Circuit Courts

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question of court travel is one that has been before this House over the years and I would like to say that over the last two or three years I think the courts have shown a tremendous responsibility in cutting down the costs of court travel.

I think the Member is referring to a specific trial right now where the court party went back to Iqaluit at the end of the day, as I understand it. I do not want to comment in great detail because a trial is going on but I will undertake to find out from the judge what the reasons were, because I am sure there were good reasons why they were going back to Iqaluit every night.

I just want the Member to know that I think the courts have been very responsive to the concerns of this House over the years, on court travel and I think the situation is improving. I will take the concerns of the Member to the courts and see if we can improve the situation even more than we have now. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Is that a supplementary, Mr. Kilabuk?

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, he has not given me the proper response. My question was why do the court circuits always seem to be in a rush when they go to the communities to look after the cases and the people who are charged always have to wait for a long time? I would like to get a response on what is the reasoning behind this and sometimes the date is delayed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 089-88(1): Rushing Of Cases By Circuit Courts

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are a number of reasons why a court party would leave a community in what seems to be a rather hasty manner. As a court party they have other commitments. They have a number of commitments in other communities when they are on circuit. There is the cost factor, as I think the Member has alluded to. I think I recognize that perhaps I am not being specific enough with the Member for every case. What I can do is prepare for the Member a summary of the reasons why the court party operates as it does and I think that should explain most of the concerns of the Member.

But I just want to underscore the point I made earlier. In the Northwest Territories, because of the vast area, because there are very small communities in a very, very large area, there are major difficulties in providing a system of justice in the Territories. I think that the concerns of the Member are concerns that have been heard before. We have tried to address them in a number of ways. One way, for instance, is that we put a territorial court judge into Iqaluit hoping that level of court will address a lot of the problems. We have set up law centres in the Baffin and in the Delta region. We are looking at the possibility of the same sort of centre in the Keewatin to again try to alleviate the problem.

As I said, we recognize that there is a problem. There are financial concerns. There are other pressures on the court party. I hope that I have answered the Member's questions but I would be very happy to give the Member a more detailed analysis of what actually happens on a court circuit and what pressures are on the court party to leave the community in what seems to be a rather hasty manner. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Kilabuk, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question 089-88(1): Rushing Of Cases By Circuit Courts

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. The question that I am asking about, you are well aware of the problem. Have you considered trying to resolve this problem in the near future, so the people who are charged do not have to wait for too long? They do not enjoy the fact that they have to wait so long and maybe you will be looking into this to resolve the problem. If you want to manage the money properly I would urge you not to go to Iqaluit when there is a hotel in Pangnirtung, just for the sake of staying overnight in Iqaluit. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 089-88(1): Rushing Of Cases By Circuit Courts

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I can assure the Member that I would personally never do that. I think the concern is a valid one. As I said earlier, I hope and I trust that there is some good reason why the court party went back to Iqaluit and I will find out. I think the point that the honourable Member is making is that when there are adequate facilities in a community, when a court party is in that community they should utilize those facilities. That concern is one that I can bring to the courts. Thank you.

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

Question 090-88(1): Departmental Handling Of Custom Adoption

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister for Social Services. It is on the same issue that my colleague for Aivilik has just raised, custom adoption. It appears that custom adoption is a problem right across the Territories; not only in Keewatin but

also in the Western Arctic. I would like to ask the Minister what measures or how she is going to address this particular problem of custom adoption. The question that is being asked is that there appears to be a big problem in the method as to how Social Services is conducting custom adoption. Thank you.

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

Return To Question 090-88(1): Departmental Handling Of Custom Adoption

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regard to custom adoption, as my colleague has indicated, we are taking the whole issue of custom adoption under review with the law reform committee that has been set up. In regard to the department's stand on custom adoption, the department does assist in the administrative parts of custom adoption although it does not assist in determining the location of a proper home for a custom adoption. Custom adoption is something we all know is done between an agreement of natives. I believe it is probably with the updating of the law that the current law today may create some flaws in the system and this is why the law reform committee is going to be looking at this whole issue. Thank you.

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

Question 091-88(1): Consulting With Elders On Custom Adoption

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understood very well what the Minister said about the law reform committee, looking into it. I would like to ask the Minister if she is going to have elders involved when they are reviewing this problem.

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

Return To Question 091-88(1): Consulting With Elders On Custom Adoption

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The law reform committee has just been very recently initiated by the two departments. It is in its very early stages of formation. Who is going to belong to this particular committee is still being formulated, although we recognize the issues that this committee has to attend to. But I will take the honourable Member's interest into consideration when the committee is being formulated. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, the honourable Minister misunderstood my question. I appreciate the fact that she is looking into this problem with the law reform committee. I encourage the Minister to work with the elders at the community level. I want to know if she is going to be doing that, by working with the elders who are very familiar with custom laws. If she is not preparing to work with the elders in the communities throughout the Northwest Territories, I encourage the Minister to take on that responsibility.

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.

Further Return To Question 091-88(1): Consulting With Elders On Custom Adoption

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regard to my honourable colleague's comment, it has always been my sincere interest to take the advice of elders. I certainly will advise my department of the interest of this Assembly to ensure that elders' advice will be taken into consideration and especially when it does come to custom adoption. I think it is a very important element to be looked at in the committee's issues of concern. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan.

Question 092-88(1): Custom Questioned By Departments

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, again, just going a bit further on custom adoption. The practice used to be that it took one day to go through the whole process of custom adoption. You now have the family law review of that custom. You have the law reform committee which has probably got their hands into it now. So it is coming to a point now, where, Mr. Speaker, it is no longer custom but it is getting into the institutions of law and of social services. I would like to ask the

Minister why, at this time, is this particular custom being questioned by the department and also by the Department of Justice? I would like to know why because this used to be a practice that was recognized in the courts of law. That is no longer the case. The case now is that it is being questioned by the very people who were supporting it at one time.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan, to whom were you directing your question?

MR. GARGAN: Minister of Social Services.

MR. SPEAKER: Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Return To Question 092-88(1): Custom Questioned By Departments

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe that a number of different concerns have been addressed to the department, which make them more aware of custom adoption. We all recognize that is an agreement between two native people but I believe -- I do not like to use the word "statistics" -- the department has become aware that there are certain things in law that have not been looked at. In fact the retrieval of a child with the consent of a father may be a good example, if this was not indeed a consent of one natural parent. The laws in today's society now allow the father to be able to place -- I was going to say two cents worth but it is more than two cents -- more say into the matter than as it used to be years ago. It is a matter of ensuring that custom adoption is still recognized by the sophisticated laws we now live by in today's society. So I am sure that the department and the committee is going to be very sensitive. They are going to ensure that custom adoption is recognized as a cultural thing and that it is to be continued but also to ensure that today's laws do not hold any impediments to the procedure. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. Is that a supplementary, Mr. Gargan?

Supplementary To Question 092-88(1): Custom Questioned By Departments

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say at this time that my wife and I are in the process of adopting a child. It has been now three weeks since the process started. There are personal questions being asked of the young girl who is going to be giving away her child. Now, I do not care who the father of the child is. I am only interested in adopting this child so it is within a family unit or within the Dene unit. But now it is no longer a case of a custom, it is legalized...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan, your question please.

MR. GARGAN: I would like to ask the Minister whether reviewing the whole issue of custom adoption would make it a lot easier for native people to go through that process, or is it just going to make it much more difficult to go through it.

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.

Further Return To Question 092-88(1): Custom Questioned By Departments

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not know if my honourable colleague is listening to me but I am basically saying that the law reform committee will take all these different issues of concern expressed and formulate them within the law, to ensure custom adoption procedure would be done in a speedy manner and in co-ordination with society's view of the law today. I know that we will make sure that the custom and the culture is respected in this manner. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. This is a supplementary question, Mr. Gargan?

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I do not think the Minister understood what I said in my question.

---Laughter

---Applause

There is a review going on now with regard to custom adoption. What I am asking the Minister is whether it is going to be in such a legalistic area that it would no longer be a custom, but rather a legal issue, this whole business of custom adoption. That is what I would like the Minister to answer for me. Is it going to be a custom any more or is custom adoption going to be a legal issue?

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

Further Return To Question 092-88(1): Custom Questioned By Departments

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, I believe that is why the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Social Services both decided to work together on this issue. My main concern was to ensure that the custom procedure was recognized, that the elements and the understanding of custom adoption would not be lost in today's society through the law. My colleague is in agreement with ensuring that these important elements will be taken into consideration. I can assure the honourable Member that custom adoption will remain a custom of the native culture. Thank you.

