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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1988

MEMBERS PRESENT

Hon. Titus Alloofoo, Mr. Angottitauruq, Mr. Arlooktoo, Hon. Michael Ballantyne, Mr. Butters, Hon. Nellie Cournoyea, Mr. Ernerk, Hon. Stephen Kakfwi, 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): The Chair would like to recognize in the gallery Chief Tim Lennie and band councillor Ed Hardisty from Fort Wrigley. Welcome.

---Applause

Orders of the day for Thursday, February 25th. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Alloofoo.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Ministers' Statement 20-88(1): Translation Services

HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, a number of Members' statements were made following the remarks I made on February 22 concerning translation services. We were discussing a motion concerning the Cotterill report and I stated that if it were tabled we would have to spend more than \$10,000 to have it translated, and then I asked the question: "Is it viable for us to spend more than \$10,000 to get the report translated during this sitting?" Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, nobody replied to my question.

Instead, one honourable Member quoted me as stating it "was too expensive to do translations into Inuktitut", and another suggested that either myself or the Executive Council was "treating all the Inuit of the NWT as being smaller than you." A third Member said he did not want to hear, "that it is too expensive" and that the Inuit language "is not for sale".

Mr. Speaker, I asked a simple question. And instead of an answer, my remarks were taken out of context and used unfairly to criticize this government's well-known dedication to interpreting and translating in the aboriginal languages. For the record I would like to make my position very clear. As Minister responsible for the language bureau, it has always been my belief that we are in business to provide a service and to respond to interpreting and translating requests of this House and the government in a timely and efficient manner.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Ministers' statements. Mr. Patterson.



Ministers' Statement 21-88(1): New Programs At Arctic College

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I have a statement about new programs at the Arctic College. This year Arctic College introduced a number of new programs for its students which will prepare them for northern jobs. The communication arts program began at Aurora Campus in Inuvik in October 1987 with 15 students enrolled. The same program began in January at Iqaluit Campus with eight students. Designed to fill the need for northern journalists in print, television and radio media, the program will combine classroom study with practical, on-the-job experience.

For the first time, a university preparation program is being offered at Thebacha Campus in Fort Smith. Although the program was initially designed to prepare health program students for further training at university, it has been expanded and now provides basic preparation for any university program.

The first field-based community computer course was delivered by the extension department of Thebacha Campus just six weeks ago, when 11 employees at the Uncle Gabe's Friendship Centre in Fort Smith received training in basic computer literacy. Arctic College is optimistic that similar courses will be delivered in the future throughout the Territories.

Mr. Speaker, in response to our expanding tourism opportunities and markets, a program co-ordinator has been hired by the college to establish travel industry programs for the entire Northwest Territories. Based in Fort Smith, the co-ordinator has been hard at work developing comprehensive training programs for our rapidly growing northern tourism industry. Student recruitment is also under way for the interpreter-translator program which will start in September. An instructor for the program is working closely with the language bureau to develop this important northern program. Arctic College continues to expand its programs, providing more opportunities for northerners to get the training they need to meet the challenges of tomorrow's workplace. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Ministers' statements. Mr. Alloofoo.

Ministers' Statement 22-88(1): Action Plan On British Fur Labelling Initiative

HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to outline some of the specific measures we are taking to counteract the initiative of a British Minister to require labelling of fur garments with the message about leghold traps.

My deputy minister, Jim Bourque, who is also chairman of the Fur Institute of Canada, has returned from London, England where he met with the Hon. Alan Clark, the junior Minister for Trade in the British government. Mr. Clark is the Minister proposing the new regulations. While Mr. Bourque and the others attending the meeting were not successful in convincing the Minister to withdraw the measure, we have developed some ways to counteract it.

The Hon. Joe Clark, Minister of State for External Affairs, has begun to provide the support I have asked for through a strong statement in the House of Commons. His assistance will continue when he raises the issue in a meeting with Sir Geoffrey Howe, the British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, next Monday, February 29th. I, and other Ministers of this government, are sending letters expressing our concerns to Canadian and to British politicians.

Here in the North we are asking everyone to become involved in the fight against this proposal. We plan a letter writing campaign to make an impact on the British system. Our position must be made known before the middle of March. I have asked my department to help people write to Members of the British Parliament and describe the impact of a ban on the sale of furs on their lifestyle and personal income. The letters will be collected by the Department of Renewable Resources to ensure they get to the proper people in Britain. Petitions requesting the Members of Parliament in Britain to consider the impact on people in the Territories will be sent around our communities. They will also be collected by the Department of Renewable Resources to send to Britain.

Hunters and trappers associations across the North will be urged to write with more detail about the reliance on a renewable resource based economy and the impact that closed markets can have on us. Groups and individuals from communities that formerly depended on the sealskin trade can provide particularly important examples of what this type of message can mean.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, the Rt. Rev. John Sperry, Bishop of the Arctic, has written directly to Prime Minister Thatcher to express his concern about the proposed measures. Bishop Sperry also sent an open letter to the London Times newspaper.

Native organizations of the North have a role to play as well. Both individually and through their support of Indigenous Survival International, they are working hard to make their concerns known. Mr. Speaker, these are the next steps in the fight. I want to assure Members that I will continue to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure the fur industry will remain an important and ever growing part of the northern economy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Ministers' statements. Ms Cournoyea.

Ministers' Statement 23-88(1): Dene Health Transfer Conference

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, a conference is taking place this weekend in Fort Simpson on the transfer of Health from the federal government to our government. The conference has been organized by the Dene Nation and jointly funded by the NWT Department of Health and the National Health and Welfare. Federal Health, territorial Health, and Social Services staff are participating in specific discussions on topics such as the management and operation of regional health boards and the transfer of alcohol, drug and community mental health programs to the Department of Social Services.

The conference will be highlighted by speakers from the Alberta Indian Health Care Commission who will outline their experiences with the transfer of Health in Alberta. As well, guests from the Baffin Regional Health Board will describe and discuss the Baffin experience with transferring health care. I am pleased that delegates from the 26 Dene communities are taking part in this conference as well as representatives from the various regional and tribal councils. This transfer of Health and the setting up of regional boards of health will bring the management of health services and programs into the hands of the people. As a result of this conference, I am confident that the Dene will be assured of their key role in the post-transfer organizations such as the regional boards of health and the territorial health board. Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to have opened the Dene Health transfer conference on the 23rd, Tuesday. At this time I brought good wishes to the delegates from this Legislative Assembly.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Ministers' statements. Mr. Sibbeston.

Ministers' Statement 24-88(1): Northern Foods Workshop

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, the Department of Economic Development and Tourism is today hosting a workshop on northern foods and this is going on downstairs in this building. The workshop has brought together about 40 representatives of the private sector and government agencies involved in all aspects of the northern food industry. The main objectives of the workshop are to: report on the implementation of the recommendations arising from the northern foods conference sponsored by the department last year; obtain information on activities in the northern food sector during the past year; and most importantly, to develop a framework for northern food strategy. This workshop is an indication of our government's continued commitment to the development of a strong northern food industry. Mahsi cho.

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



ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Translation Services

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Regarding the Minister's statement made by the Minister concerning the translation services, the people who are sitting on this side are not administering the funding. The question that he asked should have been directed to himself instead of to us. We cannot change the allotted money, whether it is one dollar or one million dollars. However, he can allot a certain amount of money that he would use and any amount of money he would want to allot. I do not think this question should have been directed to us. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Members' statements. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Mr. Patterson.

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In further response to the matter raised by Mr. Richard with regard to policy regarding write-offs under the Business Loans and Guarantees Act, I wish to report the following.

I have carefully considered the matter and taken into account the law and existing policy. As I stated yesterday in this House, the Business Loans and Guarantees Act discloses no legal provisions stating the criteria which are to be considered by the Minister in deciding whether to seek approval of the Legislature, as Mr. Sibbeston did in this case, in writing off a loan.

However, the operations manual of the department, which sets out guidelines for the department in dealing with write-offs, sets out the following criteria: 1) the amount of outstanding debt; 2) the costs of further collection activity; 3) the best interests of the GNWT; 4) the exhaustion of all appropriate avenues for collection; 5) the potential to recover more by reducing the level of indebtedness; and 6) the long-term social and economic benefits.

These criteria are very broad. I do not believe they preclude the Minister from considering a very wide range of factors, including cultural background, especially when one considers that cultural background has a very broad meaning. Witness the Funk and Wagnalls Standard Dictionary definition of "culture": "The sum total of the attainments and learned behaviour patterns of any specific period or people". While it is not government policy, as such, to require consideration of that particular factor, the Minister's discretion and the department criteria are so wide that a multitude of factors can appropriately be taken into account, in my view.

I would also like to point out that in the matter of the Minister's recommendation that the Arey's loan be written off, the Minister did receive the approval of the Financial Management Board for this write-off. I am also further informed that the Business Loans and Guarantees Board met recently and considered this matter. They have decided to ratify the Minister's recommendation that this particular loan should be written off, on the grounds of it being unlikely that the debt could be collected in these particular circumstances. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Return To Question 083-88(1): Eligibility For Home-Ownership Assistance Program

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have a response to a question asked by Mr. Butters on February 18th, 1988, about the eligibility requirements under the home-ownership assistance program.

The Housing Corporation has a twofold process for approving applications under the program. Applicants are initially screened to ensure they meet eligibility requirements. The corporation then meets with community groups to prioritize the applications. The following is a list of eligibility requirements under the program:

The client affordability formula. The minimum affordability is determined by the client's ability to pay for the basic services required to operate a home such as fuel, power and maintenance. The maximum limitation is determined by the core need income threshold, in accordance with the CMHC

cost-sharing agreement. For over a year now the NWT Housing Corporation has been negotiating a new maximum income schedule with CMHC. We believe the new schedule is very close to agreement. The new maximum incomes will be based on the actual "shelter costs" a family would incur in building a house for itself in each and every community in the NWT.

Eligibility requirements. The applicant's gross family income must be within the core need income threshold. The applicant must have sufficient income to operate and maintain the unit. The applicant must not have received previous assistance from the corporation to build a house. The applicant must have lived in the NWT for a period of five years, and the use of the house as his/her principal residence. The applicant must not have any outstanding arrears with the corporation or any housing association or authority. The applicant must have the skills or resources to construct the unit. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 4, returns to oral questions. That would appear to conclude this item. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Richard.

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I was going to ask a question of the Government Leader with respect to his reply today to my question of last week but on reflection, since it took the Government Leader six days to draft a very carefully worded reply to two fairly simple questions, I am going to take a day to consider the reply before I ask my follow-up question.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Richard, I did not quite get the question?

---Laughter

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Nerysoo.

Question 0135-88(1): Regional Representation On Advisory Council On The Status Of Women

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, after having reviewed the comments that were made and the answers given to me by the honourable Minister responsible for the Status of Women, I want to ask the following question: What regions are not represented or have not been represented by the previous members of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women. Could the Minister indicate whether or not she intends to appoint appropriate individuals so that the advisory council can carry out its responsibility?

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.

Return To Question 0135-88(1): Regional Representation On Advisory Council On The Status Of Women

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take the first question under notice on what regions the past advisory council members represented. I can speak for the current membership but for the past membership I would have to look for further information. I have not been with this government since the Status of Women was formulated. In regard to the Status of Women future membership, I currently would consider being in a dilemma on the appointments and I would like to, as I had stated yesterday, take time to review the structure of the Women's Secretariat in conjunction with the Advisory Council on the Status of Women; and upon my review, also consider further appointments.

The current Status of Women is not, and I would like to emphasize "not", in the position where they cannot hold board meetings. They do have enough for a quorum and at the same time I would like to reiterate to the Members, in conjunction with speaking with the president of the Status of Women, that it appears the current structure to make the council and the Women's Secretariat more effective, warrants a review. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. There really were two questions -- you are taking the first one as notice. Supplementary, Mr. Richard. Sorry, Mr. Nerysoo.



Supplementary To Question 0135-88(1): Regional Representation On Advisory Council On The Status Of Women

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MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the Minister indicate what region she is referring to in terms of applying the legislation with regard to the appointments on the advisory council?

MR. SPEAKER: Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Further Return To Question 0135-88(1): Regional Representation On Advisory Council On The Status Of Women

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HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The advisory council currently has, as I stated yesterday, five members. There are currently two members living here in Yellowknife. There are two members from the Baffin Region and there is currently one member from the Sahtu Region. In my viewpoint, Mr. Speaker, the council has traditionally had nine members. Also in my viewpoint there are anywhere up to seven particular regions from which I would like to see representation on this council. I am giving this type of consideration to my deliberations on the review. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. The Chair would like to recognize in the gallery Her Worship Mayor Pat McMahon from Yellowknife.

---Applause

Oral questions. Mr. McLaughlin. Supplementary, Mr. Nerysoo.

Supplementary To Question 0135-88(1): Regional Representation On Advisory Council On The Status Of Women

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MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary. Just to indicate that in terms of government regions, all regions were represented. There are three Inuit, three Dene and two non-native as of 1987. Mr. Speaker, is the Minister prepared to abide by the legislation that established the Advisory Council on the Status of Women, which requires the Minister to appoint a replacement member within three months of the expiry of a term of an office?

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.

Further Return To Question 0135-88(1): Regional Representation On Advisory Council On The Status Of Women

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HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am surprised that the honourable Member was not as aggressive on this issue at the past session, because at the time there were only seven members on the council and at this time there are only five. In regard to abiding by the current legislation, no doubt it is my desire to abide by it, but I am also echoing a concern to this Legislative Assembly that the legislation that was initially set up for the purpose of the Women's Secretariat and the Advisory Council on the Status of Women is not as effective as it was intended to be.

I certainly will not apologize for past actions of this government regarding the Status of Women and the advisory council, along with the Women's Secretariat. I am amazed with the interest that the Members have finally taken on this whole issue and I applaud the Members for it. I am amazed at the fact that they did not ask this government for this five year report earlier. I am glad that they finally decided to bring forth their concerns on the Status of Women and the Women's Secretariat.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

---Applause

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

Question 0136-88(1): Government's Responsibility To Advisory Council On The Status Of Women

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Government Leader again with regard to the blame apportioned to either the advisory council or the government. The Government Leader indicated that it was a shared responsibility. First of all I would like to ask the Government Leader if he could expand on that. Secondly, I would like to ask the Government Leader: Has the Government of the NWT lived up to the commitments by way of legislation or the five year action plan for the Advisory Council on the Status of Women?

