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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 1988

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Red Pedersen): Orders of the day for Tuesday, March 8th. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Ministers' Statement 39-88(1): International Women's Day

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce on behalf of this government, recognition and support for International Women's Day which will bring women...

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

---Applause

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you. Which will bring women together from across Canada and many other countries in celebration of women's rights and of the progress and goals which women have made toward the advancement of equality.

These celebrations were initiated in New York almost 90 years ago in commemoration of protests and strikes for better working conditions and then the day was declared in Europe in recognition of the right to vote. In the mid-60s, Canada became more involved actively, in recognizing March 8th as a day for women to celebrate for whatever reasons and in whatever events individuals or groups of women chose.

For the past five days, women in the North have been participating in a wide variety of celebrations and today there are many functions in which women will be promoting their rights. Last Friday and Saturday, Yellowknife women held receptions and workshops at Northern United Place and they were very successful. On Sunday, I was honoured to be able to attend a gathering of women in my home community of Fort Smith. Last night, the Baffin women sponsored an evening of discussion with guest speaker, Barbara Frum, and they will have more activities on Thursday. Today, the Hay River women's centre and the Inuvik women's group are hosting celebrations in their communities. These are a few highlights of what women have organized for each other.

All northerners should be proud, Mr. Speaker, of these women and of all women because they are providing a leadership role in our society, not only in this House and as mayors of this city and Hay River, but also in native organizations, in the economy, in education, in social development, and perhaps most important, in educating children and strengthening families.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I hope Members of this House will join me in giving recognition to women in other parts of the world who are not celebrating today, but who have to protest and demonstrate against discrimination and violence, and I express my sincere wish that in the not too distant future they will also be able to be joyous on this day.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to announce as Minister responsible for the Status of Women, in response to the federal government's request to nominate a northern woman for the 1988 Person Year Award, that we have recommended Mrs. Agnes Semmler of Inuvik to receive this honour.

---Applause

The recipient must be over 55 years of age and respected for the role she played in her community. Mrs. Semmler is a mother, a grandmother and a wife to Slim Semmler. She was the first female to run in an election for territorial Council, the first female justice of the peace, one of the founders of the Committee for Original Peoples' Entitlement and the first female Deputy Commissioner. She also received the Woman of the Century Award in 1967. Mrs. Semmler is well-known and well-liked, and even if another Canadian receives the 1988 Person Year Award, it is significant that Mrs. Semmler is recognized by this government as the person whom the North has chosen to receive this honour.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I want to extend congratulations to all northern women on this International Women's Day. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. At this time the Chair would like to recognize in the gallery, Her Worship Mary King, mayor of Hay River.

---Applause

Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Patterson.

Ministers' Statement 40-88(1): Sanikiluaq Students Re-Creat Their History

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased and proud to inform Members of this Assembly about a unique project in Sanikiluaq. The Tuniq project has been under way for about 18 months, and is attempting to allow the community to see what life was like on the Belcher Islands, through reconstruction of homes, tools and hunting and survival practices. The main purpose of the project is to introduce cultural concepts to the students in Inuktitut as part of the school's cultural and language program.

During the first part of the project, students in grades seven, eight and nine built a Thule sod house, using dimensions taken from an old Thule house near the community. The sod house has been furnished with qudliks -- seal oil lamps -- sleeping platforms, and cooking utensils from the prehistoric Eskimo period. The students also gathered flat rocks near the sod house site and constructed an inukshuk.

The entire community has put time and effort into this worth-while educational project. The hamlet has contributed manpower and machinery, moving rocks to the archaeological village being created. Elders in Sanikiluaq have also taken part in the Tuniq project, teaching the students how to build avataqs -- sealskin floats -- prehistoric Eskimo fox traps, and other historical items.

The second part of this unique project has begun to create displays of historic artifacts inside the school for the community to view. Sanikiluaq principal John Jamieson studied at the Archaeological Survey of Canada last summer and learned how to cast replicas. He is now using those special skills in the classrooms at Sanikiluaq, teaching students how to cast replicas for display.