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

Question 093-88(1): Cultural Identity A Factor In Write-Offs Of Debt

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question, sir, for the Government Leader. My question, Mr. Speaker, arises out of the answers yesterday by Mr. Sibbeston about the carrying out of his mandate as Minister responsible for the Business Loans Fund. Mr. Speaker, yesterday that Minister acknowledged that his personal views and the manner in which he exercises his discretion as Minister are at variance with departmental policy. Will the Government Leader confirm for the public, that cultural identity is not a factor in determining whether a debt owed to this government is to be written off? And will he direct the Minister responsible for the Business Loans Fund to adhere to government policy?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Richard. Mr. Government Leader.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The honourable Member did give me notice yesterday during the main estimates consideration of the Department of Economic Development that he would be pursuing this matter, the large issue of government policy. Mr. Speaker, I am certainly not trying to dodge the question today in any way, but I would like to indicate that it is an important question, so I have asked that a legal review be done of the Business Loans and Guarantees Act and that a review be done of policy surrounding that particular legislation before I reply as to government policy and the legal aspects of the question. So, Mr. Speaker, with the greatest respect to the Member, I am looking into it and I will give a thorough answer at the first opportunity, based on that review. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Richard.

Supplementary To Question 093-88(1): Cultural Identity A Factor In Write-Offs Of Debt

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that the Government Leader, on a matter like this, wishes to take some time to review and perhaps ascertain exactly what the government policy is but, Mr. Speaker, we have on the record as of yesterday, an acknowledgement by Minister Sibbeston as to what the departmental policy is. That policy is at variance with his personal views in carrying out the mandate. Mr. Speaker, last fall we passed a motion when we commenced this 11th Assembly giving the Government Leader the overall management and direction of the Executive branch of government. And if the Government Leader is aware that one of his Ministers is not following departmental policy or governmental policy, can the Government Leader not assure the public today, sir, that he will direct his Ministers to adhere to government policy when there is clear evidence that there is a variance between the Minister's discretion being exercised and government policy? Thank you.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that the Member appreciates that I should take a little more time with this very important question, which he said at the outset of his supplementary. I would therefore like to repeat that before answering the question I would like to take a little more time to review the law and the policy of the department before I decide what action, if any, I should take. Mr. Speaker, I would like to suggest that the

honourable Member is, I believe, taking a somewhat liberal view, a small "l", of the statement made by the Minister when he says that the Minister has admitted he has departed from government policy. But I do wish to take more time to carefully review the matter and provide a thoughtful, reasonable response. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 094-88(1): Plans For Expansion Of HAP

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Housing. Yesterday the Minister of Housing outlined the program for the delivery of HAP units at the local level. My honourable colleague, Mr. Kilabuk, in questioning the Minister, was concerned about the small numbers of people receiving HAP assistance in the communities. Does the Minister have any plans to make the program more accessible to greater numbers of people across the NWT? Does he also have any plans for expanding the program to allow higher income people and lower income people to apply for this program? As you understand, Mr. Minister, in our smaller communities we cannot get bank loans and no financing is available for our people to build houses. This program is the only program open to us and yet it is very narrowed-down to people of a certain wage base. Do you have any plans to change that in the future? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Morin. Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question 094-88(1): Plans For Expansion Of HAP

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Shortly after I was assigned this portfolio I sat down with the staff of the Housing Corporation. It was just not on my own personal views but apparently the view of many of the corporation staff plus the previous Minister's that the present HAP program, while it is a very successful program, does not meet the needs of all the people at the community level. For instance, it perhaps misses out on meeting the needs of the senior citizens or the elderly of the community who are very much capable and interested and willing to provide for themselves. It also does not meet the requirements of those people who are considered to have a too high income level to qualify for this particular program. So the direction that I gave to the corporation staff some time ago and they are presently working on it, is to look at ways in which we can perhaps design programs that will meet the needs of other people in the communities who could perhaps come into private home-ownership under a different program. Again, I guess the answer should be shorter but I like to be long-winded some days when there are so many people in the audience. Thank you.

---Laughter

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

Question 095-88(1): Cut In Hamlet Council Budget, Gjoa Haven

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be directed to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. Just recently the hamlet council of Gjoa Haven has had a cutback of \$40,000 from their budget. It was done nine months after the budget for the fiscal year 1986-87 was passed to them. Why was this \$40,000 cut off after nine months?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will take the question as notice and provide a reply on Monday or Tuesday.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. You are taking it as notice. Oral questions. Mr. Morin.

Question 096-88(1): Date For Plan For Fishing Lodges, East Arm, Great Slave Lake

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. In the committee of the whole meeting on February 17 the Minister stated, "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 that there does exist in the future a possibility of having more fishing lodges on the lake." Mr. Minister, when will this study be ready and when do you think you could table it in this House? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I will take the question under advisement and give the Member a response as quickly as possible.

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

Question 097-88(1): Restoration Of Radio And Television Services, Rae Lakes

MR. ZOE: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last week the Minister of Culture and Communications responded with regard to the radio and television services in Rae Lakes. I would like to know if he has restored the services.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 097-88(1): Restoration Of Radio And Television Services, Rae Lakes

HON. TITUS ALL00L00: Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned earlier this week, the repairs to the dish in Rae Lakes were to be done by today. My information is that the bracket that holds this dish was flown in yesterday at two o'clock and left Yellowknife by scheduled aircraft, and the service is now working in Rae Lakes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 098-88(1): Promotion Of Early Cancer Detection In The North

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask a question of the Minister of Health. I think that last fall I heard on the radio news that Dr. Terry Fellows, who has been in Inuvik for a long time, said that cancer will only be detected after eight years and once it is detected, there is nothing you can do about it. Have the northern people been informed that they have to get regular physical checkups, or have the doctors informed the public that people should be physically examined more often? The X-ray machines cannot be used to detect cancer. Maybe the doctors in the North can make a better effort to diagnose cancerous diseases in its people. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Ms Cournoyea.

Return To Question 098-88(1): Promotion Of Early Cancer Detection In The North

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I believe that the honourable Member was suggesting that the Department of Health should become more actively involved in expressing to communities and individuals that they should aggressively pursue physical checkups more consistently. I do not believe that Mr. Pudluk's comment was a question but rather a direction. I certainly have been exploring and looking into the questions of cancer and how we can become more active in looking after their personal health and taking advantage of the health facilities that are available, and of what the Department of Health is offering. So I will take Mr. Pudluk's comments as direction and support for what I feel the Department of Health should be doing. Thank you.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. Oral questions. Mr. McLaughlin.

Question 099-88(1): Limitations On Eligibility For HAP Housing

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, related to the HAP housing situation. I would like to ask him how people are able, practically, to get into HAP housing when, on one hand, I understand that people have to prove that they are making enough money in order to make the payment, but on the other hand the department now has rules, which I know were not in place several years ago, which say that if you make so much money you are not eligible. So, on one hand, say a person making \$27,000 a year is making too much to be eligible, but on the other hand that also means that in other words, if you are making enough money to be capable of repaying it, you are not eligible because you are making too much money. I know several years ago there were no restrictions like that and I would also like to know how those came into being.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question 099-88(1): Limitations On Eligibility For HAP Housing

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: When the home-ownership program started, in the early 1980s, it was totally funded by the Government of the Northwest Territories and what has happened is that it is now cost shared with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, and there are guidelines that they put on their program. Right now one of the restrictions is that in order for CMHC to cost share with us, they suggest that people who are above a certain income level are not eligible, as would be people who do not make a certain amount, as well. So it came about, as far as I know, because CMHC is cost sharing with us.

One of the ideas was -- recently as you know, we ran a program that was totally funded by GNWT in the beginning and certainly we cannot rule that out since we did it before, if it means going into a program that we know is required at the community level but that does not meet the criteria for CMHC if they want to share. Again, that is the response to the question. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question 099-88(1): Limitations On Eligibility For HAP Housing

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If that is the situation then, and it sounds as if we have more money in our budget now for HAP houses but fewer people are eligible to be able to get them, I would like to ask the Minister, is this causing a problem in expending the amount of money that is in the budget for the Housing Corporation? In other words, is money going to be lapsed because people cannot qualify under these new measures?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 099-88(1): Limitations On Eligibility For HAP Housing

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: I thought it was a statement.

---Laughter

There is no shortage, as far as I can tell, of people who want HAP units. I think there are still some problems with the way in which communities are assessed, you know, through the needs survey and then which agencies in the communities decide whether they go for public housing units, what size of units, or whether they go for home-ownership units -- again, that whole process of "let the community decide" but with how much built-in criteria from our side. My view is that all the HAP units could be used up every year but because of the involvement of communities, we do not build them ourselves; it is done by individuals or community groups. Because of, sometimes, shortage of land or the building season being put off because of shipping, the weather, and many unforeseen circumstances, not all the units that are shipped into communities are built.

My view is that the people who are eligible for HAP units are still out there. We have not diminished that part of our program at all. What we require are programs that will meet the needs of those people that are not eligible under the present HAP criteria. That is what I had responded to Mr. Morin, earlier, that as a Minister I have asked for a review and it is being done so that we can look at the development and design of new programs to meet those housing needs.

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

Question 0100-88(1): Canada Post Services, Coral Harbour

MR. ERNERK: Merci beaucoup, Monsieur le President.

AN HON. MEMBER: There we go, again.