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

Return To Question 0136-88(1): Government's Responsibility To Advisory Council On The Status Of Women

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I am just delighted with the interest that is being paid to the United Nations plan of action, because I was the Minister that steered the UN plan of action through the cabinet in 1985. I was then Minister responsible for the Status of Women. The NWT was the first jurisdiction in the country to adopt a UN plan of action, and I would venture to say that we have the most progressive and broad-ranging plan of action of any jurisdiction in this country. So I am just delighted with the interest, particularly with the honourable Member for Hay River, in view of certain remarks he made about equality of women during his election campaign, on the UN plan of action and our mutual object of equality for women.

Mr. Speaker, I should be the first person, as Government Leader, who takes the blame squarely for any inaction that has occurred on the UN plan of action, since its tabling in 1985. But rather than accusing or attempting to pass the buck, I would suggest that now is the time, now that the interest of the honourable Members from the other side has been revived in matters of equality for women, that we work together. We have two more years before the action plan, the five year period, is over. Let us work together and resolve to do our best to implement the broad-ranging recommendations in that action plan. I look forward to working with the Minister responsible for the Status of Women, the Advisory Council on the Status of Women and all honourable Members in this Legislature toward the laudable goals in the UN plan of action which this government takes credit for having put in place before any other jurisdiction in the country.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister responsible for the Status of Women will be tabling, in due course, a report which will delineate the progress to date, that has been made since March of 1987 in meeting the UN plan of action. Until that report is tabled, I am not in a position to say just how much progress has been made, but I can assure the honourable Member that in my review of the report, we have made substantial progress on a number of issues which, as of March 1987, are shown as still pending or not completed.

Mr. Speaker, the honourable Member asked about blame. I will say it again. Clearly the government is responsible for government policies and programs. We would like to have as much support and encouragement from the Advisory Council on the Status of Women as is possible. That is why we are working to find ways of making the Advisory Council on the Status of Women more effective. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 0137-88(1): Monitoring The Five Year Action Plan

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I sense a shift of strategy today in responses on the issues of the Status of Women. The strategy includes not answering questions and attacking the ordinary Members. My colleague, Mr. Nerysoo, asked if the Executive Council was prepared to suspend the operation of law, the statute, when they say they are not going to fill the vacancies although the law requires them to do so within three months. My colleague, Mr. Pollard, is asking the Government Leader to expand on his shared blame or responsibility response of yesterday but that question has not been answered either.

Let me be more specific, Mr. Speaker, to the Government Leader, on that issue. The last page of the five year action plan, states that the five year action plan will be monitored by semi-annual reports by the departments to the Minister; and this is significant, Mr. Speaker -- and semi-annual reports to the advisory council by the Minister responsible on progress on implementation of the



action plan. The Minister responsible, and we have had two or three since June 1985, Mr. Speaker, as you know, were to report semi-annually to the advisory council on how they were doing with implementing the action plan. Mr. Speaker, by my simple arithmetic that would call for about five reports since Mr. Patterson tabled this plan in June 1985. How many semi-annual reports have been given by the Minister responsible to the advisory council on the progress?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson, that was directed to you.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will have to take that question on notice. Thank you.

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

Question 0138-88(1): Submitting Annual Report Of The Advisory Council

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Speaker, supplementary. Since the Government Leader is going to take another five or six days to draft another response...

---Laughter

...can I, in fairness, Mr. Speaker, ask the Government Leader this question because it relates to a time period when the current Minister responsible was not the Minister responsible. The statute, the law of this land, also requires the Minister responsible to present or submit the annual report of the advisory council to this Legislative Assembly if it is in session, and if it is not, at the next session. I understand that the report of the advisory council was received by the Minister responsible in or about March 1987. My recollection, even at my old age, memorywise, is that we sat here in May and June of 1987 and again in November 1987. Why did the Minister responsible for the Status of Women not submit that annual report to this Legislative Assembly in either of those sessions?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Richard. We will take that as a new and separate question. Mr. Government Leader.

Return To Question 0138-88(1): Submitting Annual Report Of The Advisory Council

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I have no idea why a Minister of the previous government did not take that action. Thank you.

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

Question 0139-88(1): Move From Grise Fiord To Inukjuaq

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There was an item in the newspaper on February 22nd, and also the Government Leader issued a press release regarding the capital plan that has been deferred in Grise Fiord. I would like further clarification that you are going to find out in two weeks time that there will be an agreement between the federal government and the Quebec government. Have you been told how many people will be moving from my constituency to Inukjuaq? Also have you been given a letter as to exactly when these people will be moving to northern Quebec?

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

Return To Question 0139-88(1): Move From Grise Fiord To Inukjuaq

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, first I might just inform the Member that I did not issue a press release on the situation in Grise Fiord but I did give some press interviews. The Member's first question was how many people will be moving from his constituency to northern Quebec. I do not know the answer to that question. I do know that negotiations have been under way among representatives of Grise Fiord, the Makivik Corporation, and federal representatives concerning relocation assistance. Included in those negotiations was an expectation that up to 10 housing units would be erected in northern Quebec, in Inukjuaq, in connection with the relocation. So I can only assume that if the negotiations contemplated 10 housing units, there could be an expectation of up to 10 families.

Mr. Speaker, I am somewhat concerned that these negotiations have taken place without the knowledge of the hamlet of Grise Fiord and without much knowledge or participation on the part of our government. So I regret that we have not been kept informed of precisely the extent of negotiations and federal commitments. It is that uncertainty that the Hon. Gordon Wray and myself have informed the people of Grise Fiord, that we would like to clear up with them directly in their community at the first convenient opportunity following this session, so that we will have some idea of precisely how many people are intending to move so that we can scale the new school and other capital projects accordingly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Supplementary To Question 0139-88(1): Move From Grise Fiord To Inukjuag

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for your reply. I would like to ask a supplementary question. There are going to be funds made available by the federal government. How long will this money be available? One year? Two years? Is there going to be a time frame when that money is going to be available?

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

Further Return To Question 0139-88(1): Move From Grise Fiord To Inukjuag

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have been informed that the Treasury Board has provided authority for the expenditure of relocation moneys including transportation, air freight, hotel accommodation, meals and other costs directly related to transportation of returnees for the fiscal year of 1987-88. Further, it has also been indicated to me by the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs that his department is willing to consider other relocation assistance requests for the fiscal year 1988-89. So I believe that the relocations could conceivably continue through to the next fiscal year 1988-89. That is as much as I know.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions, Mr. McLaughlin.

Question 0140-88(1): Pine Point Mines Closure

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister responsible for the Pine Point Mines closure. I would just like to ask him what the present status is of negotiations between Pine Point Mines Ltd. and his officials in conjunction with the federal government and the incorporated municipality of Pine Point, working toward a settlement for people who own residential and commercial properties in Pine Point?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wray.

Return To Question 0140-88(1): Pine Point Mines Closure

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have reached an agreement in principle with Cominco Ltd. This has been approved by our cabinet. However, it has not yet been approved by the Cominco board. My information is that it was discussed by the Cominco board last night, but no decision was reached. It will be discussed again in two weeks by the Cominco board, at which time we expect a decision. If and when Cominco makes a decision, then I will be making available details of the agreement in principle to the House. So we have reached an agreement in principle and now I am waiting for the ratification of the Cominco board. Thank you.

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

Question 0141-88(1): Buffalo Junction Maintenance Camp

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, further to the Pine Point Mines closure, I have another question to the Minister responsible for the Pine Point closure regarding Municipal Affairs and Education. The Minister is aware that there are several families living at Buffalo Junction which is the DPW and Highways maintenance camp, 15 miles out of Pine Point. They are presently dependent on getting their drinking water supply from the incorporated municipality and their children are sent to school in Pine Point. A couple of them approached me with concerns about where their water supply will come from when the incorporated municipality is shut down and what arrangements will be made for their children to attend school, probably in Hay River.



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

Return To Question 0141-88(1): Buffalo Junction Maintenance Camp

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Arrangements have been made to bus the children to Hay River for school and the trucking of water was only a temporary solution. Public Works and Highways is going to be drilling a water well at the camp this coming summer. Thank you.

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

Question 0142-88(1): Pine Point People Remaining In The North

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, further to the Pine Point Mines closure and it involves the Housing Corporation, so that Minister may want to answer this one. Originally there were quite a few people from other places in the Northwest Territories, in particular Fort Resolution, Fort Smith and Hay River, who moved to Pine Point for job opportunities and are now going to lose their housing and wish to remain in the Northwest Territories. I would like to ask either Minister what arrangements are being made so that those people can remain in the Northwest Territories and, in particular, will he be making allowances with the Pine Point Mines Limited or the municipality or DPW staff housing so that those people can have a place to live in until something is arranged for them in Hay River, Fort Smith or Fort Resolution?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wray.

Return To Question 0142-88(1): Pine Point People Remaining In The North

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will take that question as notice. However, I will indicate that in anticipation of such a request and move, last year we attempted to put a tender out to see exactly how much it would cost to relocate a house from Pine Point to Fort Resolution, for example, and when the tenders came back the lowest bid that we received was \$92,000. This obviously is far too high a price to pay to relocate a house. You can build a new house for almost the same price. But I also had some concerns about the way in which the tender was put out, the timing of it and some of the conditions that were attached to the tender. So we have been attempting to ascertain costs of moving buildings out of Pine Point and we will try to do that again this summer or this spring through another, perhaps simpler and more timely, tender. With regard to the question of the Housing Corporation or attempting to relocate other families, I will take part of the question as notice. Thank you.

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

Question 0143-88(1): CKNM-FM Broadcasts Of The Assembly

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be directed to the Minister of Culture and Communications. I have a news release here which reads, "Legislative Assembly is co-operating with the CKNM-FM to broadcast the Assembly session in order that people in the communities outside Yellowknife can learn more about the proceedings." It says that there are 12 communities currently receiving the broadcast and 15 more this summer. Because I believe it is very important for us Members, and because I do not have any document telling me which communities are receiving this, I would like to ask the Minister if he could let this House know which communities at this time are receiving and the plan for 15 more. I would like to know the 12 present and the other 15 communities in the future.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Angottitauruq. Mr. Alloofoo.

HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will provide to the honourable Member of this House the communities that receive the radio broadcasts of this question period. I would just like to correct the Member. I did not authorize the CKNM to broadcast out of this House, it was the Speaker of this House that authorized the broadcast. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 0144-88(1): Amendments To Cities, Towns And Villages Act

MR. ZOE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. I had representation made to me from a number of municipalities concerning the requirement in the municipal legislation dealing with by-laws. Mr. Speaker, under the provisions of the new legislation, it is only possible to pass all three readings of a by-law at one meeting if all members of the council are present and unanimously agree to give the by-law third reading. Mr. Speaker, my question is: Would the Minister be bringing in amendments to the Cities, Towns and Villages Act and also to the Hamlet Act in this session? Thank you.

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

Return To Question 0144-88(1): Amendments To Cities, Towns And Villages Act

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, I am not contemplating bringing in amendments. I think six of the 47 municipalities have written to me. The intent of that particular form of legislation was to protect a) the public interest; and b) the interests of other councillors who may not be around at the time to avoid by-laws being rushed through in one sitting. However, I do understand some of the concerns being expressed in terms of some of the more mundane by-laws which a municipality must pass.

However, I can advise the Member that I believe the City of Yellowknife has found a way around the by-law -- as is usual in cases like this, where there is a will there is a way -- and so the situation is not totally hopeless as there is a way around the by-law. But I am considering amending that particular section, perhaps in the fall session of the Legislature.

I will be consulting with the Northwest Territories Association of Municipalities and the municipalities in general. As the Member is well aware, this legislation was produced after 10 years of consultation and many dollars and I am therefore not so willing to quickly start amending legislation that took so long to prepare and had so much consultation involved in it. But on this particular section I will be looking at it over the next couple of months. Thank you.

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

Question 0145-88(1): Key People Involved In Status Of Women Review

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With regard to comments about people not taking interest in the issue with regard to the Status of Women, I can say here without question the issue of the Status of Women report, in fact, was brought forward with my support to Dennis Patterson at the time he was the Minister responsible. Further, I do not speak for women. I may have some concerns as a single parent but I will not speak for them. They are able to articulate their own concerns. Mr. Speaker, could the Minister of Social Services indicate to me what key people are going to be involved in the review with regard to the role of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women, recognizing her concern about the absence of regions on that particular advisory council?

MR. SPEAKER: Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like the Member to repeat the last part of the question. He kind of threw me when he asked the Minister of Social Services to reply for the Status of Women. I did not get the last part of the question clear.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo, could you clarify?

MR. NERYSOO: Probably as Minister of Social Services you would not, but maybe as the Minister of the Status of Women you would. Could the Minister indicate what key people will be involved in the review of the role of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women knowing that there is an absence of representation from all regions?

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.



Return To Question 0145-88(1): Key People Involved In Status Of Women Review

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, in regard to the honourable Member's question, there has been an absence of members from different regions for quite some time. What key people would be involved in reviewing the Status of Women? As I have stated, the Women's Secretariat has recently been instructed, along with the Status of Women, to look at ways of making the Women's Secretariat and the Status of Women more effective. As to individual key people, I am still deliberating and I probably will ask the assistance of all MLAs in this particular area. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. Supplementary. Mr. Nerysoo.

Supplementary To Question 0145-88(1): Key People Involved In Status Of Women Review

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Minister did not answer the question with regard to key people on the advisory council. If I could quote, "I believe some key people on the advisory council should be involved with the review." That is a quote from the Hansard, from Wednesday, February 24, 1988. Now could the Minister indicate to this House and to me what key individuals from the advisory council are going to be involved in the process of review?

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.

Further Return To Question 0145-88(1): Key People Involved In Status Of Women Review

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I take for granted when we talk of key people in a certain organization -- I respect people for the position they acquire and "key people" mean the executive members on the Status of Women, the people who know the goings on, the affairs of the Status of Women. If he particularly wants me to name specific names, I will. But this, in my opinion, is key people. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Item 5. Mr. Nerysoo, is this a supplementary?