Currently, grade nine boys are building nuiyaks -- throwing boards -- and primitive spears to test their skills, while grade nine girls are working on a large ittaq -- sealskin tent. Already the group has 40 skins ready to sew and they plan to set the tent up outside during the summer.

The Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre is helping the school build display cases for the artifacts and has provided advice and suggestions from the beginning of this project.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the parents, teachers and students of Sanikiluaq for undertaking such a unique, important task. The Tuniq project will go far to establish roots and a sense of belonging for the students, pose questions and curiosity about their past, and nurture pride in their rich cultural history. Thank you.

---Applause

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

MR. NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I wanted to rise on a point of privilege, but I need the unanimous consent of the Members because I did not make available a copy to you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any nays? Mr. Nerysoo, proceed.

Point Of Privilege

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to correct an error on the CBC news lead-in report at 7:30 this morning with regard to the issue of suggesting that Members, including myself, supported mandatory testing for AIDS. Mr. Speaker, no one in this House spoke about the issue of mandatory testing. What was being suggested by Members, including myself, was that during the developing of a policy, an improved testing program should be part of that particular policy. Further, that such a testing program should be made available to individuals or communities when it was required. The report suggested that we supported that the results of these tests should be made available to the leaders of the communities. Mr. Speaker, no Member stated or supported such confidential information being made public or available to leaders of communities. The only individual who spoke about that particular concern was, in fact, the Government Leader who suggested that I supported that type of initiative. But I did not, and do not support confidential information being made public.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo, for that clarification. Members' statements. Mr. Butters.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Trip To Fort Resolution

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, it was my good fortune yesterday evening to travel to Fort Resolution, the "Nashville of the North", with Commissioner John Parker and Helen Parker and a number of my Assembly colleagues, their family members and Assembly staff, to share with Don Morin, the Member for Tu Nede, and Chief Robert Sayine and his Deninoo community council, the opening performance beginning the community's drug and alcohol program week of activities.

Entertainment was provided by the Coal Miner's Daughter's Daughter, Cissie Lynn and her Nashville band and the young and vital Deninoo Wheelers. I suggest to the Metis Reelers that they have a young group hard on their heels. Also the irrepressible master of ceremonies, Tony Whitford, was subbing for George Tuccaro. The program was extremely well received by a packed recreation hall.

Much organization has gone into this endeavour and may the community's efforts be successful and adopted as a model for other communities. Special thanks and credit must go to the following individuals and organizers for a memorable night of friendship and fun. These are: Dave McNabb, Dottie Mandeville, Paul Boucher of the drug and alcohol council, Andrea Leitao and Cecil Lafferty of the Deninoo recreation council. Also I want to give special thanks, too, for the autographed copy of this beautiful book entitled, "That's The Way We Lived", about Fort Resolution and the elders of Fort Resolution. All of those of us fortunate enough to travel to Resolution received a copy of this book. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. Members' statements. Mr. Morin.

Member's Statement On Support Of MLAs At Fort Resolution Event

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow MLAs for coming down and supporting this grand event in Fort Resolution, as well as the Commissioner and his wife. This whole event started approximately six months ago with the drug and alcohol committee organizing to bring in a first-class country and western performer from the South. The whole goal behind this event was for the community to join together and work together to try to accomplish something without the use of drugs and alcohol. Also they wanted to encourage our young people to get into the entertainment field, because Fort Resolution, in the past, has produced many good country and western entertainers in the North. Just to name one, the Native Cousins band which has been very well received throughout the North. We wanted to encourage our young people to continue this tradition. We also are trying to put Resolution on the map as the "Nashville of the North, the Capital of Country and Western Music". Thank you very much.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Morin. Members' statements. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Mr. Ballantyne.

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to oral Question 0101-88(1), asked by Mr. Gargan. It has to do with the disposition of criminal charges. Mr. Gargan requested information on the percentage of convictions as a result of trial, compared with the percentage of convictions as a result of guilty pleas.