---Laughter

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) I am thankful to the Minister of Government Services, that he made a response concerning the Coral Harbour Canada Post services. I am aware that there is a problem in my constituency. The post office in the Aivilik area has complained to me that a lot of mail bags are stuck in Fort Churchill. I would like to ask, Mr. Speaker, through you, concerning this continuing problem in my area, if perhaps the Minister can do this, to encourage Canada Post and Calm Air to produce a contract for Calm Air to deliver the mail. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Return To Question 0100-88(1): Canada Post Services, Coral Harbour

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand your question. I may have an answer for the question that was asked of me. The federal Minister is in charge of that department and I am not sure if they are aware of that problem, but I have already met with an official and he has said that he would come up here to visit and see for himself what the problems are that we are having with the mail services. They are the ones who manage the funding for Canada Post and they are always short of funding. Whenever they talk to us, it seems as though they have problems with funding. I can support the Member with a letter and whenever they come up north, I can arrange for meetings so that the Member will be able to attend these meetings and speak for his constituency then. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan.

Question 0101-88(1): Convictions Through Trial On Court Circuit

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to ask the Minister, going a bit further on Mr. Kilabuk's question regarding the court circuit: There seems to be a problem with regard to the whole business of court circuits and that is that, in most cases and communities, a summary conviction is already in place or else an individual has plea bargained. In other words, what is happening is that if you plead guilty you will get a lesser sentence, or that sort of a thing. I would like to ask the Minister to tell me, with the amount of travel that the court circuit does into the communities, in rough figures how many convictions are actually done through a trial?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I am sorry. I wonder if the Member could repeat the last part of his question.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Minister, I am on this side, okay?

---Laughter

Mr. Speaker, when you look at what justice means to you, you normally see a lady holding a scale and a sword, like this, and she is blindfolded. I believe that blindfold fell off and the lady is saying, "Don't pass go -- go directly to jail."

---Laughter

MR. GARGAN: But that attitude seems to be in the communities. I just wanted to ask the Minister whether, in most cases, where the court circuits do go to the communities, do you actually have a trial to get a conviction? In most cases is it sort of a plea bargain, summary conviction type of a case? Or do we have a lot of trials? I believe trials occur only if the offence is of a serious nature but for assaults, maybe, or for break and entries, those are all plea bargains and usually there is no trial. This is what I am trying to get at. What are the percentages with regard to types of conviction when the court circuits are travelling to communities? Is it for the convenience of the court circuit or is it for the convenience of the person who is being convicted?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to indicate to the House the reason I took a little bit longer is that such brilliant questions come from this side.

---Applause

AN HON. MEMBER: Better than that whole other side.

---Laughter

Return To Question 0101-88(1): Convictions Through Trial On Court Circuit

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think the question the Member asked is a good one. And I think the Member recognizes that a lot of cases are heard at the JP level. The JP is authorized to hold trials and does hold trials. There are certain cases and I would try to make the percentages available to the Member, where defendants plead guilty. That could happen for any number of reasons. I am not sure how easy it would be to break down those reasons and why a certain percentage of people pleaded guilty and did not have a trial, as opposed to those who did not plead guilty and went forward to a trial. I will try to get the figures for the Member.

I think that the Member's question hits at a more fundamental question. It is one that we have been trying to grapple with in the Department of Justice. One talks about plea bargaining. Plea bargaining in Canada is not quite the same as you would see on LA Law but there is probably a certain element of it in our system. I guess the thing that we are trying to do, and perhaps we could be more successful at, is to ensure that at the community level people get the best legal advice. I think one of the problems with our system, as I talked about earlier, such a far-flung and widespread system, is that sometimes it is difficult for people to one, have that basic understanding of the law and knows what their rights are and two, have the same access to legal advice as, for instance, somebody in Toronto or in Yellowknife.

Among the ways we are trying to handle that is through legal aid clinics at the regional level. We have set up a public legal education process in the last couple of years to try to get a better understanding of the law. But I think I can say, frankly, as Minister of Justice, that we still have a long way to go. We have not been able and are not able to address all the concerns at the community level. I think the question that Mr. Gargan asked is an indication that at the community level there are still a lot of problems, both understanding the law and dealing with all the elements of the law. So it is something that we are going to continue to work on and deal with all the elements of the law. In the course of my Department of Justice budget, if the Member has suggestions as to ways to provide this information at the community level and ways that the justice system can be better realized at the community level, I would be quite open to them. Thank you.

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

Question 0102-88(1): Tourist Lodge Operators' Right To Licences

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question is to the honourable Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. On February 17, Mr. Minister, I asked you a question in the committee of the whole. Does your department issue licences yearly to 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 NWT and must fly out of a territorial base? Is that a blanket policy or do you just apply that to certain individuals? Your answer was, "The 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." My question is, Mr. Minister, does that land lease give them the right to a tourist licence, like an outfitting licence or a lodge licence? Is that the case?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sibbeston.

Return To Question 0102-88(1): Tourist Lodge Operators' Right To Licences

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, the land lease does not give the operators a right to continue operating their tourist lodge. What gives them the right to operate as a lodge is a tourism establishment licence which is provided and given by our department on an annual basis. That is the essential licence which permits the person to operate a tourist facility.

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

Supplementary To Question 0102-88(1): Tourist Lodge Operators' Right To Licences

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Then, Mr. Minister you go on to say, "We, as a department and government, have attempted over the course of the years to pressure them" -- the tourist lodges -- "into hiring local people and basing their operations in the North. Some we have succeeded in but others we have not." What type of pressure do you put on them? Do you threaten to remove their licence if they do not hire territorial guides or base their operations here, or do you just simply go up to them and say, "Could you please base your operation here and please, hire our people?" What type of pressure do you put on them? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sibbeston.

Further Return To Question 0102-88(1): Tourist Lodge Operators' Right To Licences

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, the type of pressure that my department has placed on some of these southern operators is for them to use local people as their guides, to use and to buy materials and goods in the North and also, where possible, to stop in the North on the way to their tourist facilities. These are the types of pressures that we have placed on the southern operators. Apart from that we do not have any leverage, anything beyond an attempt to persuade them wherever possible to use northern people and supplies.

I should say beyond that, in terms of the annual licence, there is discretion in the government to refuse a licence but it has to be on very good reasons. Operators would have legal recourse if for some unwarranted reason we refused to give them their licence. Licence holders have a certain amount of legal right to continue to get their licence as long as they comply with the regulations that exist. If they comply, then they have a legal right to obtain a licence. So as Minister, whereas as I have some discretion I do not have complete discretion to refuse someone a licence.

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

Supplementary To Question 0102-88(1): Tourist Lodge Operators' Right To Licences

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Minister, do you have any type of form available like the one DPW uses, for example a B-4 form, where a lodge operator would fill out how many people from the Territories he has working, how much money he spends in the Territories and things like that? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, on this one I will have to take the question as notice.

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

Question 0103-88(1): Treatment Of Arrested Person

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question again to the Minister of Justice. It is in regard to a person who has been arrested. Is it quite normal for the person being arrested to be charged? In a lot of cases in the communities when an investigation is done, if a person is suspected of a crime, he is usually brought to the station and questioned. If they are not satisfied, perhaps they put him in jail for a few hours and take him out until they get a confession. Usually that is the way it is done in my own area, anyway. I just want to ask the Minister whether it is common practice among law enforcers to do that. Is that considered mistrial in a trial or could it be considered entrapment? There is public awareness now in this area. On TV, for example, you see this character driving along and the police stop him -- it is not me, by the way -- but that sort of awareness has occurred. I would like to ask the Minister whether it is common practice among law enforcers to do that. I have always questioned that.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mr. Ballantyne.

Return To Question 0103-88(1): Treatment Of Arrested Person

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we know, the person in the ad was not Mr. Gargan. He wanted too much money to do it, actually. That is a little joke. I think the Member's question is a good one.

I think our system affords a fair amount of protection for somebody who is suspected of committing a crime or a felony and the rights of that individual are, I think, quite well protected. The police have to inform the person of those rights. There is a limit on the length of time that somebody can be held for questioning before a judge has to be involved.

When you look at it in a small community I think there is a certain amount of flexibility in approach. For instance, in some communities if somebody is found to have been drinking, for instance, and it is 40 below, the police may keep them overnight in a cell for their own protection essentially, not against their will. But unless the Member can come up with some very specific examples, I think that the system provides very good safeguards for individuals and to my knowledge the police live within the limitations of those safeguards. Thank you.

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

Question 0104-88(1): Response To Question W4-88(1)

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is regarding my written Question W4-88(1). I am not satisfied with the reply from Government Services about NCPC in Resolute Bay. I was trying to ask the Minister about that test that had taken place about a year ago, how the engines are running now on that oil that comes from Bent Horn. All four of them are running now. They are not testing it now. They are using it now. I was asking if those power bills are going to be reduced. Are they willing to reduce the power costs because they are using that oil from Bent Horn?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Mr. Minister, you have the floor.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Well, my response would be exactly the same, I guess, as it was the other day and if he wants a more detailed response then I would have to take it as notice and come up with a more elaborate detailed response.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. You are taking the question as notice. Item 5, oral questions. This would appear to conclude oral questions for today.

The House will take a 15 minute recess for coffee and a chance for Members to visit with their constituents.

---SHORT RECESS

We are on Item 6, written questions. Mr. Nerysoo.