Supplementary To Question 0145-88(1): Key People Involved In Status Of Women Review

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, recognizing the concern that the Minister responsible for the Status of Women has made known to this House with regard to lack of membership from all regions, personally, Mr. Speaker, I believe that all members of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women are key in that they represent all regions. So could I ask the Minister how is she going to assure that all government regions presently recognized by the government are going to be represented with regard to the review if appointments are not filled by this particular Minister?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Further Return To Question 0145-88(1): Key People Involved In Status Of Women Review

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. How are all regions going to be represented when they are not fully appointed is basically the question brought forth to me by the honourable Member. It is in my anticipated hope when the review is brought forth by the Status of Women, the advisory council, the Women's Secretariat, all the information to date that has been researched in trying to make the concern of the Status of Women and the Women's Secretariat more effective, the concerns expressed to date would be taken into consideration. I personally recognize some areas that could be improved in regard to the whole Status of Women and the Women's Secretariat and with that and in consultation and past discussions with the president of the Status of Women, I have indicated the desire to review the Status of Women to make it more effective along with the Women's Secretariat.

If I may, Mr. Speaker, quote from a letter sent to me by the president of the Status of Women on February 15, 1985 and I am willing to table the letter if the Member so wishes. The quote is, "The current structure and adopted procedures are not lending the advisory council its full degree of independence. We feel that this decreases its effectiveness." And further, after commenting on recommendations in one part of the letter, "The above recommendations are made with a view to improving the effectiveness of the council." So obviously we realize that there is a problem and we are looking at ways to improve it. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. Final supplementary. Mr. Nerysoo. A new question, Mr. Nerysoo.

Question 0146-88(1): Obligations To Status Of Women Legislation

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, a question to the Government Leader. Is there a new policy that allows the Executive Council to ignore legislation and the advocacy of legislation with regard to appointments on boards, agencies or commissions? Any legislation?

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear! Good point.

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

Return To Question 0146-88(1): Obligations To Status Of Women Legislation

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker. There is never a policy to ignore the obligations of the law. If it has occasionally happened, it would only be through inadvertence. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Supplementary To Question 0146-88(1): Obligations To Status Of Women Legislation

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Recognizing the comments of the Government Leader, a supplementary question to the Government Leader: Is the government going to apply the legislation, as it applies to the Advisory Council on the Status of Women, by reappointing the individuals or representatives immediately or within the next month or so?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Further Return To Question 0146-88(1): Obligations To Status Of Women Legislation

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have not had an opportunity to review the relevant legislation but I can assure the honourable Member that I will review that legislation and ensure that our obligations under it are carried out. Thank you.

---Applause

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

Question 0147-88(1): Monitoring Of Federal Acts

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Justice arising out of an answer he made to me yesterday during the committee of the whole regarding departments and how they monitor federal acts which may affect the NWT. He advised me that each department basically takes care of itself. And so to test this I would like to ask the Minister of Justice, regarding Bill C-89, a Criminal Code amendment concerning victims of crime, what actions he as a Minister or his officials have taken with the federal Minister of Justice to see that this legislation will be conducive to the Northwest Territories?

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

Return To Question 0147-88(1): Monitoring Of Federal Acts

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There have been a lot of discussions at federal-provincial conferences for the last year and a half on this particular draft bill. I think the concerns of every province and territory in the country were made very forthrightly; that the federal government or our laws do not deal adequately with victims of crime. I was quite vocal at those particular meetings. As you know, we were the second jurisdiction to introduce victims of crime legislation.

When the federal legislation is finally passed, it will work hand in hand with our legislation. If it is passed, it will enable us to impose a surcharge on fines levied both for Criminal Code offences and for territorial offences and use those surcharges to assist victims of crime. Our



act, in itself, will only be able to impose surcharges on territorial offences, but once the federal act is finally passed, we will be able to derive revenue from surcharges put on Criminal Code offences.

So as I have said, I have been very involved in the discussions over the last year and a half on this particular bill. More importantly, in the whole area of victims of crime there have been a number of things that have happened over the past year and a half that I think shows a changing emphasis in our justice system in this country. Victims will be getting the same sort of assistance and the same sort of moral support that right now the accused or criminals are afforded in the system. Thank you.

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

Question 0148-88(1): Legislation Re Ability Of Prisoners To Pay Off Victims Of Crime

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister of Justice has indicated in his response the relationship between prisoners and their responsibility. I would like to ask the Minister responsible for Social Services what she has done and what she is aware of in this fairly thick piece of legislation, as to what will happen for victims of crime. Are there any plans being made by her department? Is she aware of anything that is being done in this legislation which will affect the ability of prisoners in the adult corrections or prisoners in young offenders facilities, to be able to work at jobs while they are incarcerated in order to pay off victims of crime through a monetary system?

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

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the question as notice. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. It is taken as notice. Mr. McLaughlin.

Question 0149-88(1): Amendments To National Parks Act

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a further question related to the Minister's comment yesterday that all departments take care of themselves in these matters. I would like to ask the Minister responsible for Justice, is he aware of the amendments to Bill C-30 on the National Parks Act which will affect the justices of the peace appointed under this act and their relationship to what goes on in national parks?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 0149-88(1): Amendments To National Parks Act

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In my response yesterday I told the House that we attempt to monitor all bills. I said some of them we have missed. I made a commitment to this House that as Minister of Justice I would ensure that we streamline and improve the system. There are so many bills now that are going in front of the House of Commons that we have inadvertently missed one or two bills. I have given that assurance already in the House and I intend to follow up on that commitment and report back to the House as to the process that I intend to undertake to ensure that all bills are monitored properly as they go through the House of Commons. As for my response to the specific question, no, I am not aware of it and I will look at the bill. I will take the question as notice and make a response here in the House. Thank you.

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

Question 0150-88(1): Uranium Mine At Baker Lake

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Government Leader and it concerns the proposed uranium mine at Baker Lake by Urangesellschaft and I would like to know what this government is doing to a) ensure that the environment of the area is being protected; and b) what is the government doing to ensure that maximum economic benefits accrue to the residents of Baker Lake region and to the Northwest Territories in general? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are certainly aware of the plans of Urangeseellschaft, Mr. Speaker, but in light of the Member's question, I would like to take the matter on notice and provide a proper response, probably through two Ministers, in due course. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Government Leader. Mr. Angottitauruq, did you have a question?

Question 0151-88(1): Housing Shortage In Pelly Bay

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Yes, Mr. Speaker. My question will be directed to the Minister of Housing. I made a reply on this matter but I would like to know what his department is going to do in regard to Pelly Bay housing shortage. I tried to make myself clear in what I said about Pelly Bay and before I ask the question I will try and make it clear again. It is my understanding that the community is going to be getting six units but the problem is that the four houses that they are going to write off are still being used. The community is short of houses and I was wondering if the community is given those six houses, if his department would look into it so that the other four houses that are going to be written off could either be renovated or if there could be some assistance to the tenants so that they could somehow do some work in them so that the shortage of housing could be met?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The matter is being looked into right now by the Housing Corporation. I can get back to the Member as soon as possible.

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

Question 0152-88(1): Borealis Mine Outside Whale Cove And Rankin Inlet

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Government Leader. With regard to the Borealis Mine, just outside of Whale Cove and Rankin Inlet, I would like to know, what role this government is involved in with regard to the protection of the environment? Secondly, what benefits have been received by the people of Rankin Inlet and Whale Cove in terms of training, in terms of employment, in terms of use of local goods and services? Along with that question, Mr. Speaker, is a need to have a board member from the Northwest Territories connected to the Borealis Exploration Limited. Thank you.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, again, considering the detail of the Member's question, I will have to take it on notice. Thank you.

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

Question 0153-88(1): Economic Benefits To Neptune Resources From Colomac Project

MR. POLLARD: Mr. Speaker, as the Government Leader took my previous question with regard to mining on notice, I would like to ask him to include the Neptune Resources Corporation in that reply and their economic benefits coming from the Colomac project, please. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will, as well, take that question on notice. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Ernerk.

Question 0154-88(1): Writing Letters Re Fur Labelling In Britain

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Firstly I would like to congratulate the Minister of Renewable Resources concerning the Minister's statement on an action plan on the British fur labelling initiative. In his statement he encouraged the people to write letters and I



was very happy about that. I would like to ask the Minister. All the students in all the schools in the NWT, can be encouraged to also write concerning the fur labelling initiative. I think this would have an impact, if all the children in the schools in the NWT would write.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Alloo!oo.

Return To Question 0154-88(1): Writing Letters Re Fur Labelling In Britain

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the honourable Member for congratulating me. There are hunters in almost all the communities in the NWT. In the communities that do not have a hunters and trappers association, we will be working with them in obtaining these letters. Also the students in the communities will be visited by the renewable resource officer. If the community does not have a renewable resource officer, then they will be visited by a member of the HTA.

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

Question 0155-88(1): Report Of Task Force On Regional And Tribal Councils

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. I am not going to ask you about the air strip.

---Laughter

My question is: Will the Minister indicate to the House when he will be tabling in this House the report of the task force reviewing the issue of regional and tribal councils?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Government Leader's office is in charge of that particular report. It is not a task of the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Arlooktoo.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) I will direct this question to the Government Leader then. Can he indicate to the House when he will be tabling the report of the task force reviewing the regional and tribal councils?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Return To Question 0155-88(1): Report Of Task Force On Regional And Tribal Councils

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe this question was asked by Mr. Zoe at the beginning of the session and what I said was that I would consider tabling the report or a summary of the report this session.

---Laughter

Well, Mr. Speaker, the report is lengthy and my view is that it would be helpful to Members and the general public if a summary was provided of the essential issues that were identified in the report. Mr. Speaker, I have asked the authors of the report to prepare a summary encapsulating the issues that they identify in the report. I have not yet received that summary, so I am not now in a position to advise the Member whether it will be possible to table that report this session or not. Thank you.

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

Question 0156-88(1): Amendments To National Parks Act Affecting Energy, Mines And Resources

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I hope you do not take unkindly the fact that I am having a little bit of fun with this particular topic, but yesterday in committee of the whole, going back to what the Minister of Justice said, that basically the experience is that departments have

responsibility and their Ministers have responsibility for anything that comes up in federal bills, I would like to ask the Minister responsible for Energy, Mines and Resources if she is aware of any amendments in the National Parks Act which will affect her departmental responsibility?

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.

Return To Question 0156-88(1): Amendments To National Parks Act Affecting Energy, Mines And Resources

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, to the honourable Member Bruce McLaughlin, I am aware that there are some issues that are on the legislative docket. However, I do not know enough about them to give him a clear and concise answer as to exactly how those will affect the issue of the NWT in regard to parks and park development.

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

Question 0157-88(1): Amendments To National Parks Act Affecting Renewable Resources

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Yes, a question on the same topic to the Minister responsible for Renewable Resources. Is he aware of any items in the amendment to the National Parks Act which will affect his responsibilities?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will take the question as notice.

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

Question 0158-88(1): Amendments To National Parks Act Affecting Aboriginal Rights

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a supplementary again, regarding that National Parks Act, I would like to ask the Minister responsible for Aboriginal Rights if there is anything in the National Parks Act amendment which will affect aboriginal rights, as it relates to any land claims that aboriginal people in the Territories may have in national parks?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin, as it is directed to another Minister, we will take it as a new question. Mr. Minister.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, I will take the question as notice and get back to the Member.

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

Question 0159-88(1): School Attendance

MR. GARGAN: (Translation) My question is for the Government Leader. In 1985, when legislation was introduced I asked a question in this House about children going to school. I asked at that time if it affected school attendance. I would like to ask the Minister, it has been three years since the legislation has been introduced. I heard on the radio it is hard for children to go to school. I would like to ask the Minister in regard to attendance in school, has the legislation helped the government?

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

Return To Question 0159-88(1): School Attendance

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to inform the Member that since the legislation has been passed, generally school attendance has improved incrementally in the NWT, on average. So the general answer to the question would be, yes. Although some communities have not had improvements, the average is an improvement since the act was passed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Gargan, do you have a supplementary?



Supplementary To Question 0159-88(1): School Attendance

MR. GARGAN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, the supplementary is whether the children have taken an active interest in whatever programs are being delivered in the schools. If that is the case with compulsory education being forced upon the kids, I would like to know whether that has improved the interest of the children in the school and whether the success rate of children in the school, passing their grades, has increased.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will have to take that question on notice and reply to the Member as quickly as I can. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Gargan. A new question.

Question 0160-88(1): User Pay Policy

MR. GARGAN: (Translation) I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Housing. On February 18, 1985, I made a motion in regard to -- the user-pay policy. Communities around the Great Slave Lake area were under the user-pay policy while other parts of the Territories were not. Some Members in the Eastern Arctic are saying that they are having problems in regard to this. In 1985 I made a motion, the motion reads: "I move that whereas the user-pay policy was established in 1980 by the NWT Housing Corporation; and whereas there are some inconsistencies to the implementation of this policy because it puts some communities at a disadvantage; now therefore, I move that this House recommends that the user-pay policy be dissolved until such a time as the NWT Housing Corporation and/or the GNWT develop a more equitable user-pay policy." I would like to know what the government has done in this area. It has been three years now since I made the motion. I would like to know what has happened in regard to this.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Kakfwi.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, I guess I would have to go back to 1985 and take a look at the motion and get back to the Member. Thank you.

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

Question 0161-88(1): Amendments To National Parks Act Affecting Economic Development And Tourism

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is going to be my final thrust in this area of parliamentary alert. The Minister of Economic Development could not help but stick his head up over there, so I have a question for him. Is he aware of any amendments to Bill C-30, the National Parks Act, which will affect Economic Development and Tourism projects, especially tourism projects which might relate to national parks?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 0161-88(1): Amendments To National Parks Act Affecting Economic Development And Tourism

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, the answer is, no. I have more important things to do than to keep too close an eye on what is happening in Ottawa.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. McLaughlin. I thought you said that was a final.

Question 0162-88(1): Private Member's Bill On Post-Secondary Education Council

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My supplementary on this same topic again, to the Minister responsible for Education. There is a Bill C-228 to establish a post-secondary education council, a Private Member's Bill. I would like to know if the Minister is aware of the contents of that and any issues that might relate to the NWT?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 0162-88(1): Private Member's Bill On Post-Secondary Education Council

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am aware of the bill and the contents because the Member very kindly showed me the bill prior to question period and I appreciate him doing that. I must say that Mr. Rompkey has previously introduced a Private Member's Bill on establishing a post-secondary advisory council in Canada and I was aware of previous failed efforts of his to establish that post-secondary council. I do thank the Member for drawing it to my attention. I will express my concern to Mr. Rompkey that the NWT does have a post-secondary education system, albeit a new one, and so does Yukon and therefore the Private Member's Bill should include the Territories as well as provinces. I thank the Member for that advice.