Statistics are maintained by the Supreme Court and territorial court registries as to the disposition of criminal charges. However, the statistics kept are not broken down into the number of guilty pleas and the number of charges disposed of at trial. The statistics maintained are in the same form as are kept throughout Canada, and as were kept when justice in the NWT was completely under the jurisdiction of the federal government.

A study was done in 1983 and they found that 90.4 per cent of persons appearing in court in Yellowknife and 92.3 per cent of those appearing in court on the circuits, that is, in communities outside Yellowknife, entered guilty pleas. Some 9.6 per cent and 7.7 per cent respectively entered not guilty pleas. This is comparable to the figures elsewhere in Canada. The study did not show the number of those accused who entered not guilty pleas and were subsequently convicted following trial. However, the great preponderance of guilty pleas, as compared to not guilty pleas, would necessarily mean that there were many more convictions as a result of guilty pleas, than as a result of not guilty pleas. There is no reason to believe that the trends have changed significantly since this study. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Return To Question 0112-88(1): Public Housing Rent Arrears, Deceased Tenants; And Question 0114-88(1): Authority To Deal With Liability Against Estate

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to a question asked by Mr. Arlooktoo, and it has to do with the role of the office of the public trustee. I think Mr. Richard had a supplementary question on this particular topic.

Mr. Arlooktoo questioned the matter of outstanding accounts with housing associations and the public trustee's office. The public trustee does not administer all estates in the NWT, but only administers the estates of persons where no one else is appointed or accepts that responsibility. The public trustee may be directed by the family of the deceased to take over the administration of the estate. The public trustee then collects whatever moneys the deceased person had and pays out his debts if there is enough money available in the estate. After all the debts are paid, the moneys left over will be distributed among the beneficiaries to the estate. The public trustee has no funds to pay the debts of a deceased, other than what is in the deceased's estate.

If an estate is being administered by the public trustee, the office normally writes the local housing association to determine if there is a debt or credit on the account of the deceased. Often the local housing association sends the outstanding account to the public trustee's office prior to being notified by the office.

Right now the public trustee is only administering two estates in Cape Dorset. One estate did not have any debt to the housing association. The other estate which was being administered in Cape Dorset, has just been completed. The housing association has been sent a cheque for \$1277.26, which is the prorated amount on an outstanding account of \$2738, since there were insufficient funds in the estate to fully pay off the debts. The public trustee has contacted Ping Ottokie, the housing manager of the Cape Dorset housing association. The housing association will be providing the public trustee with a list of the deceased persons in the community with debts to the Cape Dorset housing association. Once that information is received, the public trustee will take whatever steps are available to him in order to be of assistance. Thank you.

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

Return To Question 0195-88(1): Sale Of Tobacco Products To Minors

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I have a return to oral Question 0195-88(1) which was asked by Mr. McLaughlin, to do with the sale of tobacco to minors. Mr. McLaughlin asked if any action was being taken or if the RCMP were laying charges under the federal legislation which makes it illegal to sell tobacco products to minors.

The Tobacco Restraint Act is federal legislation which was first enacted in Canada in 1908. It does contain provisions which make it an offence to supply tobacco to persons under the age of 16, or for a person under the age of 16 to smoke or chew tobacco in a public place.

This act has remained on the books, unchanged, for many years. Its provisions are antiquated and have made enforcement unrealistic in most cases. For example, the punishments it permits are reprimands or fines ranging from one dollar to \$25. It is not clear how the act would fit with the provisions of the Young Offenders Act. It can also be questioned whether the quasi-criminal approach is the best way of dealing with what clearly is a serious problem in the Northwest Territories, smoking by children. The RCMP in the Northwest Territories have not taken active steps to enforce it in recent years, nor have I asked them to do so. This is consistent with the practice elsewhere in Canada. I understand that the federal government is giving consideration to whether the Tobacco Restraint Act should be updated. I have written to the federal Minister of Justice to inquire about his intentions in this regard. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 0236-88(1): Response To Recommendations Of Task Force On Environment And Economy

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Government Leader or the Minister of Renewable Resources. Mr. Speaker, the national task force on environment and economy submitted its report in September of last year and one of the key recommendations was that each province and territory and the federal government develop an action plan showing how it will implement the recommendations of that task force. Last month a northern organization called Ecology North wrote to the Government Leader, with a copy to the Minister of Renewable Resources, and to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism offering their assistance in developing this action plan and wanting to be involved in the consultative process. Can either Minister indicate to me whether that letter has been responded to and what is the government doing with respect to developing such an action plan? Thank you.