ITEM 6: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question W9-88(1): Law Reform Committee Review Of Custom Adoption

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a written question -- a good written question, I should say -- directed to the Minister of Justice that requires a complicated response.

Mr. Speaker, would the Minister indicate and clarify to this House the process of review that is being conducted by the law reform committee on the issue of custom adoption? Could he indicate the elements of such a review, and could he outline the manner in which the public, including communities, native organizations and MLAs, can participate in that particular review?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Written questions. Mr. McLaughlin.

Question W10-88(1): Availability Of HAP Units

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a written question for the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation. Will the Minister please supply the following information: What are the present conditions which have to be met in order for a person to become eligible for a HAP unit? What were the criteria before CMHC caused the rules to be changed? How many more HAP units were made available annually due to the input of funds from CMHC? How many HAP units were awarded annually in the past five fiscal years? How many have been awarded to date this fiscal year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Written questions. Mr. Pudluk.

Question W11-88(1): Polar Bear Quota, Grise Fiord

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a written question for the Minister of Renewable Resources concerning the Grise Fiord polar bear hunting.

When the biologists did a study of polar bears around the Grise Fiord area in 1972, they told the residents that they would be able to hunt six polar bears on the other side of Grise Fiord for up to 10 years. Now that the 10 years have expired, I would like to know if they can now hunt polar bears around the coast, and can you inform the residents of Grise Fiord about any changes on this matter?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Mr. Nerysoo.

Question W12-88(1): Transfer Of Health Services

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a written question directed to the Minister of Health.

1) Will the Minister indicate to this House the status of negotiations relating to the transfer of Health?

2) Further, will the Minister indicate whether or not the medical professionals and the nursing staff, or their representatives have been involved in these discussions? In asking this, I also wish to know whether or not the representatives located in the North have been directly involved in these discussions.

3) Will the Minister outline and clarify the elements relating to a) operations and maintenance financing and b) capital plan and expenditures including the assessment of the report on the Inuvik General Hospital?

4) Has the government made its offer of employment to the medical professionals, nursing and administrative staff? If this has not occurred, will the Minister indicate when such offers of employment will be made?

5) Has the government carried out an assessment of institutional and capital infrastructure and was the issue of medical supplies and instruments a part of such a review?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Item 6, written questions. Mr. Nerysoo.

Question W13-88(1): Allocation Of HAP Units

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a question for the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation. Is the Minister conducting or prepared to conduct a review of the process by which HAP units are allocated in the communities to ensure that there is fairness to all applicants or interested applicants? Is the Minister prepared to consider, in such a review, an appeal process of decisions regarding HAP unit allocations?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Written questions. That would appear to conclude written questions.

Item 7, returns to written questions. Item 8, replies to Opening Address. Mr. Ernerk.

ITEM 8: REPLIES TO OPENING ADDRESS

Mr. Ernerk's Reply

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is going to be my first time to have the floor for as long as I want to speak. Ludy is not going to be my boss today. If he wants to sleep, it is up to him. There is a room upstairs; he can go up there and sleep.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I recognize that there are a lot of people from the Northwest Territories communities present today. I am very happy to see that they are here, especially people coming from Sanikiluaq. Also, residents from other communities, especially from the Mackenzie area, from Inuvik and the people I used to know in the past from other communities -- I am very happy that they are here today. I am very happy to see all the people that I have known across the Northwest Territories and that we are here together as people. I am very happy today that we can be here during this Legislative Assembly session. The people from Aivilik who voted me into office -- and I know that I was elected not only for them but that I am working toward a better government in the Northwest Territories and to make a better life for its residents, economically as well, and I will try to assist in any way in the next four years to do all I can to help them. (Translation ends)

(Speaks in French. No translation)

MR. SPEAKER: Point of order, Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Mr. Speaker, there does not appear to be any translation for whatever language the honourable Member is speaking. Thank you.

---Laughter

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ernerk, proceed.

MR. ERNERK: On a point of privilege, if I may continue.

(Speaks in French. No translation)

Point Of Privilege

MR. ZOE: Mr. Speaker, if I am correct, on my point of privilege, my privilege is being intruded by the honourable Member speaking a foreign tongue for which we do not have any translation and I would ask the Chair to undertake whatever measures it can in order for the Members to clearly understand what the honourable Member for Aivilik is saying. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Zoe. I should remind honourable Members that in order to use French and certain other languages in this Legislature, you must give notice to the Chair that you intend to do so in your remarks. Otherwise, translation cannot be provided. Mr. Ernerk, would you like to proceed accordingly?

Specialized Help Needed To Improve Economy

MR. ERNERK: Honourable colleagues, I am referring to the economy. My contention is that we have for a long time looked at the North and taken a view of the economy that is too narrow. We have been most prone to tinker with the economy as if it was the simplest of engines and have lacked any real ability to devise an overall strategy that would take into account the interdependency of all its parts. We have not actively consulted specialists when we realized our efforts and knowledge were insufficient to promote recovery. In fact, we have at times convinced ourselves that we were the specialists when operating on the patients. We have not plugged into nor educated ourselves through think tanks.

In national and international exchange, in in-depth discussion in and with the financial community, we have not taken a business-like approach to the problem. Nor have we developed the ability to adjust our style of delivery of our message to the rest of the country in order to spur investment

and attention. We have continued to say the same things and call for them in the same ways and relate these demands in the same terms without stopping to elevate our methods. We do not seem to have stopped and taken a look at whether there are better techniques, better battle plans and winning strategies. For years, we have tended to convince ourselves that the rest of the world had to be the one on whom the onus was placed to figure out what we were trying to say rather than determining how to make ourselves more clearly understood in terms that they could grasp.

(Translation) We have kept our focus this narrow. We have limited our scope. As a whole, we have impeded our own progress through this kind of restricted scope. The economic future of our North is being determined by those who continue to recycle the same techniques rather than by those willing to concede that we have a lot to learn and get on with approaching the required economic teachers. (Translation ends)

While we have remained continually sidetracked, we went around and around in our continuing circle. The rest of the country carried on and it did its homework; analyzed where its economy required minor or major surgery and sought out the best and the brightest to get it on track. I believe they were able to accomplish this because there were leaders in the legislatures in some of the provinces who understood the element of calculated risk coupled with the development of strategies for approaching the required goals and objectives.

Programs Not Linked To Economic Growth Plan

This is a far cry from how we have tended to operate in the North, where it is more common to see, over the past 20 years, a promise in the form of one hall to you, one craft shop to you, one school to you, one fish shop too, become the battle cry. Routinely, support programs were offered to the public which met these demands without anyone taking the time or effort, much less having the courage, to call time out to decide if we were really getting anywhere and if these expenditures of dollars was actually linked to anything else in terms of planned economic growth. Because the government was always in a state of crisis management, it never seemed to have the time to devote to actually linking together programs to achieve the dollar multiplier effect.

For example, the government spent a large sum of money on promoting in glossy print an arctic foods industry. Yet, I am told, if interested restaurants and food distributorships phone to place regular or large orders, they would have a difficult time in getting any because we have not placed as much emphasis on product development. On the other hand, we see our arts and crafts shops in trouble. In this case, we have gone to literally buying and stockpiling hundreds of items that do not sell well, failing to address the lack of quality control and blunt talk that was necessary to change the type and the quality of what was being produced. And then, finally, we have had to close them down altogether. What we did not address here was the need for marketing. So, in these two cases, you can see we seem to do only half of what is required to develop markets and distribute our goods.

We have seen the same thing occurring with regard to the fishing industry. People were given or assisted to buy very big boats with an enormous capacity to fish, yet how they would manage to cover the upkeep costs and whether they were suitable was not addressed. Again, no one examined the larger picture to see if giving a few people big boats was what was really needed or whether there was a better way to manage the industry by assisting a large number of people to get out and fish and thereby maximizing the economic benefits. Likewise, Rankin Inlet had in the 1970s a fish cannery which produced fish products which could have easily developed, with proper marketing techniques, into a most successful enterprise and would have appealed to the gourmet and yuppie sector of society.

What I am saying, Mr. Speaker, is that we have neglected to develop a strategy which, because it is a planned exercise, could allow us to ask the basic question: Where do we want to go and what priorities do we have and what minds can we tap in order to study our options? It is only through taking this approach to developing overall strategies that we will be able to finally develop our economy.

Successful Tourism Strategy In The Keewatin

(Translation) In the Keewatin we have taken this approach with regard to tourism. Our region was actually drawing fewer people than most of the other areas in the early 1980s. Through developing a tourism strategy and following through on it, we are now seeing the results and the impact it has

on our economy. The Keewatin Chamber of Commerce and Travel Keewatin, the tourism zone association, have shown that this is the best approach and the steady rise in numbers of tourists and the award-winning brochures, materials and approach to marketing is the proof that it works. Likewise, an arts and crafts marketing strategy is now in the final stages and will serve as the blueprint for turning around that industry. (Translation ends)

Next, we will be taking a thorough look at fishing. I am convinced that if we apply these same techniques at the territorial as well as the regional level, we will finally be approaching these problem areas in a business-like manner. This is something that we have not seen happening before. We should not be so isolated in our thinking that we think we have no need for outside expert opinion. Instead of this government trying to react everywhere to everything, I think it would be far better understood by the people of the North if they were convinced that their government was actually coming up with a workable, winning plan that would place them in a better position than they are now. If this government could manage to demonstrate that, then I am sure people would be more willing to respect them and to co-operate.