---Applause

I would also point out to the Member that I will be leaving later today to attend a meeting of the council of Ministers of Education for Canada at which the establishment of an advisory council on post-secondary education is being considered on the agenda. I can assure the Member that Mr. MacDonald, the Yukon Minister, and myself will be pressing to have the territories included in that advisory council. I do not need to point out, I am sure, to the honourable Member, Mr. Speaker, that not all Private Members' Bills, especially those from opposition Members, succeed in being passed. But nonetheless, I will pass on my comments to Mr. Rompkey and I thank the Member for drawing that to my attention. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question 0162-88(1): Private Member's Bill On Post-Secondary Education Council

MR. McLAUGHLIN: I have a final supplementary on this whole issue of federal bills before Parliament. I would like to ask the Government Leader the question regarding this document called "Parliamentary Alert" which comes out every week. While I was a Minister it was distributed to every Minister's office on the sixth floor, and if I was unable then my very capable staff would look through and pick out any bills that might be relevant to my departments and advise my officials to find out if there could be any consequences I should know about. I would like to ask the Government Leader, is he going to assure us that Ministers up there and their staff will take a look at this and that the Minister of Justice and himself will figure out a way that this is dealt with? Some of these bills had first reading almost a year ago and we find that, actually without prompting, only one Minister out of the nine...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin, I think you have asked your question. Mr. Government Leader.

Further Return To Question 0162-88(1): Private Member's Bill On Post-Secondary Education Council

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am aware of that excellent publication. It appears that in the interregnum between the change of governments, perhaps the subscription for that publication lapsed. I thank the honourable Member for his advice and I can assure him that we will be taking steps to ensure that Members of cabinet are current on bills before the House of Commons. In the meantime I am quite confident that the honourable Member for Pine Point will make sure that we know of any new initiatives that might have escaped our attention. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 5, oral questions. That would appear to conclude oral questions for the day. Item 6, written questions. Mr. Richard.

ITEM 6: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question W17-88(1): Young Offenders Facility In Yellowknife

MR. RICHARD: I have a written question to the Minister of Social Services, in eight parts. With respect to the establishment of a young offenders maximum secure custody facility in Yellowknife referred to on page 12.11 of the capital estimates for 1988-89:

1) Was any study or research undertaken prior to FMB and/or Executive Council approval of construction of this facility in Yellowknife as to the most suitable location in the Western Arctic for establishing such a facility?



- 2) If so, who prepared the study or research; and when, and will the Minister table a copy of the study or research?
- 3) In the context of delivery of programs, what was the justification for establishing this facility in Yellowknife?
- 4) In the context of economic factors, what was the justification for establishing this facility in Yellowknife?
- 5) Have architects' costs or other planning costs been incurred to date, and what is the amount of those costs?
- 6) Has land clearing or other physical work commenced, and if so, what is the detailed description and cost of this work?
- 7) What are the total expenditures, by category, already made or committed with respect to this proposed facility in Yellowknife?
- 8) What is the anticipated volume of clientele to be served by this facility, and from which regions or communities and in what numbers do the clientele originate? Thank you.

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

Question W18-88(1): Custody Sentences Under The Young Offenders Program

MR. McLAUGHLIN: I also have a written question for the Minister of Social Services regarding the young offenders secure custody facilities.

- 1) How many individual secure custody sentences have occurred under the young offenders program each year since March 31, 1984 and year to date since March 31, 1987?

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Point of order, Madam Minister.

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, I do not mind if that question came from another Member but the honourable Member posing that question to me was the previous Minister of Social Services and you would anticipate that he would have that answer.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Right.

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister, on your point of order. The question was not completed; I have not heard the question yet and cannot rule whether there is a point of order. Mr. McLaughlin, would you continue?

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

- 2) How many individuals have been remanded to young offenders secure custody facilities each year 31, since March 1984 and year to date since March 31, 1987?
- 3) What is the regional breakdown of the above sentences and remands, by year, and in the Fort Smith Region what is the breakdown by area?
- 4) What are the recidivism rates for first time offenders in the Fort Smith and Hay River young offenders facilities?
- 5) What are the qualifications of the employees presently working at all three young offenders secure custody facilities, including education, professional training, areas of specialty and relative work experience? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. I can reply to the point of order. I do find that the question is in order. It merely requests government information that is available quite readily.

Item 6, written questions. Item 7, returns to written questions. Mr. Clerk.

ITEM 7: RETURNS TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Speaker, return to Question W10-88(1) asked by Mr. McLaughlin of the Minister of the NWT Housing Corporation.

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

Hon. Stephen Kakfwi's return to Question W10-88(1), asked by Mr. McLaughlin on February 19th, 1988:

In response to the Member's question on the eligibility criteria and number of units delivered under HAP. The Housing Corporation has a two-fold process for approving applications under the program. Applicants are initially screened to ensure that they meet eligibility requirements. The corporation then meets with community groups to prioritize the applications. The eligibility criteria under the program have not changed greatly with the participation of Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. The following is a list of eligibility requirements under the program and the number of units delivered since 1983. CMHC first participated in 1986.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicant's gross family income must be within the core need income threshold; the applicant must have sufficient income to operate and maintain the unit; the applicant must not have received previous assistance from the corporation to build a house; the applicant must have lived in the NWT for a period of five years, and use the house as his/her principal residence; the applicant must not have any outstanding arrears with the corporation or any housing association or authority; the applicant must have the skills or resources to construct the unit.

One change to the eligibility requirements that has been implemented because of CMHC participation is the income criteria. CMHC requires that all applicants for social housing fall within the definition of core need. Core need is defined under the agreement as "those households who cannot afford or obtain adequate and suitable accommodation for less than 30 per cent of their gross income". The Housing Corporation and CMHC have instituted a core need income threshold. The income thresholds are currently under review. Any applicant with a gross family income over the threshold is not eligible for the program.

The NWT Housing Corporation has been able to double the HAP units made available to residents of the NWT annually without incurring any additional costs as CMHC funds 50 per cent of the costs of the program.

Delivery Of HAP Units

1988-89, 154 units; 1987-88, 214 units; 1986-87, the first year of CMHC participation, 182 units; 1985-86, 104 units; 1984-85, 92 units; 1983-84, 34 units.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Returns to written questions?

Item 8, replies to Opening Address.

Item 9, petitions.

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

ITEM 11: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Tabled Document 76-88(1): Baffin Regional Council minutes from a conference in October. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Tabling of documents. Mr. Arlooktoo.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) I would like to table Tabled Document 77-88(1), newsletter prepared by the students of Lake Harbour. It is a recommendation as to what the responsibilities of MLA Joe Arlooktoo should be. It also says that Joe Arlooktoo is supposed to supply a swimming pool for Lake Harbour. Thank you.

---Applause



MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Arlooktoo. I hope Mr. Joe Arlooktoo is listening.

---Laughter

Item 11, tabling of documents.

Item 12, notices of motion. 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; Bill 1-88(1), Appropriation Act, 1988-89; Ministers' Statement 13-88(1); and Tabled Document 71-88(1), Direction for the 1990s, with Mr. Gargan 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 1988-89 MAIN ESTIMATES; BILL 1-88(1), APPROPRIATION ACT, 1988-89

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

Department Of Justice

We are dealing with details of the Department of Justice. We are on court services. Would the Minister like to bring in his witnesses?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. With the permission of the committee, I would like to bring in my deputy minister of Justice, Mr. Bickert, and my chief of finance, Mrs. Matthews, please.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Agreed by the committee, Mr. Minister. For the record, would the Minister like to introduce his witnesses?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have with me on my left my deputy minister of Justice, Mr. Bickert, and on my right, chief of finance, Mrs. Matthews.

Court Services, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. We are on page 9.14 of the main estimates. Court services, total O and M, \$5,193,000. Are there any questions on court services? Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Just to thank the Minister and his staff for setting up the Western Arctic region with at least a semi-permanent court. We do have a judge now on a two-weekly basis. We look forward to the day when there will be a permanent court there but it has improved the justice system that is being offered to people of the Western Arctic. I thank the Minister and his staff for moving on that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Butters. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just by way of a question to the Minister. Under court services it indicates that in addition to providing services in the three locations of Yellowknife, Hay River and Iqaluit, the court service travels to approximately 50 locations on a circuit basis. I am wondering if the Minister plans to place permanent magistrates or judges in each of the regions of the NWT. I am particularly talking about regions like the Keewatin Region, as part of his long-term planning.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I could tell the Member, historically it has taken a fair amount of time to evolve the justice system in each region. It took many, many years and first of all, there was a law centre put into the Baffin and finally we had a major step forward. A couple of years ago we put a judge in Iqaluit. I think that, from the representation that I have from the honourable Member and from the Keewatin, our first priority for the Keewatin is providing lawyer support services in the Keewatin. As I said, the Legal Services Board will be studying that proposal over the next year. In the long term I think the ultimate goal of the department is, yes, to have judges in the regions. I have to be honest with the Member. That may take a number of years because of the cost implications but I think I can honestly say that it is a long-term goal of the department to put judges, if the workload warrants it and the resources are available, in different regions in the Territories. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Court services. Mr. Butters.

Prosecutorial Office In Inuvik

MR. BUTTERS: A supplementary to the question or the comment I made initially. Is the Minister's department looking at encouraging the prosecutorial office to set up a permanent office in Inuvik and if he is looking at that, what success has been achieved to date?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: At this stage in time, there has not been a definitive decision by the cabinet to pursue with the federal government the prosecutorial office in Inuvik but I can say to the Member, I have said privately to the Member, that as a general policy, where a judge and court are permanently established in a community, logically a Crown prosecutor should follow. As the Member is well aware, we have now a part-time regional judge in Inuvik. We are studying the impact of that decision on the community with the view, perhaps in the next months or years, of perhaps making that a permanent posting. At that time, quite logically we would consider the possibility of Justice Canada putting in a Crown prosecutor in conjunction with a full-time judge. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Court services. Mr. Zoe.

Assistance For Family Of Accused

MR. ZOE: Mahsi cho. Mr. Minister, I have a concern in the area of court services where a trial is held in a place other than the home town of the accused. There is a concern that the immediate family would like to see what happens to the accused. For instance, the majority of the Supreme Court cases occur here in Yellowknife and there have been a few instances from my area where the family wanted to come to the hearing of the court case to see the outcome of it, but they ran into great difficulties because they could not afford to fly to Yellowknife and also could not afford to pay for their accommodation while they are here. Is there any provision within court services to look after these types of problems especially for Supreme Court cases? Mahsi cho.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: My understanding is that from time to time if there is room on the court plane or on the RCMP plane, in fact families of accused have been to a trial out of town. I would like to emphasize to the Member, there is only so much money available for the administration of justice in the NWT and I think the very, very strong indication I have had from people in the Territories is that the money could probably be better used, for instance, giving support to victims of crime, rather than bringing in the families of those who are accused of committing crimes. When you have a limited resource, it is necessary to decide priorities. If there is very strong direction in this House that the emphasis should be on the accused as opposed to the victim, we would look at it. But presently, where possible, the system tries to accommodate families of the accused. As I said, the ultimate problem is cost and if you have to put money into one part of the justice system, money has to come from another part. Thank you.

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

MR. ZOE: Mr. Chairman, let me remind the Minister that the accused is innocent until he is proved guilty. In the matter of a concerned family where their only daughter or only son is accused, where he might be remanded for a number of months and the trial is taking place other than in their



home community, as a parent, would you not be concerned if your only son or daughter is being tried in another city and you do not have any input or you do not know what is going to happen to them? These are the types of concerns that I am raising. I am not talking about the small trials that take place within the circuit. I am talking about the serious cases where parents do not know what is going to happen to their only son and they do not have any knowledge. These are the types of concerns I am raising because parents that are not participating or listening to the hearings of these cases run into these types of problems. It is personal and it is hard to comprehend. I hear the Minister saying that we should not be worried about those types of people, instead we should be helping the victims of crime. But that is not the case here. Mahsi cho.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

MR. BUTTERS: Point of order.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Butters, point of order.

MR. BUTTERS: I realize that the Minister responsible for MACA is probably studying his department, but where is the government?

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Right here.

MR. BUTTERS: Oh Nellie, we all love you but we would like a few more of the government Executive present to say "Agreed". There is no quorum, Mr. Chairman, and I think the government should be here when its budget is being considered.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): The Chair recognizes that there is no quorum and we will take a 15 minute coffee break.

---SHORT RECESS

The committee will now come back to order. Can we have some order in the committee, please? We are on page 9.14 and we are dealing with the details on the budget of the Department of Justice. We are under court services. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: It is good to see the Minister responsible for everything, over there...

---Laughter

...doing her job.

Mr. Chairman, on court services I wanted to ask two questions of the Minister. The study being done on the justice of the peace system. I am not sure if that was addressed earlier. I wondered if the Minister could give this committee an update on that study on JPs. What is going to happen in the next 12 months? Secondly, while I have the mike, a separate question on coroners.

I understand that the Coroners Act that the Legislature passed a few years ago has not yet been proclaimed. Again, Mr. Chairman, this is an instance where the 10th Assembly spent some considerable time looking at that legislation. I think we put in some amendments at that time and here, two or three years later, it has not been proclaimed in force by the powers that be. That is, the Executive Council. I think we should be told why. What is the reason for the delay? Two separate questions, Mr. Chairman, thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Richard. Also, perhaps the Minister might be able to respond to Mr. Zoe's question, too.

#### Families Of Accused Already Assisted Informally

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Yes, thank you. If I could respond to Mr. Zoe's question first. I do not want the Member to misunderstand what I said. I understand what he is saying and the concern that the families of the accused would have. I do understand that. As I said before, in the vast majority of cases in the Territories, a trial would be held in the home community. In southern

jurisdictions, a trial would usually be held in a regional centre and there would be no provision whatsoever for the family of the accused to attend a trial. What we have tried to do in those cases -- and especially as the Member pointed out, those serious trials where somebody if found guilty might go to jail for a number of years and it causes anxiety to the family -- through an informal system, there has been an attempt to try to accommodate those concerns. I know that many times the court plane has taken families of the accused, and the RCMP plane has taken families of the accused, if they could accommodate that request.