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

Return To Question 0236-88(1): Response To Recommendations Of Task Force On Environment And Economy

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First, I would like to thank the Member for letting me know of his intentions to ask a question on this topic.

First of all, my department is playing an important role in implementing the recommendations of the task force on environment and economy. Along with the Yukon and every province in Canada we have a seat on the secretariat supporting this task force. Its present role is to promote the implementation of the report across Canada, including the North.

Among the major recommendations of this report is that provincial and territorial governments should assume responsibility for the co-ordination and development of conservation strategies in their jurisdictions. My department has already taken the lead in developing such a strategy for the Northwest Territories, which will provide specific direction for our government to pursue environmentally sound economic development. As recommended by the task force, we plan to carry out a process of broad public consultation as the strategy is being developed. To date we have held two workshops on this subject and have established constructive links with several other departments.

Copies of the task force report were recently sent to the special committee on the northern economy, chaired by the honourable Brian Lewis, co-chaired by the honourable Peter Ernerk. Feedback on its recommendations has been requested. Based on their comments and further analysis by my department, I intend to draft an action plan to implement the report's recommendations and submit it to cabinet for their consideration.

I believe that this document might help us to bring in a new era where environmental and economic goals can be met in a more harmonious manner, with a more cohesive working relationship between the two concerns, environment and economic development. I therefore urge all Members to read the task force report which I have made available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Supplementary To Question 0236-88(1): Response To Recommendations Of Task Force On Environment And Economy

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the Minister confirm that in developing the action plan he will consult with groups such as Ecology North?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 0236-88(1): Response To Recommendations Of Task Force On Environment And Economy

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 0237-88(1): Tuberculosis Treatment Centre, Yellowknife

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Health. Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, I questioned the Minister in regard to TB treatment within the new Stanton hospital. Now, could the Minister provide to this House specific details in regard to this treatment centre in Stanton hospital? I am referring to such things as staffing and the number of beds in the treatment centre. Thank you.

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

Return To Question 0237-88(1): Tuberculosis Treatment Centre, Yellowknife

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, the one thing that I can assure the Member is that there will be a tuberculosis treatment centre in the new Stanton hospital. To what detail and degree that treatment centre will be established is yet to be determined and those details will be worked out according to need and in consultation with some of the boards that will be using that facility. I will be pleased to provide that detail once we have gone through that process but I do not believe that we will be able to provide those details at this session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. Part of the question is being taken as notice. Oral questions. Mr. Pudluk.

Question 0238-88(1): Funding For Baffin Hunters And Trappers Associations

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask a question of the Minister of Renewable Resources. On October 20th, 1987 when the BRC had a conference, they heard that hunters and trappers funding will be reduced. How is it going to be in 1988-89? Will the dollars taken from each HTA and given to BRC be returned back to them? Thank you.

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

Return To Question 0238-88(1): Funding For Baffin Hunters And Trappers Associations

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The funding allocated last year to the Baffin Region for hunters and trappers associations as well as to the BRC for all their programs was fully utilized. This funding is ongoing. Funding given to BRC from each local HTA was returned to each local HTA. Within our department there are some funds that have not been used yet. We will know fairly quickly and then we will figure out how they are going to be used in the communities in 1988-89 after the hunters and trappers associations have made their estimates. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 0239-88(1): Discussions With Federal Ministers In Iqaluit

MR. ZOE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. I understand that the Minister and his colleagues will be meeting with a number of federal Ministers in Iqaluit. I would like to ask the Minister if he would be pursuing the issue of airports with the federal Ministers?