We have not looked at what some other areas of Canada and the world have done. We seem to take such a narrow view and fail to go and do our homework. We must take a long, hard look at creating a transportation system that will stimulate growth and development. In Sweden that was made a top priority and has produced excellent results in terms of production of goods, materials and services even in the northernmost regions. The discussion of a bridge link-up for Prince Edward Island to the mainland...

MR. RICHARD: Hear, hear!

MR. ERNERK: ...or the high subsidization of BC ferries is evidence that other governments place a high value on this type of necessary development to stimulate the economy. This is how our country has developed historically.

Incentives To Attract Industry

In addition, we have failed to look at how we can develop an incentives program at a far more sophisticated level in order to attract industry. Even though the Province of Ontario has a healthy economy, they are still away out in front in offering incentives to industry to relocate to their province. They know they can never afford to sit back and assume their economy will stay healthy. They are always paying great attention to it and continually developing strategies to ensure they capture more and more industries moving to Ontario. Why do not we follow their example? We should be putting together packages and sales teams in the same way and we should be mapping out the same kind of strategy rather than wasting our money showing a pair of kamiks or moccasins for sale in expensive magazines, as is being done now.

Why cannot we really brainstorm and look at incentives, including creating tax free zones and other similar enticements in the North? We have not sufficiently dealt with the ongoing leakage of dollars that continually flow out of the North. We also have to come up with legislation that plugs the gaps in our system. It will be a real shame to see this money in future going south when there are ways that can be thought up to contain it here. Part of the economic blueprint that I am saying we need to draw up should work out how we can change the rules and regulations so as to capture the money and hold it in the Territories through changes in contracts, increased specialized education and training and a 'buying northern first' policy and active campaign. I see these initiatives, not as protectionism but as reward to northerners. Northerners have to be convinced that it is wiser to reinvest and work together to create a healthier economy, and that legislation and policy will be on their side all the way.

Development Corporation Initiatives

Another vehicle that is proving to be a winner is the new development corporation. In the Keewatin, the three development corporations are showing that they can conduct business successfully. They can become involved in providing to the community much needed office space and living accommodation and keep the dollars in the North. These three have a combined worth in excess of six million dollars. They are training and producing native managers, negotiators and bookkeepers and are also hiring long-term northerners. These corporations must be congratulated for the risks they are taking. They should be supported all the way by this government. They

serve as an excellent example of dollars being put to good use and being managed responsibly. I want to see our government get behind these initiatives and realize that it takes the kind of vision such as they demonstrate, to boost our economy.

These corporations represent a significant impact in bringing native people into the economic world as shareholders and entrepreneurs. This thrust must continue and government policies should reflect this new desire on the part of the native development corporations to be involved in the economy, whether they are regional or community-based corporations.

In looking at the economy as a whole, I think it is also time to sort out what activities must be government-driven and which ones belong firmly in the hands of the private sector who, with their energy and expertise, can seize opportunity and ensure they are industry-driven. When that is done, then we can begin to see more clearly where we are going. There may be a real necessity to have government get right in there and set the tone and direction in areas that do not presently demonstrate that they are economically viable. This may be the case for arts and crafts which, although this industry has been beset with problems, provides a definite income for traditionally skilled people and is too important to ignore for that reason. In other areas such as tourism it makes much more sense to place additional funding into the private sector through the various organizations because they have proven they can more successfully run with the ball and deal in the marketplace and create networks and establish channels to attract more tourists.

Although I have spoken at length on the matter of the economy, I hope that the government as a whole will take the points I have raised very seriously. If we as a government continue to respond to things without a well-thought-out plan in our back pocket, we will be headed for more disappointments yet. We cannot afford to continue to find ourselves reacting to things. Instead, we should be initiating strategies and determining what happens. This can only be done by having a vision in the form of an economic blueprint that enables us to go forward and make things happen for ourselves.

You may have noticed in the newspaper a series of notices with the caption, "Let business take the lead." And then there is an invitation to attend the Keewatin Chamber of Commerce meeting scheduled March 21 to 24 in Rankin Inlet, at which time there will be gathered some of the best and the brightest, who through a series of think tanks examine further tools that will be required and what surgery will be necessary to deal with our economy. Although it is occurring while the House may still be in session, I urge those of you who can attend, and your representatives, to please do so. We need to create as many occasions as possible to look into this idea further. It is my hope this House will help draw up the blueprint and get behind and support such a vision.

Rankin Inlet Airport Expansion Project

(Translation) On March 11, 1987 the Hon. Perrin Beatty announced the selection of northern airfields to support NORAD operations under the North American air system monitoring station project. In my constituency, Rankin Inlet was one of those sites. It is my belief when thinking about this matter that the GNWT has not demonstrated that it is paying enough attention to identifying and assisting communities and industry in preparing for these forward operation bases. It appears that one of the first contracts will be out in March of this year, which will be calling for 500,000 to 600,000 cubic metres of rough fill at the Rankin Inlet site. This one contract alone will be worth a great deal of money and will provide a large number of jobs. (Translation ends)

My concern is that the government seems to have been very blase in not actively addressing these realities and ensuring that the information flow to the areas affected reflects the concern for the people in the communities to be able to plan for development of this magnitude. In fact, it seems that so little attention has been paid that even now there is only one person designated by the GNWT as liaison and this person has other unrelated duties to perform as well. Little, if any, attention has been directed to establishing regular, ongoing visitations and communiques to industry, councils and native organizations in the form of up-to-date information on which people can assess and plan their role in such development.

The potential spinoff effects, because of how extremely large the project is, are tremendous. If northern industry is crippled by the lack of proper consultation and planning process for maximizing the economic benefit, then I would say that it is most unforgivable. The government must be held accountable at the highest level for its lack of vision. The Northwest Territories

has, in the past 20 years, seen other projects about to begin and has established both in-house committees and planning mechanisms while also choosing to fund non-government positions, studies and bodies. I find it shocking that for the most part everyone seems to be sitting back on this project rather than getting out there to ensure the information flows.

Serious Lack Of Information

Mr. Speaker, I believe that if fully informed and supported, our northern industry will be able to clearly define its role and will actively seek out opportunities wherever possible to supply labour, goods and services, thereby bringing a halt to the steady leakage of dollars that will otherwise flow out of the community and out of the region. Whether this is accomplished through joint ventures, development corporations or through individual entrepreneurs, the effect will be economic benefits and increased local employment and training opportunities. I am therefore asking that the Government of the Northwest Territories take note of the serious lack of information and activate the planning and consultation processes immediately and communicate to industry and interested organizations this data and supply them with assistance to cope with and ultimately benefit from such an event.

In my own constituency, industry is requesting that a position of regional co-ordinator be made available to ensure this information flows. I expect to see the Department of Economic Development and Tourism getting behind this request in order to make up for lost time. I suggest similar action be taken in the form appropriate to other regions that also will be experiencing the establishment of similar bases. There is no reason acceptable to me and to those I represent for losing out on such a viable opportunity for the training and employment of our northern people. It will be unforgivable if both industry and our citizens as a whole end up playing only a minor role in such large-scale developments. At times I think we specialize in getting ourselves sidelined when we could have taken the initiative to be the key players. This poor approach and lack of interest shown by this government must stop. I think the public deserves a full report on progress to date concerning these bases and a clear commitment to requests for co-ordinators such as the one being asked for by the Keewatin Chamber of Commerce. Mahsi cho.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ernerk. We are on Item 8, replies to Opening Address. This would appear to conclude Item 8.

Item 9, petitions.

Item 10, reports of standing and special committees. Item 11, tabling of documents. Mr. Clerk.

ITEM 11: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 68-88(1), a response to Petition 5-87(2).

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Tabling of documents. Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Tabled Document 69-88(1), a document which is the motion made by the hamlet of Resolute Bay regarding an invitation to the special committee on the northern economy. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Item 11, tabling of documents.

Item 12, notices of motion.

Item 13, notices of motion for first reading of bills.

Item 14, motions.

Item 15, first reading of bills.

Item 16, second reading of bills. Item 17, 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. Angottitauruq in the chair. Point of order, Mr. Richard.

Point Of Order

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Speaker, yesterday during the committee of the whole consideration of the main estimates I sought, through the chairman, to ask a question of one of the Ministers, in fact the Government Leader. The chairman of the committee of the whole at that time disallowed that question, sir, and later allowed another Member to question the Minister through the Chair. I would ask sir, for some direction from you to the chairman of the committee of the whole that would enable Members, during the debate, to question Ministers other than the Minister who is sitting in the hot box, particularly the Government Leader. With the new mandate of the Government Leader I would think that with the responsibility of the overall management and direction of the government, of the whole Executive of the government, that it is appropriate sir, to question the Government Leader on matters of policy involving a department. I would ask for a ruling on that, sir. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Richard. I accept your point of order. Under Rule 37(3) our rules state that the Speaker may permit debate on the point of order before giving his decision. Such debate must be strictly relevant to the point of order taken. I would invite the House, if anyone wishes to debate the question, to voice their concerns or their opinions at this time. Mr. Butters, please.