When we do the review of the legal aid system, I think it may be possible to quantify in which particular instances it would seem reasonable to provide some sort of support. Maybe it would be possible to formalize what happens informally right now. The point I was trying to make to the Member was that if it is done, it potentially could add a cost to the system in which case it would be necessary to find more resources. That was the point I was attempting to make. I think I understand what the Member is saying and I will undertake to study the situation and see if there is any way that we can perhaps augment what we are presently doing. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Your response to Mr. Richard's questions.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the first question from Mr. Richard. My understanding is that the JPs task force report is undergoing technical revisions to it now. I have been expecting it for the last few weeks. We should be getting it very soon. I cannot give the Member a more definitive reply but I have been assured by the chairman of the task force that it will be in my hands within a matter of weeks, if not days.

#### Delay In Proclamation Of New Coroners Act

For the second part, and I think it is a valid point and Mr. Richard has brought it up a couple of times in the House, as to why the new Coroners Act has not been proclaimed. As I recall, the first time it was asked was in the first few months that I was Minister and quite frankly, I missed it. I think I said that here in the House. When I undertook, then, to have it proclaimed, we had started on the process of examining the role of JPs and coroners and I was asked by the chairman of the task force if I would hold off on proclaiming the act until the report was finalized. They felt there were some flaws in the act as it was originally presented and they thought it would be easier to amend those flaws before the act was proclaimed. So that is the reason that I have not had the act proclaimed. I hope that answers the Member's question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, I had thought the task force on JPs was just on JPs. Is it also on coroners?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Yes, the task force was on JPs and coroners. I want to be honest with the Member. There has been a little bit of a problem with what will be coming out. When I originally set up the terms of reference for the task force, there was a coroners component. As the task force got into their hearings and as the various scenarios unfolded, they concentrated more of their energy on the JP side of it. From what I understand, there is still further work to be done on the coroners side of it. Once I actually get the report, I will have to make an evaluation then, if it is reasonable to delay the proclamation of the act. It seems there might be a long delay before we could get any definitive answers. Once I get the actual report, I will be able to answer the Member more fully about what I intend to do with the Coroners Act.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: I would hope that the Minister would do that because I cannot remember how long ago it was that the Coroners Act was revised but it was at least two years ago. There were very beneficial, desirable provisions included in the revision of the Coroners Act two years ago. I think, Mr. Chairman, it is a shame that they have not been proclaimed in force in these last two years.



Long Period Between Receipt Of Report And Changes To Law

The Minister well knows that task force reports that the government receives are studied and restudied and summaries made and provided to the Assembly. So it is fairly predictable that the time frame between the receipt of the task force report and any changes in our legislation dealing with JPs or coroners is a long period of time. I think we know that from experience. I would hope that one of the Minister's first decisions that he makes upon receipt of the task force report is whether it is justifiable to further delay the proclamation of the new and improved Coroners Act. Mr. Wray earlier today cited the example of waiting 10 years until we had the perfect local government legislation. I do not think that is a good example. If we know, and we have passed a number of desirable changes in the 10th Assembly, let us get on with proclaiming them into law and tinker afterwards for more refinement. That is a suggestion to the Minister, Mr. Chairman. The only other question I have in this area is: Does the Minister anticipate that this Assembly will have an opportunity to receive and review the task force report during the current session, during part one or part two of this session?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think the first comment of the Member is a valid one. As I recall, as an example of some of the revisions that were giving the members of the task force some problems were the search and seizure provisions. There was some problem as to whether or not they were necessary. I think the Member is correct and if there are still some problems with certain sections, it may be possible to proclaim the majority of the sections in the act and perhaps hold in abeyance the few that are giving the task force some concern. I will make that evaluation as soon as I have the report and I will take the Member's advice as good advice.

On the second question, I do not know when I am going to get it but I will make every effort to table the report with the Legislative Assembly. I think it is important and I would like the Legislative Assembly to see it and make comments on it. So if it is at all possible before the end of this session, I will attempt to table the report. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Court services. Mr. Zoe.

Transportation For The Accused

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to go back to basically the same question I raised earlier. It is with regard to court services again. In some instances the court services may serve a particular area, but there are not court services within each community. The communities I am mostly concerned with are of that type. I want to give an example that I feel is warranted.

An RCMP gave notice to an individual in Snare Lake to appear in court in Rae. This was months before the court date and the individual did go to Rae on his own initiative. It is a young person who still lives with his parents who are an elderly couple. In this particular case, this individual made every effort to appear in court. He took a skidoo all the way from Snare Lake to Rae-Edzo to appear in court and once he was dealt with in court, he was stranded in Rae. He finally got back to Snare Lake last week. It took him about a month to get enough money to buy gas, and besides that, when he was coming to Rae to appear in court, his skidoo broke down. In these instances, I feel that the court services should pay for an individual that is accused to appear in court. I feel the court should have picked up his air fare to bring him to Rae and back to Snare Lake, then he would not have missed a whole month of supporting his family.

This is the type of situation I am referring to. It is not only related to parents, but also to individuals in the small communities where court does not take place. It is usually in the regional areas, as the Minister indicated. I feel strongly that there should be provisions within court services to deal with these types of issues. Mahsi cho.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I am surprised with that example because generally court services does pay the travel costs of the accused if the trial is in a community other than their own. If there is an instance where that did not happen, if the Member could give me more details, I will pursue it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Court services, total 0 and M. Mr. Zoe.

#### Summonses

MR. ZOE: Mr. Chairman, I have another concern on court services, with regard to sheriffs. There has been a number of times within my constituency where members of the public have been served with summonses to either serve on a jury or as witnesses and there has been a number of complaints where these documents were basically forced on an individual or placed in their homes when they were not home. A lot of my constituents do not speak English, do not understand, and there has been a great concern. Because if you are summoned and do not appear in court, you are charged with not appearing. There have been instances in my area where these types of things have occurred. I would like the Minister to review or improve in this particular area, because there has been a lot of concern, like the example I have just given. Mahsi cho.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The law requires that somebody who is selected to serve on the jury, serves on the jury. But I will definitely review the departmental policies as to how that law is carried out and see if it can be done with more sensitivity. I will look into that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Ernerk.

#### Autopsies

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister about coroners' duty to look after the bodies when doctors perform an autopsy. (Translation ends)

I have some concern over this issue of autopsies. As you know, this is very close to home in cultural issues. I have noticed when somebody dies in a fire or an unusual death and I have been asked to get involved in terms of calling the appropriate authorities, that the parents themselves, or the grandparents, do not wish to see the body of the deceased for personal, cultural, or a number of other reasons. How strong is the law? How strong is the regulation that you have to have autopsies in certain cases? I guess what I am asking is, just as long as the parents or relatives know exactly what the cause of death is, is there no way that the parents or relatives have any say at all?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I guess the best way to explain it is that under the Coroners Act, the coroner must act in the public interest in an independent way. A good coroner will use good judgment and sensitivity in making a decision as to whether or not there should be an autopsy.

I guess where the problem comes in is, for instance, if there is a fire resulting in a fatality and there is some good reason for the coroner to think that perhaps some foul play might have happened and the fire was an attempt to destroy evidence, then the coroner could ask for an autopsy. It would be difficult to change that, because I think that in cases like that, everybody in the community would want to know what happened. But I think in most cases a sensible, sensitive coroner would make that evaluation and if it appeared that there was no problem, then an autopsy would not be necessary. I hope that answers the Member's question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you. I am satisfied with that answer. My other question is under court services. I am not questioning the procedures in terms of picking jury members, but I noticed the other day during one trial in Iqaluit that members of the jury were picked from Rankin Inlet. Is this something that is likely to take place in the future? Because after all it has established a precedent. I think it is a good idea, especially when, in many small communities, everybody knows each other and everybody is scared to serve on the jury. I think that move was excellent. Is this something that your department is going to follow in the future?

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



HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think the case that the Member is referring to was a very serious crime, as I recall. I think it is unusual that those types of situations happen. As I understand it, the publicity surrounding the trial in Iqaluit was so overwhelming that it was thought the accused would not be able to get a fair trial. Because essentially everybody who might have been on the jury had already been subjected to the media and to conversations about it, they thought it necessary to bring in a group from your home community who had not been subjected to the wave of publicity in order to attempt to get a fair trial. I think in a case like that it is very valid. In most cases though, I think, people in a community are fair and objective enough to be able to deal with it. So I think it would probably be necessary, only in that sort of case, to bring in jurors from another community.

Court Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): General comments. Court services, total O and M, \$5,193,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Moving right along.

---Laughter

Consumer And Corporate Affairs, Total O And M

Consumer and corporate affairs. General comments. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, honourable chairman. On this page I have a couple of questions. Firstly, the computerization of the registries. The committee of the whole in the previous Assembly had passed a couple of motions calling on the government to at least do a study on the wisdom of computerizing the registry system. These are operations that offer services to the public and, although I am computer illiterate, I understand that the types of services provided by these registries lend themselves, particularly, to computer operations. I am wondering if the Minister can provide the committee with some sort of report as to what is being done in this area.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The department took very seriously the motion moved by the Member a couple of years ago. I think we have been fairly successful in computerizing, or are on the verge of computerizing, the whole department. Document registry is being programmed right now and will be complete in the fall of 1988 and corporate registry in the fall of 1988. In land titles, we are still waiting for the transfer from the federal government. So by the end of this fiscal year I think most of the activities in the Department of Justice will have been computerized.

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

Land Titles Office

MR. RICHARD: On a separate issue, the land titles office, I understand from the Minister that later this session the Minister will be introducing land titles legislation which will be in place of the current federal Land Titles Act. I want to ask the Minister a couple of questions in connection with that: First, what is the time frame for the changeover? This is assuming the Legislature, in its wisdom, passes the land titles legislation. Secondly, the revenues shown on this page, of \$1,273,000 -- how will the transfer from federal to territorial affect that revenue figure? Because there are substantial fees paid to the land titles office for registration of transactions. Thirdly, will the GNWT, as part of the transfer, be taking over the accumulated assurance fund, and what is the amount of that fund at present?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The Member is correct, going over to the legislation committee today or tomorrow will be our government's land titles legislation. We are still negotiating with the federal government on a couple of clauses in the changes to federal legislation. We have the

potential for a problem, not quite of the magnitude of the Official Languages Act, but a problem that would require, at least, cabinet approval to change our legislation. We are negotiating that right now. That seems to be one of the last blockages between us and a successful transfer.

The revenue figure with today's rates would be approximately an extra \$100,000. I think the rates have not changed for many, many years. So there is a potential for an increase depending on what we do with the rates. We could look at anything from \$100,000 to \$200,000, probably, in increased revenue.

The negotiations on the assurance fund have not been finalized. I believe it is \$300,000 but I am not sure. I have not looked at that figure for a while. I can get that figure for the Member.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Richard.

#### Assurance Fund

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would simply ask, on the assurance fund, that the Minister and his officials ensure that we do take over the total accumulated assurance fund because we will have the responsibility or liability that attaches to that aspect of a registration system. The federal government has over the years accumulated that assurance fund; it is like an assurance plan for mistakes made in the land titles office and we certainly should get a transfer of whatever dollars have accumulated in that fund. But on the administrative side, the fees that come into land titles, currently, I believe, it is our government staff who administer this federal act. Does our government incur directly all of those administrative costs, or are we getting specific funding from the federal government to administer their federal act?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: If I could answer the first part of the question. I think the \$300,000 I was talking about was the yearly fund. The problem is the federal government never built up a fund. The revenues they derived went into the consolidated revenue fund. So there is no fund. They are, in fact, self-insured when it comes down to it. That is definitely a problem and we are discussing it with them. But I would say that there is very little chance that we can take hold of the equivalent of what was paid in all the time that the fund has been in existence.

For the administrative costs, I was quite surprised, when I took over the portfolio, to realize that we were carrying out this responsibility on behalf of the federal government gratis and were really getting nothing from it. That was one of the major reasons or important reasons we have been pursuing it, because we did not get the revenue over the years and we have been doing the work for the federal government. How that came about, I do not know; and why that was not addressed earlier, I also do not know.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Richard, general comments.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, just to reiterate the importance of that assurance fund. If what the Minister says is correct, that each year the federal government was taking these levies from landowners and putting them into the federal consolidated revenue fund, then we had best make some sort of arrangement with the federal government for them to give us some money. Whether it is the millions of dollars that they have received over the decade, there should be some sum of money set up because whatever the transition provisions in the new legislation are, that assurance fund is going to have to provide for whichever government is going to be liable for errors and omissions that happened while it was a federal government act. I think the issue has to be addressed with the protection of the public in the NWT in mind, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I thank the Minister for advice -- the future Minister for advice, in this ever-changing government -- the Minister tomorrow. We consider it a critical part of the negotiations and we are still negotiating that.

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



### Inuit Surname Project

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question to the Minister is under vital statistics. You will recall operation surname in 1970. The problem that I still face today, even though this operation surname has been in effect for many years now, is that many of our people in the Eastern Arctic are still identified by their disk numbers, mainly by Health and Welfare Canada and, I think, RCMP. When you go to a medical facility such as a nursing station, you are still identified by Peter E3546, which is my number, and not by this new surname that was accepted and put into operation by the GNWT. What seems to be the problem?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. I am glad the Member brought that up because among the many proposals we deal with, over the last couple of years there has been an Inuit surname project and quite frankly, I have not dealt with it. I am glad the Member reminded me. I will look into that and see what the status is of that right now. But it is something that this government has not dealt with.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: You may call me E3546.

---Laughter

### Spelling Mistakes In Babies' Records

Mr. Chairman, the other problem that I have seen is with regard to births in Manitoba hospitals. This is something that I dealt with, with your department on one or two occasions dating back to one or two years ago. Up to this point I have not received a satisfactory answer. Again, it is under vital statistics. When some people are born, say in Churchill, Manitoba, sometimes the hospital staff spells their name differently than their parents living in the Keewatin Region do. Where the problem comes up is when they want to change the simple spelling to their parents' name or the parents request to change the spelling of their last name. In order to change it, I understand they have to pay about \$200. If that is the situation, it should not be the parents' responsibility. The mistake has been made by the hospitals, not by the mother who is having a baby. So I think that is something that should be changed with the appropriate authorities at these hospitals and your department.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: That particular question has come up a couple of times and I issued instructions to the department for that sort of service. There should not be a charge. Obviously it is not the fault of the person; it is the fault of the system. I will look into that because I had already told the department that they should not be charging people for that. So if it is happening, I apologize and we will rectify it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): General comments. Consumer and corporate affairs. Mr. Zoe.