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

Return To Question 0239-88(1): Discussions With Federal Ministers In Iqaluit

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the subject of transportation is on the agenda and while Mr. Crosbie is not going to be there, Mr. McKnight certainly will be and he was one of the cosignatories to the airport devolution document which, for Member's information, I am now led to believe has been signed by Mr. McKnight and by Mr. Crosbie and is in Treasury Board. So, yes, I will be pursuing it with Mr. McKnight to see what the status is and to see when we can expect a decision from Treasury Board.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Zoe.

Supplementary To Question 0239-88(1): Discussions With Federal Ministers In Iqaluit

MR. ZOE: Mr. Speaker, while the Minister is meeting with Mr. McKnight, will he also be pursuing the question of capital in regard to band offices, which I raised in the House when his department was up? He mentioned that he had a number of drawers full of documents that go back eight years, to resolve this particular problem in regard to capital. Will he also be pursuing that particular item? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 0239-88(1): Discussions With Federal Ministers In Iqaluit

HON. GORDON WRAY: Yes, Mr. Speaker. It will be discussed. Whether or not a resolution will be arrived at, it certainly will be discussed as one of the outstanding problems that still exists between our government and the federal government. Thank you.

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

Question 0240-88(1): Devolution And Delegation To Community Governments

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question to the Government Leader and it concerns the GNWT transfer policy tabled yesterday by the Government Leader. On a quick look at this policy, the policy deals with two types of transfers of programs, from the territorial government

to the community level of government. The two types of transfers are called devolution and delegation. The stress in the document appears to be on the second type, which is delegation. I wonder if the Government Leader could indicate to the Assembly what are some examples of each of these kinds of transfers that the Executive envisages? What are a couple of examples of devolution of programs to the community governments? I suppose there are all kinds of examples of the other one, the delegation of programs to community levels of government.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Return To Question 0240-88(1): Devolution And Delegation To Community Governments

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, devolution is considered to be the passing of virtually entire authority to another body from this government, the passing of political and legislative authority. A very good example of devolution would be the creation of a hamlet, where the hamlet has responsibility for lawmaking on local matters completely handed over to it by the government. Delegation, by contrast, Mr. Speaker, is the passing of responsibility and resources, less than total political and legislative authority. Examples that come to mind are the Arctic College, the divisional school boards, the health services transfer. These would fit into those categories. I hope that answers the Member's question.

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

Supplementary To Question 0240-88(1): Devolution And Delegation To Community Governments

MR. RICHARD: I appreciate with those examples, then, that my first assessment was correct in that, by and large, the transfer programs are going to be done by way of delegation as opposed to devolution. My supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, has to do with programs that are already devolved but more importantly, already delegated in the terms used in this policy. What about those programs that have already for years been devolved or delegated? How are they to be treated under the new policy? Is there to be a retroactive effect of any kind? This document, Mr. Speaker, is dated just a few short weeks ago, which I presume was the date of approval. So my supplementary question is: What is the effect of this policy on devolution or delegation that has taken place in previous years?

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

Further Return To Question 0240-88(1): Devolution And Delegation To Community Governments

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the policy does not apply retroactively to existing boards and agencies which have been given delegated responsibilities by this government. Thank you.

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

Question 0241-88(1): Application Of Transfer Policy To Hospital Boards

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to the Government Leader with regard to the devolution policy. Will that policy apply to renegotiation of agreements between the various hospital boards and the GNWT?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Return To Question 0241-88(1): Application Of Transfer Policy To Hospital Boards

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, the cabinet has decided, as I have indicated to the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, that the transfer policy will not be retroactively applied to any existing boards. However, Mr. Speaker, the cabinet has also decided that we will be examining, in full consultation with existing bodies to whom the transfer policy might be considered for application, on a case by case basis, on whether or not there are savings and efficiencies to be potentially realized from applying the transfer policy to those existing bodies. I would like to emphasize that the policy will not be retroactively applied. However, in future it will be carefully considered on a case by case basis, in consultation with those bodies, in the interests of improved economies of scale, efficiencies and reduced costs. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Mr. Nerysoo, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question 0241-88(1): Application Of Transfer Policy To Hospital Boards

MR. NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, could the Government Leader confirm then, that this policy will apply to the new negotiations on health board development in the Western Arctic and in the Mackenzie Valley?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Further Return To Question 0241-88(1): Application Of Transfer Policy To Hospital Boards

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this policy has been developed over a number of months with participation of a number of concerned departments of this government, including the Department of Health. Mr. Speaker, the policy is intended to apply to boards that will be created in the future as a result of the health transfer. Thank you.