MR. BUTTERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would just support my colleague's contention that it is legitimate and logical that by way of progression, when a question is addressed to the Minister responsible for a department or a particular departmental responsibility, if that Minister is unable or cannot answer I think it is logical that the question could be then addressed to the Government Leader. The logic of that action obviously relates to the second motion passed by the 11th Assembly, which indicated that the Executive Council was no longer a collectivity of equals but that we now had a First Minister and we were putting a First Minister in place. Our expectation was that that First Minister would carry out the function of a First Minister, which is to be responsible for the total administration of government. I think that the Member's point of order is proper and that there should only be one answer to that question.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. To the point of order. Mr. Sibbeston, did you wish to speak? Mr. Sibbeston.

Answers Could Cause Confusion

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, my view in this matter is that when a Minister is up at the table and dealing with his department, Members should restrict their questions to the Minister only. If the Member, let us say as an example, is not happy with the response that a Minister gives, and then is free to ask the Government Leader, it opens up the opportunity for the Government Leader to perhaps differ from the Minister in his views with respect to an answer. It could lead to confusion and misunderstanding as to what the government's position is. I just feel that when a Minister is up there and dealing with a particular department, answers should be only by that person. To ask the Government Leader is to really open up a quandary on issues. It could lead to confusion if Members get different answers from the Government Leader and the Minister. I think the more appropriate way is, simply, if a Member is not happy with the answer that the Minister is giving, then the person the next day or later in the day, could question the Government Leader with respect to what, precisely, government policy is on any particular issue. Otherwise, you are going to have a situation where if the MLA is not happy with the response, then he has the liberty to run to the Government Leader to see if his answer might somehow or another be different. It could void the system. It could make it very confusing.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. To the point of order. Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I must say that I have to concur with the point of order raised by Mr. Richard. Mr. Speaker, on occasions the Minister of Finance has, in fact, interrupted the presentation of a Minister of government to correct or answer some of the questions that have been asked by Members of this House. I do not find it irresponsible to question the Government Leader, who is responsible for the overall management and direction of our government.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. To the point of order. Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess from our point of view we could clarify the procedures. I think there are some times when it is overall government policy or it is overall financial policy, for instance, that perhaps the Minister of Finance or Government Leader can shed light on it. I think Mr. Sibbeston's point, though, is there is that grey area where it goes from departmental policy to government policy, and his concern is that the questions about departmental policy will not be directed to the Minister. That could cause, perhaps, some misunderstandings. I think from our point of view, if it is clearly understood that departmental policy is the responsibility of the Minister, and if the Minister wants to refer something to another Minister, fine, but in the area of government policy or overall financial policy, I do not think that Mr. Patterson or I would have a major problem with responding to a question.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. To the point of order. Mr. Richard.

Questions Different Ministers Have Been Permitted

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Speaker. It just occurred to me as we debate this point of order, sir, that in the short time I have been in the Assembly compared to some other Members, it has always been permitted in the committee of the whole in many, many instances, where no matter what the subject matter -- it might be the report of the languages task force for example, as opposed to the budget -- where there has been a dialogue and debate in the committee of the whole, certainly questions have been asked of different Ministers. So I ask you, sir, when you make your ruling to keep that in mind.

But I take Mr. Ballantyne's point. During the budget consideration in the committee of the whole, there will be overall financial questions that a lot of the Ministers defer to the Minister of Finance for response.

I was confronted yesterday, sir, with a situation where a Minister conceded that he had his personal views and there was a department policy. I wanted to ask the person that we entrusted with the overall management and direction of the Executive branch of government if he was allowing, within that mandate, a Minister to take a personal interpretation that was apart from departmental policy. And I was about to do that. I was refused that by the then chairman and I accomplished it later today. But my point of order sir, is that I should have been allowed to do that yesterday and I see no distinction between that and the other examples that have been given. In fact, the same chairman allowed my colleague, Mr. Butters, yesterday, to question a Minister other than a Minister at the witness table. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Richard. Are there any other speakers to the point of order? The Chair has taken careful notice of the opinions and viewpoints expressed by Members. I will review them and present you with a ruling first thing Monday morning, prior to orders of the day. We are now in consideration of the committee of the whole of bills and other matters, with Mr. Angottitauruq in the chair.

ITEM 17: 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. Angottitauruq): The committee will come to order. We are dealing with Government Services. Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think if you look on the list, that the Science Institute follows directly after Economic Development. If it is to the committee's liking, we would like to proceed with the Science Institute now, as according to our schedule. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: While the House Leader is speaking on the sequence of departments appearing before the committee, I wonder if he could indicate the information that was passed to me last night with regard to Health, or maybe he could just run down the next five departments in order of sequence as they will be appearing.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In my discussions with Mr. Butters and with Mr. Pollard, in the batting order, Health comes before Justice. That could be the new slogan for our government. There is going to be a very important conference next week to do with devolution, I think from the 23rd to the 25th or 26th, and it is very, very important that the deputy minister of Health, attends the conference. Ms Cournoyea asked if Justice could be moved up and if we could wait until the deputy minister has returned to do Health, if it comes up within that time frame. So with the concurrence of the committee, we would suggest the order would be the Science Institute, Government Services, Aboriginal Rights -- we have not done Aboriginal Rights -- Justice, and we will leave Health out until after the 25th. If Justice is finished on Tuesday, we could go on to Education, and Ms Cournoyea will be prepared, then, on the 26th to proceed with her department, if that would be satisfactory to the committee.

MR. BUTTERS: Energy, Mines and Resources?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I am sorry, it would be Science Institute, Government Services, Energy, Mines and Resources, Public Utility Board, Aboriginal Rights, then Justice.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Is the committee prepared to go through the Science Institute now? Does the committee agree to deal with the Science Institute?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): I recognize in the gallery the former Speaker, Don Stewart.

---Applause

And also the Chair recognizes the newly elected mayor of Aklavik, Robert McLeod.

---Applause

Science Institute Of The Northwest Territories

Mr. Sibbeston, as the Minister responsible for the Science Institute, would you like to give some opening remarks?

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a few comments. The budget for the Science Institute is contained in the Department of Renewable Resources on page 12.15. Mr. Chairman, the Science Institute of the Northwest Territories was created by an act in 1984 as a body separate from the Government of the Northwest Territories. Its mandate is to encourage the application of science, engineering, and technology to improve life and living conditions for people in the Northwest Territories. The Science Institute reports to the Legislative Assembly through the Minister responsible for the Science Institute and this has recently been changed from the Department of Renewable Resources to myself.

The institute is governed by a public board of directors appointed by the Minister responsible for the institute. The board directs the activities of the executive director and his three staff. In addition, the executive director, a science adviser appointed by the Assembly, administers the Scientists Act, which requires that all scientific research in the Northwest Territories is licensed. It is also the institute's role to provide advice on any scientific, engineering or technological question posed by the Legislative Assembly.

The institute receives a contribution, which is presently administered through the Department of Renewable Resources, to provide core funding. In 1988-89 a total of \$365,000 is granted in the budget. Of this, \$251,000 is required for salaries, \$46,000 is required for board meetings, \$22,000 goes toward summer field training programs in which northern residents work alongside researchers in a mutual exchange of scientific expertise and understanding, \$20,000 is for administration costs and the remainder is seed money for the various programs of the institute.

Transfer Of Scientific Resource Centres

The institute's first priority for this coming year is to complete the transfer of three scientific resource centres presently operated by the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs. The anticipated agreement in principle will state that the transfer will include the three facilities worth \$12 million, consisting of eight PYs, and \$955,000 for operating and maintenance. These facilities are at Iqaluit, Eskimo Point and Inuvik. This money does not, however, cover the capital replacement costs on buildings. The transfer date is set for October 1st, 1988. These facilities are essential if we intend to promote northern involvement in research and to focus research on northern scientific and technological problems.

The other priorities for 1988-89 include, firstly, continued involvement in the honourable Mr. McKnight's initiative to develop a northern polar commission, which should increase scientific research interest in the North. The Science Institute is acting as an adviser to Professor Symons who is chairing the study.

The second priority is fostering the development of a resident scientific community through the involvement of northerners in the summer field training program and issuing a compendium, a list of northern scientists and researchers and their backgrounds.

The third priority is continuing to issue scientific research licences. The process of issuing licences helps to ensure that northern residents are aware and approve of any research going on in or near their communities.

The fourth priority is to provide a variety of information and education programs to promote science and technology in the everyday life of northern residents. The institute will continue to develop resource material in support for students and teachers who participate in organized Northwest Territories science fairs. The aim is to show that science is everywhere, including within the traditional and local knowledge of the Northwest Territories aboriginal cultures. The institute will also continue its popular weekly radio spots on CBC where non-technical answers are given to scientific or technological questions posed by members of the general public.