### Ombudsman Office

MR. ZOE: I just wanted to ask a simple question on this particular activity. Mr. Minister, has your department ever considered creating an ombudsman office?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The suggestion has come up over the years in the House. I recall the last response that I made sometime within the last year is that in fact in one area of this government's responsibility, by setting up the rental officer, we have set up in fact an ombudsman for housing. I recall, the undertaking I had given was that we would, over a couple of years, study that position and see how that works and see if that position is effective in dealing with the problems in housing. Once we have had a comprehensive look at that, we could look at the potential of creating an ombudsman with wider powers. But, yes, it has come up and it is under consideration in the department.

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

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, would you not think that this particular office, if it were created, would benefit the whole Territories? If we did have such an office, I am sure a lot of people would utilize this particular service. Especially when a lot of people are having problems with bureaucracy, and so forth. I think it is warranted at this time. I know the rationale you just gave me is that the rental officer is basically similar to an ombudsman but it is strictly for one specific area, strictly with housing. I still feel that this type of office would benefit the general public.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: As I have said, the department has looked at it and is prepared to get information from other jurisdictions to see how an ombudsman works there. I think that in the correspondence and the conversations that we have had with other jurisdictions, they have made the one observation that we are a relatively small jurisdiction in population and there is reasonably good access to, for instance, MLAs in this jurisdiction that you would not find in a larger jurisdiction. In many ways, MLAs in this type of government take on at least part of that role of ombudsman. In answer to the Member, we could study it further.

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

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the Residential Tenancies Act has created a rental officer. Is this a court? Is this a quasi-judicial office? And if it is, what possibility is there that it is going to get plugged up with all kinds of argument and dissent?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Well, in one sense the final decision is handled in a quasi-judicial manner. But we are very careful to allow a lot of flexibility in the process. The objective of setting up the rental officer was to avoid courts. I think over the next year we will see how successful we are. But I am hopeful that the process will be a lot easier for people than the process that was in existence previously.

Consumer And Corporate Affairs, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): General comments. Consumer and corporate affairs. Total O and M, \$963,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Safety Division, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Safety division. Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Mahsi cho, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I have some concern on the figures that I have in front of me in the area of operation and maintenance. It is a decrease over last year, Mr. Chairman. My question to the Minister is: How effective would the safety division be in carrying out its mandate if we have a 16 per cent decrease in O and M? How would this particular activity achieve its goals when their O and M budget is decreased? I assume the safety division puts on various types of workshops and travels to various communities. I have a lot of concern in this particular division. Mr. Chairman, if the Minister would respond, I have further questions.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I would have shared your concerns. At the time that we were preparing this budget, I was negotiating with WCB and I have reached agreement with the WCB. They will give us an extra \$175,000 and two PYs on top of what you see here. It represents a fairly significant increase over what is available for programs from last year. But the Member is right. If I had not been able to negotiate that, then essentially there would be a decrease here. Now, I think the safety division has the resources to do more, in fact, than they did last year.



CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, if I can get into the specifics of the safety division. I have a concern in the area of the fire safety task. I believe this particular task was also decreased in their O and M and I have a great concern because it deals with fire safety. A number of small communities within the Territories do not have adequate fire safety measures within the communities. I, for one, have a number of small communities that do not have a regular fire department, do not have adequate firefighting equipment and the people are not aware as to the dangers that may occur in terms of house fires. These types of educational workshops or awareness programs should be more effectively provided to the smaller communities.

Mr. Chairman, I am quite concerned for this particular task. There too, this particular task has been decreased in their O and M, so I cannot see how the fire marshal's office would effectively carry out its investigations into various fires that occur and make certain recommendations to either Justice or to Municipal and Community Affairs if they do not travel to the smaller communities. Mahsi cho.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. I think the Member's observation is a valid one. We have, essentially, attempted to maintain the status quo and I welcome the comments of the Member because I agree that fire safety is an important part of what we do in the fire marshal's office. There is some flexibility between activities and the WCB budget that I talked about will be used for fire training, as well as other safety training. Except for that extra \$175,000, I would say the Member's comments are valid. That agreement with WCB is for three years. A three year agreement at \$175,000 a year. Two things can happen. One, if there is a will in this House to provide more support to the safety division, we can increase the budget next year because we have to recognize that at the end of this three year period we will be back to where we are today. I think with that \$175,000 we will be able to maintain and improve the services that we were able to provide last year. The Member is correct. Without that we would have major problems.

Safety Division, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Safety division, total O and M, \$1,796,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Mining Inspection Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mining inspection, total O and M, \$723,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Liquor Board And Labour Services, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Liquor board and labour services, total O and M. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if the Minister's officials could give me just an approximate breakdown of the \$644,000 in O and M as between the two boards, just with round figures.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Just about half and half, I guess. About fifty-fifty, Mr. Chairman.

Liquor Board And Labour Services, Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Liquor board and labour services, total 0 and M, \$644,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Grants And Contributions, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Detail of grants and contributions. Total grants and contributions, \$1,440,000. Agreed? Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, under detail of grants, human rights conference. I attended that conference in Iqaluit in May of 1987. I find these conferences to be very, very useful and I would like to support the Minister to continue these conferences across the NWT.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Total grants and contributions, \$1,440,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Detail Of Work Performed On Behalf Of Third Parties

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Detail of work performed on behalf of third parties. Mr. Richard.

Western Arctic Land Claim Implementation, Agreed

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of dollars, I understand this \$129,000 comes from the federal government. We just spend it for them but there are three PYs referred to here. Are those three person years included in our overall GNWT person years? Are these staff employees of our own government, the people referred to here?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Which ones are you talking about? They are staff but they do not show up because they are a vote four or five and not voted by this Legislative Assembly. It does not show up in our complement of PYs.

MR. RICHARD: Are they employees of our government?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: They are employees of our government in the legal division and legal registries division.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Detail of work performed on behalf of third parties, total Western Arctic land claim implementation, \$129,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Northern Oil And Gas Action Program, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Total northern oil and gas action program, \$89,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed



Estates Clerk, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Estates clerk, total estates clerk, \$52,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Legal Services For NWT Housing Corporation

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Total legal services for NWT Housing Corporation. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Could I ask for clarification of this \$40,000 on this page with the \$62,000 referred to under revenues and recoveries at the top of page 9.26?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think there is a problem because the original agreement was a vote one. This is the second lawyer, as I understand it. This is a new agreement. There was the original agreement and then this is a new arrangement we have with the Housing Corporation. It is just not consistent with the other one.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, can I have a brief explanation as to what "estates clerk" means?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: As I understand it, it is to administer estates of Indian people who are the responsibility of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: I do not quite understand. What do you mean by those Indian people who are the responsibility of Indian and Northern Affairs? Does it mean that when somebody dies that they write up wills or exactly what does it mean?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: It is a public trustee function and what we do is we do the administration on behalf of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs. It is basically to process wills, and what have you, of Indian people. We do it on behalf of the department.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Mahsi cho. Mr. Chairman, my understanding was that once the individual dies then the family can determine as to who would handle his estate. Now there is a form that the family fills out that requires that you select your own lawyer or the Department of Indian Affairs through Ottawa or the territorial government. You have three choices. From what the Minister is telling me, that is not the case. He is saying that for native people, you have only two choices, through the territorial government or you can appoint somebody privately. I thought there were three choices for treaty Indians. If this particular work is being done, maybe I will see the Department of Justice to do my will, too.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: As I said, we work as we do normally as a public trustee but in this particular case administering only for those Indian people on behalf of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs. Obviously the person has the choice; if they want, to get their own lawyer to do it. For instance, if somebody dies and does not leave a will, there is nobody to make any sort of a decision, in which case we will handle it. The third choice, I will have to look into it. You are saying you also have the choice of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs directly? That might well be. I am not aware of that. I know we do it on behalf of them. There might be cases where you can go to the department.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Mr. Chairman, the form that the municipalities all administer is produced from his office. There are three choices. But you are telling me you are administering it on their behalf, so actually we do not have three choices, only two, either privately or with territorial government. Mahsi cho.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. As I said, we, on behalf of Indian and Northern Affairs, have a responsibility. I am not sure if that precludes the third choice. It might well be that you have that third choice. But I know that we are available if people want to use us.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Since you do this on behalf of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs for Indians, is that being administered, then, by your department in conjunction with Social Services for Inuit, or is there such a program?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We undertake the same responsibility for Inuit, but not under this particular program. We do that ourselves and pay the cost ourselves.

Legal Services For NWT Housing Corporation, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Going back to legal services for NWT Housing Corporation, \$40,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Language Bureau Enhancement, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Language bureau enhancement, total \$200,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Official Languages Program, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Official languages program, total \$800,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Detail Of Work Performed On Behalf Of Third Parties, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Detail of work performed on behalf of third parties, total \$1,310,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): The rest is an information item. Mr. Richard.



MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the revenues, recoveries and transfer payments page, I have two questions. Firstly, I noticed in the Liquor Licensing Board there are projected revenues of \$500,000 and I asked earlier of the cost of running the board. The Minister indicated it was about \$300,000 to \$350,000. I applaud that. In this function we are regulating an industry, the liquor licensing establishments, but we are making them pay for it. In that sense it is self-sustaining. My question is a broader one: Is there somewhere in government where people look at that sort of thing; that there should be licence fees coming in that pay for the cost of licensing businesses or similar fields of endeavour? This is an example where it is happening and I am wondering if that is an accident or by design.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: In this particular one, we have attempted to make the user pay. As Minister of Finance I have asked for a total review of our revenue sources with the view to looking at user-pay as a basic philosophy. It may not be possible in all areas but I think it makes a lot of sense in many areas. So we will be reviewing that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Another question on this page. It is my observation that under fines and court fees the government is projecting a dramatic jump in fines and court fees. I am wondering if the Minister and his officials know something about the court decisions in the coming year that the rest of us do not know. Or is there going to be more crime? I am not sure of the reason for that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: As you can see from the figure in the far right the actuals were higher than anticipated. It is based on the actuals, 1986-87, a projected volume increase and revenue increases because of the court facility in Iqaluit. But mostly because the actual volume was up more than anticipated in 1986-87.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Go ahead, Mr. Gargan.

#### Compensation For Victims Of Crime

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, again on this item. There is going to be compensation for victims of crime and I am just wondering whether there is going to be a particular direction that maybe the court will be taking with regard to the consideration being given to the victims of crime. Would that mean that there will be more fines in order to compensate that particular program rather than maybe probation or suspended sentences or jail sentences?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think in response to one of the questions that Mr. McLaughlin asked me in question period, I discussed this to a certain extent. It is revised from the bill I tabled in the fall. One of the intents is to impose a surcharge on fines, a certain amount that will be decided by regulation, 10 per cent for example. That money goes into a pool and a committee is struck that potentially can use that money to assist victims of crime. Federal government Bill C-89, the federal government legislation on victims of crime, has a number of parts to it. One part is a new concept that has been used now on a trial basis, I think in BC and in Ontario. It is a victim impact statement where a victim can present to a judge the actual impact of any injuries, mental or physical, received because of the crime. It will allow the imposition of surcharges on criminal code offences and federal offences. We will be able to use that money also if the federal law passes, in order to assist victims of crime. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, just further clarification. With regard to this percentage that is going to be used as a fine, is that a percentage of the fine itself or is that a percentage over and above the fine? Like a sales tax sort of thing.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Yes, I think the sales tax analogy is valid. It is over and above.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Are there any more questions? Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: So in other words, then, if a person gets a \$1000 fine, then it would be \$1100.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Yes, if it was 10 per cent, that is correct. We have not decided on the figure yet.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Are there any further questions? Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: On another information page, Mr. Chairman, page 9.27. I simply have an observation and request of the Minister. This page is supposed to show the distribution of the budget and under O and M, grants and contributions, there is \$1,440,000. The bulk of those grants and contributions are in the communities, not in headquarters. They are in Baffin, Inuvik and Keewatin. I would simply ask that the Minister acknowledge that and the next time we do this, could he spread it out the way it is supposed to be spread out? That is the purpose of the page.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Are there any more questions or general comments? Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Just a question, Mr. Chairman. There is a gun control program item as well as gun control permits. Can I have a very brief explanation as to what that means?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: We, on behalf of the federal government, administer provisions for federal firearms legislation. We have a chief firearms officer who gives out permits for the acquisition of firearms.

#### Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Are there any further questions on the information item? Program summary, total O and M, \$33,912,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Does the committee agree to go to capital?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Program summary is on page 6.05 on capital. Now we go to page 6.07, detail of capital.

#### Court Services

##### Buildings And Works, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

Court services. Buildings and works, headquarters. Total headquarters, \$42,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed



Buildings And Works, Fort Smith, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Total Fort Smith, \$30,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Inuvik, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Total Inuvik, \$70,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Baffin, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Total Baffin, \$85,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Total buildings and works, \$227,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Court Services, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Total court services, \$227,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Safety Division, Equipment Acquisition, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Safety division. Equipment acquisition, total headquarters, \$165,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Mining Inspection Services, Equipment Acquisition, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mining inspection services. Equipment acquisition, total headquarters, \$41,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Program Summary, page 6.05. Total capital expenditures, \$433,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Department, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Total expenditures, \$34,345,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): That concludes the Department of Justice and we thank the Minister and his witnesses. The next department is Municipal and Community Affairs. Mr. Ernerk.

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Motion on the floor to report progress. All those in favour? Opposed? Motion is defeated.

---Defeated

---Laughter

Mr. Wray, do you wish to make your opening remarks? Order. Mr. Wray, do you wish to make your opening remarks?

Department Of Municipal And Community Affairs

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to submit the proposed estimates for this committee's review. As you can quickly see, I took the Legislative Assembly's instructions to limit growth seriously.

I would like to make a few comments on the O and M estimates first and then follow with a brief introduction to the capital estimates. The total dollar increase I am proposing for the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs for 1988-89 is \$71,000. This works out to be one sixth of one per cent. I would like to reconfirm, as I did before the standing committee on finance and as was stated by the Minister of Finance in his Budget Address, that this was brought about only by reducing levels of financial assistance to regional councils and to communities. Because such a large proportion of this department's budget is passed on to recipient organizations, it was impossible to aim for zero growth without seeing some direct impact on these other organizations.