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

Question 0242-88(1): No Retroactive Application Of Transfer Policy

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Government Leader's last response, Mr. Speaker, causes me to seek clarification from him on the retroactive effect. If, in the coming months after the territorial government has received the responsibility that currently resides with the Government of Canada for delivery of health services, if there is to be a new regime of regional health boards and an existing board, like the Stanton board or like the Fort Smith board, goes through a change of name under the new regime, is it the Government Leader's position that the new transfer policy will apply to the newly-named but formerly existing board? Is the Government Leader going to play semantics with me a year from now when I ask and quote today's Hansard, when he said it would not have retroactive effect? Surely I can accept the Government Leader's word that we are not going to play games with "Oh, I said no retroactive effect but it has a new name now, so it is a prospective application rather than retroactive."

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Return To Question 0242-88(1): No Retroactive Application Of Transfer Policy

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, the honourable Member for Yellowknife South gives me much more credit for cleverness than I deserve. Mr. Speaker, I would like to make it clear there would be no such trick planned or intended. I stated earlier, in response to Mr. Nerysoo's question, that it is expected the new transfer policy will be applied to new boards which will be created. I stated earlier that it is not intended to retroactively apply the policy to existing boards, by any other name. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 0243-88(1): Confirmation Of Previous Transfer Negotiations

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With regard to the new transfer policy, a question to the Government Leader. Is the government prepared to confirm the various negotiations that took place and support those negotiations, which may not in fact be reflected in this particular policy?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, with respect to the honourable Member, I am not precisely sure what he means by confirming negotiations. I would like some clarification on that question. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo, could you clarify your question, please?

MR. NERYSOO: I will take that as notice and provide that clarification.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Butters.

Question 0244-88(1): Economic Development Conference In Iqaluit

MR. BUTTERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a series of questions to the chairman of the Executive Council related to his statement yesterday on the Iqaluit federal-territorial economic development conference which is being convened, in the Government Leader's words yesterday, "...in the hope of laying the groundwork for understanding and further co-operation". My questions are, will the joint federal-territorial ministerial meeting be concentrating on Eastern Arctic economic development initiatives only? Will the Ministers, during the meeting, seek out an opportunity to visit smaller Baffin regional communities, such as Lake Harbour and Pangnirtung? Has the Government Leader received any prior assurance from the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Butters, could you, in accordance with the rules, ask one question at a time, please?

MR. BUTTERS: He has two to work on.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Return To Question 0244-88(1): Economic Development Conference In Iqaluit

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first question is no. The answer to the second question is no, there will not be enough time. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question 0244-88(1): Economic Development Conference In Iqaluit

MR. BUTTERS: I knew they required very simple answers. Has the Government Leader received any prior assurance from the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development that he would be willing to lend his good offices to a continuing Arctic initiatives imperative, which will actively include a significant number of his federal cabinet colleagues who have portfolio responsibilities North of 60?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Further Return To Question 0244-88(1): Economic Development Conference In Iqaluit

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, that is precisely the kind of result we hope to obtain from this meeting, so we will be discussing follow-up and an ongoing co-operative response from key federal Ministers who are involved with the northern economy. That is precisely one of the objectives of the meeting from our point of view. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question 0244-88(1): Economic Development Conference In Iqaluit

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, seeing that I got two answers for the price of one, could I ask one further question on this matter? In short, is it the intention of the Government Leader and his Ministers to encourage the Mulroney government to address that grievous omission of past governments, which is the development of a national policy for the orderly and rational development of its northern lands and people?