Mr. Chairman, I would ask that Susan Fleck, who is the acting administrator, be invited as a witness if Members wish to go into and have more detail.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Go ahead, Mr. Minister. You can bring in your witness. The Minister brought his witness to the committee. General comments on the Science Institute of the NWT.

MR. BUTTERS: Point of order, Mr. Chairman. We should have the report of the standing committee on finance with regard to this particular section, sir.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Nerysoo.

Comments From The Standing Committee On Finance

MR. NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, I make the presentation with regard to the Science Institute on behalf of the chairman and the Members of the standing committee. Mr. Chairman, there were a number of general questions that were asked by the standing committee during its deliberations in reviewing the departments and the various boards, commissions and agencies, of which the Science Institute was one. With regard to mandate, it was indicated to the standing committee that the institute has a written mandate. Further, the act that established the Science Institute also outlines a substantive amount of responsibility in which the Science Institute was to partake.

Second, in new programs there is a takeover of research labs, a new public information program and possibly a book that would outline new programs of the institute. Thirdly, with regard to performance evaluation, there was really no indication of a specific measurement system for this institute. With regard to person years, there are no changes in person years and presently, no vacant positions. The issue of travel was not discussed. However, Mr. Chairman, could I ask the

Minister responsible to clarify his, or the Science Institute's, directive on travel and whether or not there has been some decision on the part of the Minister and the board to limit travel or to ensure that travel was regulated to some extent.

In terms of highlights, the intention of the new programs would be to increase the profile and the effectiveness of the institute. With regard to issues and concerns, there was concern expressed by the director of the institute, in particular the negative impact of a forced reduction on such a small and lean budget. Generally speaking, those were the elements that the standing committee dealt with during our review. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Science Institute of the NWT. General comments. Mr. Richard.

Rationale For Cutback In O And M

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I note that the budget of the Science Institute is being reduced. It appears now it is two years in a row that it has been reduced from the information that we have in front of us. And my colleague, Mr. Nerysoo, just mentioned in the standing committee report a reference to the concern expressed by, I believe he said, the executive director of the institute, about this cutback. It does appear to be a small budget and the Minister indicated just now that, I guess later this year, the budget will be increased by about one million dollars by taking over the federal responsibility for these three research labs. So perhaps my initial question Mr. Chairman, is, what is the real impact of this four per cent cut back in O and M funding? Because from what the Minister told us, two thirds or so of the funds are allocated for salaries. So what is the impact of this cutback in the funding and perhaps what is the rationale for it if the executive director of the institute was concerned about it? What is the Minister's rationale for this cutback?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, the Science Institute was given targets within which to keep its budget and I noticed there was a cut of \$16,000. It is a matter that has been brought to my attention by the executive director of the Science Institute. We have had some discussions about that. The money is being transferred from the federal government for the three research centres, which have some money that could be used by the Science Institute for administration and so forth. And in my discussions with the executive director, I did indicate that we will be monitoring the budget of the Science Institute and through the course of the year, if we deem that we require additional moneys, then I would be prepared to come to the Assembly asking for a supplementary amount. I have just become responsible for the Science Institute in the last few months and I have had a number of meetings with the executive director but rather than request additional moneys at this time, I decided to stay within the target area that was given the Science Institute, leaving it open during the course of the year to see if there really is need for more money for the Science Institute.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Richard.

Role Of Federal Research Commission

MR. RICHARD: On a related matter, Mr. Chairman, the Minister made reference to the recent federal government initiative to consider the establishment of a -- I forget the terminology -- but I believe it is a polar research commission and Professor Symons from Trent University is looking into this for the federal government. I understand he has a very short-term time frame for coming up with a plan. Can I ask whether the Minister or the government or the Science Institute is taking a position with respect to the establishment of a federal polar research commission? How does the Minister see the role of that future federal research commission fitting in with the role of the Science Institute?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I will ask Ms Fleck to answer that question but I just want to add to my previous answer, that the Science Institute has the ability, because of its arm's-length situation to the government, to go to private sources. Last year as an example, they received \$100,000 from outside of our government. The possibility exists for the Science Institute to

obtain moneys during this fiscal year, also. For these reasons, inasmuch as there is a small decrease, I thought that was acceptable for the time being and we would be monitoring it through the course of the year. With respect to the question that the Member asked, I do not know the details and I will ask Ms Fleck to answer.

MS FLECK: I can only give a partial answer to the question with respect to the polar research commission and that is that we realize it is happening quickly. Dr. Janes is convening a meeting with 20 different groups that he had met with before to give the initial comments with respect to the polar research commission. Then they will be meeting just prior to when Professor Symons comes up to talk on what should be happening. My understanding is that the Science Institute is acting as an adviser to make sure that northern concerns are incorporated. I believe Mr. Patterson has some additional comments he would like to make.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Patterson.

Department Of Education Involvement

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, as Minister of Education I would just like to add to what the Minister and his official have said on this matter, because the Department of Education has been working closely with the Science Institute on this whole question of the future of the so-called polar institute that Mr. Crombie announced would be established, when he was Minister of Indian Affairs several years ago.

Mr. Chairman, there has been a working group which has made a report. Now as the Member has indicated, Professor Symons has been asked to follow up on that report and to meet with various interested parties to come up with recommendations for the Minister. I can assure the Member that the Science Institute and the Department of Education are going to be very involved in meeting with Professor Symons when he comes here next month. We have jointly commissioned some research on how the whole research and development function -- so important to science and education in the NWT -- could be consolidated under the auspices of such a polar institute.

I think we are very concerned that if a polar institute is developed that it not be in Ottawa -- another southern institution studying the North. So we are extremely anxious to make representations to Professor Symons who will be spending a number of days here this coming month, to point out that we have enough institutes in the South studying science and studying the North and that unless northern people and northern governments are involved in this new polar institute, it is not going to be relevant and it is not going to have credibility. So I think that the Arctic College, Science Institute and the Department of Education are three key departments of government that are working co-operatively on this. It has impacts, as well, in a number of other areas, including Culture and Communications. So we are going to be prepared to have strong input, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): At this time the Chair would like to recognize Jack Anawak, president of the Keewatin Inuit Association.

---Applause

Science Institute, general comments. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I appreciate the information given by the Minister of Education. It is just an example of the contribution other Ministers can make when they are allowed to speak during committee of the whole.

Cut To A Very Small Budget A Concern

I am pleased to hear that the Minister of Education is going to stress those items that government or the Science Institute is dealing with, with Professor Symons. I still find it a bit ironic that we are participating in that initiative of the Government of Canada, but at the same time we are cutting back the small budget of our own Science Institute. And although Mr. Sibbeston indicates that the Science Institute does obtain funding from outside sources -- and that is one of the reasons that the Legislature set them up as an independent institute -- I doubt very much that those outside funding sources contribute to the salary budget or the administrative budget of the

institute. I do not know how they are handling that four per cent cut. I know they have a very small staff and if the overall contribution is reduced by four per cent, I fear that either the staff are taking a cut in salary, as opposed to other civil servants, or the size of the staff is being reduced. So I still have a bit of a concern there and find it a bit ironical. I am in agreement with this initiative of working with the government to ensure that the new so-called Polar Research Commission will be northern based in every sense of the word.

But moving from the financial aspect, I just have one other question of the Minister responsible for the Science Institute. Could he give us a status report on the study that the Legislature asked the institute to do a few years ago on the SLOWPOKE reactors? Could the Minister indicate the status of that study?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

No Report Of Science Institute On SLOWPOKE Reactors

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I am advised that the report on SLOWPOKE reactors has not even been started. The money for the SLOWPOKE report that had been given to the Science Institute is still being held in trust. The institute is waiting to obtain information from the manufacturer producing the SLOWPOKE reactor and is also waiting for the federal government to be co-operative in terms of providing information that the Science Institute deems necessary in order to do the report. I am sorry to advise the Member that the report has not even been started.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I have a question under this item which I expect I will probably have to put to the Government Leader.

MR. RICHARD: I hope that is allowed. Well, we have a different chairman and it is you asking. I mean, maybe you can do it.

---Laughter

MR. BUTTERS: That's right. Since it deals with devolution, specifically the devolution of the federal science laboratories in the North, in Inuvik, Igloolik and I believe there is one in Frobisher -- I think there are three -- can the Minister answer that question or should I direct it to the Government Leader?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I can advise the Member that there is an agreement with the federal government to devolve the three laboratories that the Member mentioned. The agreement has not been signed as yet and there are still some concerns with respect to capital replacement costs but it is a matter that our government is apparently still pursuing with the federal government. Other than that, I guess, most of the terms of the transfer have been agreed to.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Well, I am pleased to hear that, because I know that the government and the Government Leader will ensure that sufficient funds are identified to continue the operation of those research centres. I have a second question which deals with research projects. Now, my understanding is that the Science Institute usually deals with projects that are very near and dear to the hearts of people in the communities, such as electricity from wind power and various other studies related to education, wildlife, etc.