Although our programs of financial assistance had to sustain some of the impact of our living with zero growth, I want to reconfirm that I have had money reallocated to where it is needed most, and that in total, the amount being spent on all programs of assistance and support to local governments is about the same as it was in 1987-88.

This budget does not include any new initiatives. There are a few areas that have gone up and I would like to mention them to you now. The water and sewer subsidy program in hamlets and settlements that was started in this fiscal year will be fully implemented. The recreation leaders assistance program will be extended to all eligible communities. The technical training program, which is essentially a program where community staff who operate complicated municipal systems get specific instruction, will be extended to include trainers in Fort Rae and Inuvik. More money will be made available for intercommunity sport competitions and to Sport North for the Arctic Winter Games. In order for this to happen, the one funding program to communities that is proposed to be discontinued in 1988-89 is the recreation per capita contribution program. The loss of this will be offset by new funding that is now available for employing recreation leaders in eligible communities.



I would like to repeat what I told the standing committee on finance about the department's person years. Over the last number of years this department led the way in establishing a presence in all program areas in each of the regional centres. However, to a large part, this was done at the expense of the organization's core resources at headquarters. During my term as Minister, I have sought to address the situation. This budget includes an increase of 11 person years in an attempt to build the central resources of the department to the level at which it should have been all along. I have done this over the past several years, a bit at a time. This budget is the last adjustment that the department needed to bring itself to what I consider to be a necessary level. Seven of the positions already existed and salaries for them had been obtained by holding vacant positions open for longer than desirable, transferring money from other areas, charging some costs to capital projects, and so on. I believe that this should be straightened out and by taking the action that is proposed in this budget, that is what I am proposing to do.

#### Revenues

I would like to make a brief comment about revenues before I speak to the capital estimates. During this year, agreement was reached with the Department of Finance to have that department assume responsibility for the property taxation, including school levies, revenue. So you will not find these revenues in the estimates for this department. What you will continue to find are revenues associated with land leases and sales which are showing an increase. This increase is a result of the implementation of the first phase of a restructuring of land lease fees. New leases will be issued at an average fee of \$300 per year whereas fees for existing leases average about \$200 per year. Revenue to the GNWT is projected to increase by \$400,000 as a result of this initiative.

#### Capital Expenditures

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs is proposing to spend over \$38 million to carry out its capital programs in this budget year. Although this department, when compared to other departments in the GNWT, is a major spender of capital dollars, I want to advise the committee that the amount of money being spent still falls far short of the requirements that communities have. Last year, I had Municipal and Community Affairs staff do a calculation of what it would cost to fully implement the capital programs of the department in all eligible communities. The figure was a staggering \$300 million. That means that if it were possible to spend \$300 million in one big push to get this outstanding work done, all communities would have their basic municipal infrastructure in place, including roads, water and sewer systems, recreational facilities, offices, garages, fire halls and equipment to the standard that our programs now provide for. It would not buy any frills. There would still be no paved roads in smaller communities. In most communities there would not be piped water and sewer systems. It would just give people throughout the North access to the basics that they should have right now.

I will not get into the details of the capital estimates in my opening remarks but we can get into them as you go through the estimates documents. There are many important projects which you may have expected to see in these estimates that are not shown here. As I stated to the standing committee on finance, the reason is simply that there is not the money to do all that is needed. Roads should be built. Water and sewer systems should be improved. Many municipal buildings should be replaced. In spite of this, in my view, the most pressing needs are being met.

I am not ashamed to say that during my tenure as Minister, I strongly pushed for the development of basic community recreation facilities as a priority. As important as physical infrastructure is -- for example the roads and sewer systems -- I continue to be most concerned about the urgent need to provide something for the young people in our communities. They are, after all, our most important resource. For that reason, you will find in the proposed estimates a continued emphasis on getting basic recreation facilities into those communities that need them the most.

I would like to bring to your attention one statistic that the Minister of Finance used in his Budget Address that causes me concern. It is that this year, 22 per cent, or one fifth of the capital budget for the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs is for replacement capital items. This need is growing every year. I believe that we will soon be facing a major crunch in that, while some communities are in desperate need for their first of a particular building, piece of equipment or other municipal work, other communities will be needing theirs replaced. This continues to be a major concern for the department. That is all that I have to say as my opening remarks, Mr. Chairman. I would be pleased to review my capital estimates with the committee when they come up. Thank you.



CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Chairman of Finance, do you have any opening comments?

Comments From The Standing Committee On Finance

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the Minister and his staff appeared in front of the standing committee on finance on January 20, 1988 and we determined that the department's mandate is derived from legislation and policies. There were no new programs and the department has a variety of evaluation systems. There was an increase at that time of 12.9 person years and we believe there were 23 vacant positions with nine of them vacant for more than six months. Travel is carefully monitored by management. Some programs are being extended, including the water and sewer subsidy program. The Minister explained the process used to determine which projects are included in the department's capital plan. He also explained how the projects are prioritized. We discussed outdoor rinks and the Minister indicated that outdoor rinks are provided as a temporary measure but that the long-term goal of the department is to provide covered rinks. The Minister explained the joint roles of MACA and Education in communities where school gyms are being built, the intention being that the entire community would use the gym. There were questions on the Arctic Winter Games and the Minister indicated that the department monitors the various sports which are included in the Winter Games and makes recommendations for changes.

The Minister indicated at that time that a reassessment of the current water and sewer systems being placed in communities is currently under way and the Minister explained the distribution of capital money for community offices and the relationship of the federal and territorial governments in the process. We received a briefing from the Minister on the current status of the airport transfer and the Minister detailed the department's efforts in the area of privatization.

Information on the review of the current funding formula for non-tax-based municipalities was provided. I think the Minister has already touched on the next point and that is infrastructure. We did outline earlier that there were some departments that we felt were unable or were going to be unable to meet their mandate, even now, and it is going to get more critical in the future. I think that is a major concern of the standing committee on finance, with, as the Minister said, replacement being required in some communities already, and other communities have not even received their first of such a project. So I think we are very cognizant of the Minister's problem and it is something that should be discussed at length. That is the report of the standing committee on finance, Mr. Chairman. However, I would like to add some personal comments, if I might.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Go ahead, Mr. Pollard.

Department Commended

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Butters is the dean of the Assembly and he told me we should not always criticize; we should sometimes pay compliments. I would just like to say that during my tenure of two years as mayor of Hay River, I had a lot to do with this department, Mr. Chairman, in many respects. I can say to this committee, in all honesty, that I found them to be efficient, to be honest and helpful. As I said, I had a lot of dealings with them and I think they are to be commended, particularly on their treatment of myself when I was in that position. I just want that to show on the record, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: No, Mr. Wray, I am not going to start the abuse. Mr. Chairman, I will be absent tomorrow for a very special occasion, I guess you might say. It so happens that I am opening up a facility which was constructed within the last year and recently concluded, which is an arena complex. Unfortunately, Mr. Wray will not be there; he has other openings to attend to. I appreciate his department's effort in their work and their diligence in completing those types of facilities. Because this weekend or within the next week, I believe there are going to be five such complexes. I must say that I wish to compliment the effort of the Minister, the efforts of government and the efforts of the staff of the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs, as well as the Department of Public Works. So because I will be absent and not participating in the debate because of that situation, I wanted to place on record my appreciation and compliments to the department and the Minister, and of course all the rest of the Executive Council.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Department of Municipal and Community Affairs. Mr. Zoe.



### Airport Program

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get into specific details once we go item by item, but just in general comments I would like to raise a few concerns. One which I feel is very important, not only in my area but as it affects the whole Territories, is the transportation infrastructure, especially airports. I will elaborate a little on this particular area. There has been a number of concerns raised by Members. We realize that the government is putting a lot of effort into trying to resolve the question of maintenance and upgrading of existing airports and also to create new airports. This area is of great concern to my constituents. As the Minister knows, we have an area service office in my constituency which does not have an airport and in the other outlying communities a lot of work has to be done in upgrading, to be more efficient and effective for air transportation.

I believe a number of Members from the Eastern Arctic have raised this particular concern. Can I ask the Minister if he can elaborate a little more as to what type of measures are being looked at currently for the airport program? I realize that the negotiations are still going on and he circulated a list of airports that are going to be worked on, but that is only going to be done after the negotiation takes place. If I can ask the Minister to respond to this particular issue. Mahsi cho.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

### Submission To Treasury Board Stalled

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can indicate to the Member that I certainly share his concern. We have been trying to resolve this situation with Transport Canada for the last two years. I have to report to the committee that I am distressed to find out that our cabinet submission, which I have been advised had been signed by both Mr. Crosbie and Mr. McKnight, I was led to believe was stalled in Treasury Board, and in fact that is not the case. What I am now advised is that this cabinet submission is signed and is stalled on Mr. Crosbie's desk because he feels, apparently, he is not going to get support for the \$35 million that we require to complete those 11 airports. Quite frankly, I am becoming very frustrated with the federal government on this issue. They seem to have no problem in making an eight billion dollar decision to put in nuclear submarines but they have a difficult time in coming up with \$35 million to complete 11 airports in the North.

I have very limited money available to me for airports; about \$288,000 is all I have in my budget. Essentially, all we are doing right now is trying to keep the lid on and hope that somehow this submission will get through, first, cabinet and then the Treasury Board. Once we get that \$35 million then we can swing into action and complete those 11 airports. If that process fails then, quite frankly, I really do not know what we are going to do. I have not even thought of that possibility yet. So I do not know if I can offer much more comfort to the Member other than to say that it is a high priority and we are trying to force the issue as much as we can. I will be attempting to contact Mr. Crosbie in the very near future either by phone or by telex or by letter, stressing to him the urgency of this requirement. So that is essentially about all I can say at this point in time, Mr. Chairman.

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

### Lake Harbour Airstrip

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand the Minister's statement about airports. However, in my constituency I have asked a number of times about our airstrip and directed questions to the three Ministers. To date I have not had a satisfactory answer. The danger, it seems to me, is that it is not very big and I have been told about the dangers from the pilots. I understand and I appreciate the fact that there is a very limited budget but the little problem that we have is not going to cost very much. If you could come up with emergency funding to solve the problem that we have. I also called my community today because you had told me previously that you would look into this. When I telephoned to my community, they had not heard anything regarding the airstrip. When you responded to me that you were looking into this I thought you would have already consulted with the community to get their input and I find out that to date there is no input from that community. Perhaps someone from your department can go to the community and have a meeting, maybe during the time the Legislative Assembly will have a break.



I mentioned about the airstrip that the funding will not cost very much. You have not seen what the problem is, so if you have not seen it then you really do not know the costs of that problem. Perhaps someone from your department can go into the community during our break to look into the problem that we have in our community. There are no planes in the Eastern Arctic that can land in the water with floats and there are no helicopters and there are no highways. In the Western Arctic you do have highways and a lot of the work that is done is done by truck. The communities have easy access to Yellowknife. My problem is that I do not understand why some of the communities are shoved aside. Perhaps we can turn toward Baffin Island and look into the settlement's problem. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Arlooktoo raised a number of points and I will try to address them all. First just to deal with the question of the airstrip in Lake Harbour. I gave Mr. Arlooktoo a commitment that people would go into Lake Harbour. They would take a look at the proposal that he made to me and then they would give me a cost estimate on what it was going to cost. I stand by that commitment. We will be working through the Department of Public Works which does that kind of work on behalf of Municipal and Community Affairs. I am not up to date on the arrangements that have been made but I can assure the Member that at some point in time in the very near future, an engineer, or whoever is needed, will be going in there to take a look at the hill at the end of the airstrip to see if we can do anything, perhaps taking a little bit off the top of it.

#### A Totally Federal Responsibility

With regard to airports in general, I think it has to be clear and it has to be understood that the GNWT is not responsible for arctic airports. The responsibility lies with the Ministry of Transport of the federal government. The Minister of Transport, Mr. Crosbie, is in fact the Minister for airports in the North. The legislative authority is the federal legislative authority. Our only role when it comes to airports is merely that of a contractor. We are contracted by the federal government to maintain their runways. The federal government decides on priorities. The federal government decides on funding. The federal government decides on safety standards. It is a totally federal responsibility. So I guess if Mr. Arlooktoo feels that some communities have been shunted aside, I also have that feeling but there is not much we can do about it because it is a federal responsibility. We can advise the federal government -- which we do continually. We can tell the federal government what we think the priorities should be but the bottom line is that it is a federal responsibility and they are responsible for the final decisions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Arlooktoo.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am satisfied with his answer. I have understood what he said but in regard to Lake Harbour we are asking for support by the territorial government to talk to the federal government. It would help us a lot. If you are not going to be our go-between then it will keep postponing the maintenance of the Lake Harbour airport. We would like support from Municipal and Community Affairs through their maintenance budget.

#### Lake Harbour Treated Unfairly

Lake Harbour is not just a small community. It is one of the original communities in the Baffin Region. It was the first place where there was a nursing station established; the first place where there was a school established before any of these services were available in the communities in the Baffin Region. They were the first people to have radio service, telephone service. It is the original community. It seems that the government has not recognized the fact that this oldest community should be serviced much better than it has been by this present government. There are two different communities in my constituency. They have different populations. One has more money; Cape Dorset has more ways of getting money. The Lake Harbour community has no other means of income. Anything that has to do with Lake Harbour has always been postponed. Through this government the Housing Corporation has always postponed their houses. Several services have been postponed for Lake Harbour, whereas all other communities have had priority. For that reason, I do not want Lake Harbour to be regarded as a second-class community. I know that Lake Harbour has been treated unfairly and the people there are so accommodating, they do not fight for their own rights against the government as much as other communities do. I think maybe that is the reason why they treat the community of Lake Harbour so poorly.



I am pleased that you are trying to help us in our quest but until this problem is solved we are not going to stop. We are going to keep on pressuring the government. The airport is used very often and the planes are so small that they have to keep going back and forth with supplies. There is no safe landing and the airstrip is not safe so it is possible that something may happen in the future. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you. I am completely sympathetic to Mr. Arlooktoo and just in case he thinks we have not been acting as a go-between, we have written letters to the federal government over the last seven years almost monthly on Lake Harbour and Pangnirtung and Rae and a whole bunch of other airports. We continually badger and lobby the Ministry of Transport to upgrade airports, to put money into them. The problem that we have is that we run into a massive bureaucracy called Transport Canada and I do not know of any other federal department that is so difficult to deal with. Their bottom line always is, "We have met the requirements under our Arctic B and C policy for Lake Harbour and therefore we can do nothing more for them." That has always been their answer. That is why I think, as a government, we are frustrated and that is why we are moving to hopefully devolve the airports program from the federal government to the territorial government because it is just not worth arguing with them any more. We have been arguing with them for years and we are not getting anywhere. To me, the only solution is to take it over ourselves and see what we can do. But the Member should be assured that most certainly over the last few years we have been lobbying on behalf of Lake Harbour and many other communities.

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

Airports Program Should Have Government Priority

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I agree with the Minister to a certain extent but it appears to me that on this particular issue of airports, I feel that his department may have this as a high priority but it does not appear that government has it as one of their top priorities, in terms of the government itself. Mr. Chairman, I am not too sure where the government is on this particular position but I would surely hope they can put this forward almost in the same manner as we did the Meech Lake Accord issue, where we lobby, to our fullest extent, all the MPs, all the other lobby groups. It appears that it is not happening in that manner. I realize what the Minister is saying but I do not think the emphasis is put forward enough.

I cannot see the federal government not dealing with this particular problem. There have been statistics for the last few years now of accidents that have occurred. What else are they waiting for? Do they want more accidents to occur before they do something about it? We are trying to tell them that we have a serious problem here with airports. There should be more statistics provided to them, more emphasis put on the problem that we have here in the Arctic. This whole business of only one particular Minister dealing with this major issue is not quite adequate. It is a serious problem. In a lot of communities, the runways that they have have never been fully developed. In a lot of cases there is near disaster. I can name a few in my area where accidents did occur. For example, Fort Franklin. I feel that the government as a whole should be pushing with the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs in the issue of arctic airports. Mahsi cho. I will be dealing with this further once we get into the specifics of the budget.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you. Just to advise that to the best of my recollection, this issue has been raised in every meeting that we have had, at least in my tenure as Minister, with federal Ministers and in fact it is our intention to raise it once again when we meet the next time with federal Ministers. I even flew to Iqaluit once all night just to meet with Mr. Crosbie to impress upon him the urgency of some requirements.

But to show you how frustrating it is, I flew to Iqaluit and we had, through various combined efforts, convinced Mr. Crosbie to fly over Pangnirtung and take a look at their airstrip which the federal government had cancelled. Pangnirtung is in desperate need of an 800 foot extension to allow them proper HS-748 loads. The federal government cancelled this unilaterally without any discussion, without any advice. We convinced the Minister of Transport to fly over this community. He took a look at it. He agreed with us that it was a priority. He agreed with us that it was a



pretty sad situation and instructed his officials to go ahead and reinstate the project but by the time the bureaucrats finished with it, the extension is now 300 feet instead of 800 feet. There is only a difference of a couple of hundred thousand dollars for the extra 500 feet but it makes a hell of a lot of difference to the payload that the Hawkers can certainly take into Pangnirtung.

So now even after having the Minister of Transport actually go there and look at it, we are now once again waging a battle with the bureaucracy in Transport Canada to have them move the airstrip extension back to 800 feet. I can sympathize with the Member but I can tell you that for me, it is a fairly frustrating exercise as well because I do not know how much more we can do. When we can convince the Minister of Transport to actually look at one of these airports and we get him to agree with us and then of course we turn around and his bureaucrats sabotage what we had planned, I do not know how much more we can do. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): General comments. Department of Municipal and Community Affairs. Mr. Gargan.

#### Property Taxes And Lot Rentals

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to ask the Minister for some clarification on the whole issue of property tax. I have here two letters, one from the NWT Finance department with regard to 1987 property tax of \$105.65 and then also in the same year, a letter from the Department of Indian Affairs, with regard to rental of \$100. I just wanted to get some clarification on those two particulars. These are my own, what I have been receiving. One is from the Department of Municipal Affairs and the other one is from Indian Affairs. I would like to know if it is proper the way it is done. I am not sure whether we should be paying two different governments for one lot. It has either to be the federal or else the territorial government.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have not seen the correspondence but I would think that the \$100 from Indian Affairs is for the lease of the lot and the \$105 from our government is for the tax on the improvements that sit on that lot. That is what I think you have but when I see the correspondence, I will know better.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman. For the lot that I am sitting on, I have done all the improvements on it including digging my own cesspit and for pump-out and stuff like that. I do not know why the one from the Department of Municipal Affairs is with regard to property tax. The other one is with regard to rental from the Department of Indian Affairs. There is a confusion here. I understand that Nick Sibbeston at one time said we should not be paying those things until land claims are settled. But a lot of people, even myself, are confused that we have to be paying two governments. People have been approaching me about bills like that and I really do not know how to deal with that except to say what the letter explains. Maybe you could be billed for one piece of property by two governments. That is the confusion I have.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

#### Lease And Taxes On Federal Crown Land

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In certain communities, the land is still what is called federal Crown land. In other words the federal government has title to the land. If a block land transfer has not taken place, then it would be federal Crown land. If a block land transfer has taken place, then it would be Commissioner's land and there would still be two bills, one for the lease of the land and one for the taxes on the property but they would both come from one government, the GNWT. But I assume that Fort Providence has not undergone a block land transfer so the land there is still federal Crown land. So as I said before, the \$100 is for a lease on your lot from the federal government because it is their land. The property taxes that we assess are on the improvements and essentially property taxes are assessed among other things for the services provided -- water, sewer, roads, street lights, recreation facilities. It is a small tax to at least repay some of the costs for providing many of the municipal-type services that this government provides. But until there is a block land transfer in Providence, if that is in fact the case, then I suggest that the Member is still going to get two bills and I further suggest that he pay them.



CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is also a difficulty in that I believe Fort Smith is in the same situation where the federal government owes the town something like \$250,000. There is also Lot 500 here in Yellowknife where it is in dispute. There are also the west channel residents in Hay River who are in the same situation where the municipality does not provide them services but they are being given that service out of the goodness of their heart sort of thing. I am wondering if this government has come up with anything to resolve this whole issue of land claims, land lease, land tax, property tax because it is confusing. I am wondering if this government is looking into ways of resolving it because I certainly would like to see it resolved.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you. The Member is confusing two issues here. There are three major ways in which a municipality or the government raises taxes. A municipality in a tax-based community, and the government in other communities, levy a property tax against home-owners. The government itself, the GNWT, pays taxes to the municipality through what is called a grant in lieu of taxes. The federal government also pays its taxes to the municipality through what is called a grant in lieu.

#### Federal Grants In Lieu Of Taxes No Longer Paid

The situation that the Member is describing, Mr. Chairman, with regard to the money that is owed to Fort Smith and other municipalities, is that the federal government, for some reason that is still not really known to too many people, has decided that they are no longer going to pay their grant in lieu of taxes on land reserved for Indians. We are talking to them, we are negotiating with them. This is not exactly Indian Affairs who did this. We are trying to trace through the maze of paperwork. It seems to be Public Works Canada who has decided that their policy does not permit them to pay those grants in lieu of taxes. I can tell you that there is major pressure on the federal government to resolve this issue. I know that Mr. Nickerson raised the issue in the House of Commons. The municipalities have written directly to the Prime Minister and the various Ministers involved. Our government has written to the Ministers involved. I know that the municipalities are very close to taking a very strong stand against the federal government on this. So we are attempting to do everything to resolve this situation. But the grants in lieu that the Member is referring to would be property tax for an individual, but for a government they are called grants in lieu.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Mahsi cho. On that same subject, Mr. Minister, I realize that for a number of individuals that are assessed by the territorial government, if I am correct, your department collects, on behalf of the non-tax-based municipalities. Once they do their assessment, bills are fired out to the householders who live on specific lands and some of them are lands reserved for Indians. Those individuals that do receive the assessment do not realize that they do not have to pay for it. I have heard some pay it and some do not. Now, I am just making suggestions. Would it not be better if your department did not bill the individuals that are on land reserved for Indians and you billed the feds directly on their behalf instead of getting them involved? I know for a fact that your land section is quite well off. They have got very good maps and I am sure that particular method could be implemented so that the poor individuals living on the land reserved for Indians do not have to get involved in tax collection and get confused and so forth.

#### Property Tax Rebate For Disabled

On the same issue, if I can continue, Mr. Chairman, I believe there is legislation in place in regard to senior citizens where they have a property tax rebate, if I am correct. Is your department considering bringing forward new legislation, something similar to the senior citizens, for the disabled? Mahsi cho.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you. On the first point, we are supposed to be billing the federal government directly. If individuals have received bills then obviously some errors have been made and if the Member is aware of such individuals I would appreciate it if he would let me know who they are. Secondly, no, we have not contemplated bringing forward legislation on behalf of disabled people at this point in time.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that I made a motion to report progress about an hour ago but I would like to go on. Fortunately, I have to leave tomorrow morning for Rankin Inlet and I will be back on Monday. But I just wanted to make some comments and to begin, a question to the Minister of Municipal and Cultural Affairs. Excuse me, you have a new department.

AN HON. MEMBER: Wrong party. Wrong time. Wrong House.

MR. ERNERK: Department of Municipal and Community Affairs. First of all, I am not going to take a long time to speak about native employment because I must commend the Minister for taking the initiative of putting native people into positions of responsibility. I am particularly pleased about the recent appointment of Tom Sammurtok as the regional superintendent of MACA. I think every other department should follow suit in future.

The first question to the Minister is that I have heard from the region that your department has some plans for the community of Repulse Bay to construct a new airstrip so many miles away from the community. This is good if that is the plan, because the people of Repulse Bay have been telling me that there is no more room, basically, to expand the community in terms of housing development or any other kind of development, with the airport being so close to the community. What is it, less than a quarter of a mile from the settlement itself? I am wondering if the Minister would answer if he knows of such plans.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

#### No Plans For New Airstrip For Repulse Bay

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I really hate to disappoint the Member but there are no plans whatsoever to do that in Repulse Bay. I do not know where the community got the rumour but if I ever did an airstrip in Repulse Bay before Lake Harbour then my life would not be worth living in this House. No, we have no plans. Repulse is just another example of many airports in the North that were badly planned years ago and now we are having to live with the consequences of that but there are no plans. No, I am sorry.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the Minister for his answer. The other issue that I want to talk about briefly is this issue of all-terrain vehicles in terms of my general remarks in this House. The decision was made by the manufacturers in Canada that they will no longer be manufacturing all-terrain vehicles in Canada and as I understand it, this is a voluntary move by the manufacturers in Canada. In many ways, I think this is a good idea. When we are talking about the issue of safety at the community level let us face it, this is where all the all-terrain vehicles are. In our region, Rankin Inlet is known for being the all-terrain vehicle headquarters in the NWT. One of the things that really concerns me, in talking about safety, is the many ATVs that are being sold in some of the communities throughout the NWT. I think it is fine that the manufacture of all-terrain vehicles, especially three-wheeled Hondas, has been halted, but at the same time we see many ATVs being driven by young people, children eight, nine, 10 years old. In Repulse Bay for instance, there is a local by-law that says that as long as you are under 14 years of age and up to 14 years you cannot drive any type of ATV, any 110, 225 or four-wheel.

It would be good for me to get some idea from the Minister of what the local hamlet councils in different areas can do to establish their own by-laws, as in Repulse Bay, and to provide driver awareness programs throughout the NWT where there are a lot of ATVs operated at the community level. The other concern I have is the many snowmobiles throughout the Eastern Arctic. It is the same situation as with the ATVs, where all the young people in the communities have them. So can the Minister indicate to this House as to what is in place and what action might be taken in the near future with regard to the use of ATVs and big four-wheels.



CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you. Although this really is an issue for the Minister of Government Services, I am very familiar with it, so I will attempt to answer.

Territorial Legislation Being Prepared

We are, as a government, very concerned about the growing number of accidents and deaths resulting because of, particularly, the three-wheelers. As a government, we are attempting to rush to put together territorial legislation which will govern the use of three-wheelers. Several years ago, when they only made 70 or 90 cc three-wheelers, we delegated the authority to the communities to pass laws about those particular machines. The problem is that some communities have not bothered to pass local laws. Some communities have. Some communities enforce them very well. Some communities do not enforce them at all. So there really is a patchwork quilt of laws across the Territories.

With regard to the Keewatin Region, I happen to know it is the one region where in fact every community has a by-law because, I think I would agree with the Member, we are the three wheel capital of the NWT. But even in the Keewatin, there are some communities which do not enforce their by-laws. The by-laws vary. In some communities you can be nine and drive, in some other communities you can be 14, and in other communities you can be 16. In some communities you wear a helmet and in some communities you do not have to wear a helmet.

So we are going to bring in territorial legislation so that there will be across the board legislation. I have written to the regional councils. I have written to the municipalities a couple of times urging them to pass these laws and enforce them. We have met with mixed success, quite frankly. In some communities it is a very hot political issue locally and you find local politicians unwilling or unable to make the necessary changes to the laws. I think as the senior government, we must then take that responsibility and do that job on their behalf.

So we will be moving very quickly to address the situation as it pertains to three-wheelers right now. I think once we do that, that will give us time to take a look at other all-terrain vehicles as well. The All-Terrain Vehicles Act was drafted when technology was not as good as it is today and many snowmobiles and 250 cc Hondas did not exist then, so the legislation has sort of fallen out of date a little bit. I do not know if we will get the legislation in this session but certainly by the fall we hope to have legislation through the Legislature put in place. Thank you.

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

MR. SPEAKER: 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 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 chairman of the committee of the whole be concurred with.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Angottitauruq. Secunder to the motion? Mr. Zoe, thank you. To the motion. All those in favour? Thank you. Those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to very quickly say that on the news at 12:30, once again I heard comments from the chairman of the Ontario Legislature's committee studying the Meech Lake Accord and it is obvious that our two representatives, Mr. Kakfwi and Mr. Richard made a very good impression on those people. Once again I would like to thank them on behalf of this Legislature for doing, obviously, a very good job.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Wray. Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

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

ITEM 19: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Friday, February 26th, at 10:00 a.m.

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); Ministers' Statement 13-88(1); Tabled Document 71-88(1)
18. Report of Committee of the Whole
19. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. This House stands adjourned until Friday, February 26th, at 10:00 a.m.

---ADJOURNMENT



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