Studies In Two Areas

There are two areas I would like to ask regarding though, and I wonder whether the board of the institute is considering studies in these areas. One is with regard to the radio-active fall-out from Chernobyl. Is the Science Institute actively looking at the effects of that nuclear disaster? The second one relates to the recently discovered hole in the ozone over the Arctic. Now, we have known for a long time that there has been a hole in the ozone over Antarctica. Recently a similar hole is seen to be developing over northern Canada. Such holes obviously

let in raw sunlight and could create I would imagine varieties of cancer, especially skin cancer. Now, obviously, outside of a few scientists that visit from time to time, there is no one living on a continuing basis in Antarctica, but I wonder whether there is any reason for concern for northern people and whether the Science Institute is looking at that matter.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I will ask Ms Fleck to answer.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Ms Fleck.

MS FLECK: With respect to the Chernobyl disaster that occurred, the Science Institute is not, as such, looking at it. We have been receiving information from the Department of Renewable Resources. They have been doing some sampling of caribou to look at what has happened with respect to caribou and I am not aware of the extent of the program. With respect to the ozone hole over the Arctic, as far as I am aware there is no project started in that area, nor have we begun to look into it. But I could check on that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Thank you, Ms Fleck. General comments. Mr. Lewis.

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, I made an agreement with myself this morning that I would say nothing today because there are so many people from out of town who may not want to hear someone from Yellowknife.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. LEWIS: However, it is now close to the end of the day and I feel safe because the place is practically empty. The concern I have, Mr. Chairman, is that the Government of Canada has just decided recently to inject more than a billion dollars into research and development projects across this country because of the erosion of research money over the past few years, and I see that trend in this budget, too, that we have a reduction in a small activity.

Funding For Expertise In Technology And Science

I am expressing my concern as a Member of the special committee on the economy. Many of us believe that technology and science are going to solve many of the problems that we have to face in the Northwest Territories. For example, when I lived in a very remote community a long time ago I remember writing to the scientific research station in Fort Chimo in northern Quebec because we wanted to raise chickens in our community and I received a long report back from a man in Fort Chimo telling me that the white leghorn was the best kind of chicken to lay eggs in the place that I was living.

As a Member of this special committee on the economy, we are going to expect to turn to the Science Institute to help us with some of the projects that we may want to undertake. Now, I appreciate that they have a limited budget and we may have to find ways of injecting funds into that institute but it is my understanding that the institute was set up in the Territories so that we would have science that was going to be useful to northern people, not just the science that is done in southern universities simply for professors to learn a little bit more about something that they were interested in doing. So my concern, Mr. Chairman, is that this very small institute, that has just got off the ground, is being reduced by what seems to be only a small amount of money, just \$16,000, but because we look on this place as perhaps the beginnings of some expertise that we can turn to -- if we want to, for example, as I mentioned yesterday, begin developing greenhouses, making use of waste heat, finding ways of growing stuff in water in some of our communities, raising rabbits, or turkeys or chickens or whatever other things that we figure are costing people in remote places far too much money. It fits into the concept of the replacement of southern foodstuffs, if we move into this area.

So, without going into great detail of all the various projects that we want to look at over the next 18 months, I would like to get some kind of commitment from this House that this institute will not simply be cast aside as a nice little frill that is here and it is nice to have it, but it was brought here to help solve northern problems.

In my final comment, I would like to point out that many people who have looked at the proposal for this polar science centre are very concerned that once more it is likely going to end up in the South, that as part of the western diversification program, it will end up in Edmonton. Now if you are living in Alberta that is north but that is not north if you are living in Yellowknife, or if you are living in Igloodik or Grise Fiord. Edmonton is a long, long way south.

So Mr. Minister, I feel strongly that science and technology are going to be very, very important for the development of this territory and we cannot just consider it a frill. Thank you.

---Applause

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister. General comments. Mr. Gargan, you are next.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand from Mr. Sibbeston when he responded to Mr. Richard's question regarding the SLOWPOKE reactors, that the money for the report is being held in trust. What is happening with the report regarding the research on the SLOWPOKE reactor?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

MS FLECK: With regard to the SLOWPOKE work, the report to look into the SLOWPOKE work cannot begin until some information is received from the people manufacturing the SLOWPOKE reactors. Until that happens, we cannot go ahead. So we keep informing the federal government every year that we still have the money and once that information is received then that will go back to the House and we can go ahead with that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Gargan, you have a supplementary.

Definition Of Archaeological Sites

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is concerning archaeological sites. I see it on TV a lot, that it is against the law to tamper with artifacts and stuff like that. I guess my question is, right now in the NWT, how many actual archaeological sites are there and how is a person to know whether it is an archaeological site or not? I see it on TV but how many sites are there and how do they determine whether to disturb them or not? Do you have scientists who say it is against the law to tamper with archaeological sites?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, that is a scientific question and I cannot answer that. No. The Department of Culture and Communications through its museums are more involved in dealing with archaeological sites in the NWT. Whereas the Science Institute is involved in a very small way, we are not the main body or government entity that deals with this. So I would like to defer on this one and just say that when the Culture and Communications budget comes up you can ask them because they are much more involved through the museum program.

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

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, you could cut me off if I get out of line, basically because I do not quite know where to ask this question, whether I should ask the question of the Housing Corporation or of the Science Institute of the NWT. It was touched upon by the honourable Member for Inuvik very briefly. That is the issue of studying the winds. I understand that the Housing Corporation is also doing some studies with regard to the issue of windmills as an alternate energy source. Is this something that the Science Institute of the NWT also studies and researches, according to the terms of reference of the Science Institute of the NWT? If it is, I have a number of comments to make and I might want to reserve them until Monday.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, the Science Institute is not involved with any study that deals with wind power, or any source of energy derived from wind, at the moment.

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

MR. ZOE: Mr. Chairman, if I may ask the Minister a question. It appears to me that the Science Institute is currently conducting a number of projects or research. Could the Minister give us an update on the number of projects that they are currently undertaking or the ones that are being proposed? I hear a number of them being mentioned here, SLOWPOKE reactors and windmills and a little bit of research on what is going to be happening with the federal one. Are there other projects that the Science Institute is undertaking? Can you give us a brief update on that?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

List Of Current Projects Will Be Provided

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if it might be more appropriate to provide the Members with a list of the projects that the Science Institute is presently conducting. I think that would be better than trying to list them off now. I would be prepared to do that.

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

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister if there is any political involvement in the tasks that the Science Institute undertakes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, the board of directors of the institute really govern and direct the activities of the Science Institute. The executive director has met with me a number of times with respect to the Science Institute activity. I am not aware of any undue political activity or pressure or influence that is being brought to bear on the Science Institute.

I, as the Minister through whom the institute reports to the Assembly, have not had a great deal of day-to-day activity or contact or involvement in the Science Institute. Because it is an arm's-length body, I certainly do not give it the scrutiny and attention and day-to-day time that I do my own department. So the answer has to be that there is no undue political influence on the activities of the Science Institute, as far as I am aware.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Would it be safe to say then, Mr. Minister, that the political influence that the government has over the Science Institute is by way of budgetary influence, in other words, does the government set the amount of money it is going to give the Science Institute?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Yes, Mr. Chairman, that is correct. The budgetary moneys we provide to the Science Institute is the main influence or effect we have on the Science Institute.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: Approximately how much lead time does the Science Institute give the GNWT for projects that they wish to undertake? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

Funding For Projects

MS FLECK: With respect to the projects that the Science Institute undertakes, unless we are given specific direction from the cabinet we would undertake a project and we would probably be asking for funds. So we would not initiate something from that end.

With respect to other projects that we run, we try to obtain funds for that project from an outside source so that we do not come back to the government for more money for some project that we want to run. And then of the money that we do receive, we use whatever we can to run some of the in-house smaller projects that we have.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Are there any projects, Mr. Minister, that you know of that the Science Institute would like to be doing that they are unable to do because of lack of funds? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I am not aware of any such projects.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Science Institute. General comments. Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: Mr. Minister, if there were identified some projects that were absolutely necessary to be done in the NWT, would you be prepared to discuss that with the Science Institute and perhaps come back to this House for more funds for that particular institute? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I would.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Science Institute. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I move to recognize the clock.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): All those in favour of the motion to report progress. Opposed? This motion is carried.

---Carried

Thank you, witness and the Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: Would the House come to order please? Mr. Angottitauruq.

ITEM 18: 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 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.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Angottitauruq. Is there a seconder for the motion? Mr. Butters, thank you. To the motion. All those in favour, please signify. Thank you. Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Announcements, Mr. Speaker. The Members are reminded of the two hospital tours, one at 2:00 p.m. today and one at 12:00 noon tomorrow. The buses will leave from the front of the building here. Monday's committee meetings are the ordinary Members' committee at 9:00 a.m., standing committee on legislation at 10:00 a.m., and caucus at 11:00 a.m.

ITEM 19: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Monday, February 22nd.

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. Petitions
10. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
11. Tabling of Documents
12. Notices of Motion
13. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
14. Motions
15. First Reading of Bills
16. Second Reading of Bills
17. 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)
18. Report of Committee of the Whole
19. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Monday, February 22, at 1:00 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT

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