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

Further Return To Question 0244-88(1): Economic Development Conference In Iqaluit

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

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

Question 0245-88(1): RCMP Officer For Pelly Bay

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be directed to the Minister of Justice regarding Pelly Bay. The Minister is aware that Pelly Bay hamlet is requesting a police officer to be stationed in Pelly. There are going to be two questions. What are his plans to reply to Pelly Bay hamlet, and when can the community expect to get a permanent RCMP stationed in Pelly Bay?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ballantyne.

Return To Question 0245-88(1): RCMP Officer For Pelly Bay

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During the budget debate of my department I got into this in some detail. Right now, I guess the major restraining consideration is that of financing. There is just not enough money right now for us to be able to respond to demands. Many communities are asking for more police officers. As I indicated during the budget debate on the Department of Justice, we are looking at a different approach right now. There are 12 communities that have indicated a need for more police officers and the approach that we are looking at is to see if we can encourage more special constables in those smaller communities, working in satellite detachments from regional centres. It is a matter of finding housing in those communities, recruiting enough special constables, and setting up satellite detachments. But as for the timing for a regular constable, I cannot give the Member assurances as to a specific date because of the financial restraints placed on the Department of Justice budget. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Angottitauruq. At this time, then, I think it would be appropriate in view of the answer just given, for the Chair to recognize in the audience Deputy Commissioner Hank Jensen of the RCMP headquarters.

---Applause

And Chief Superintendent Bob Head of G Division.

---Applause

Mr. Angottitauruq, a new question.

Question 0246-88(1): RCMP Awareness Of Victims Of Violence

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is related but it is going to be a different question. It is also directed to the Minister of Justice. I am going to ask this question of the Minister of Justice since he has some control in some way over the RCMP's directions. There are some victims of violence in the Northwest Territories, and in fact in almost every community, and if the Minister is not going to put any RCMP into communities that need them, would he instruct the RCMP to be more cautious about victims of violence so that these communities would need less RCMP? What I am saying is that some communities have social workers and social workers cannot really deal, sometimes, with the victims of violence. Would he instruct the RCMP to try to be more aware of victims of violence -- if people come to the station, study to make sure they are not abused by spousal assault or child abuse, or both?

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

Return To Question 0246-88(1): RCMP Awareness Of Victims Of Violence

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. Over the time I have been Minister of Justice I have had a number of conversations with Chief Superintendent Head and with his officers on this particular subject. They have proved to be very co-operative in recognizing the seriousness of the problem and the sensitivity that is necessary to deal with the problem. I know that our government has made it a major priority and we are looking more and more into the rights of victims of crime. In the fall, as I have said, I will be introducing legislation, which I will be tabling later on in this session, to deal with the rights of victims of crime. I would like to assure the Member that the RCMP are aware of the problems that the honourable Member has brought to the attention of the House today, and I can assure the Member that in future we will continue to emphasize the importance of dealing with crimes of violence against children and against spouses. I hope that that answers the Member's question. Thank you.

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

Question 0247-88(1): Plan To Give Communities Satellite RCMP Detachments

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A supplementary to my colleague's question here with regard to the requests from communities for RCMP detachments. The Minister indicated that because of the restraints of the budget and so forth, detachments cannot be provided to a number of communities, but he stressed that they can get around it by creating these satellite detachments. Now, I assume from listening to the Minister that his department, in consultation with the RCMP, has a plan that they have been developing. Could the Minister provide to us the plan that he is anticipating, in regard to which communities will be receiving these satellite detachments? Thank you.

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

Return To Question 0247-88(1): Plan To Give Communities Satellite RCMP Detachments

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The plan that Mr. Zoe is talking about is still under development, and as I said in the debates on my budget, the RCMP presently are in consultation with native organizations and community groups to work out with them the best plan of action. I have laid out the broad parameters of the direction that we, as the Department of Justice, and the RCMP intend to pursue. I think I have laid out the various elements of that particular plan. It will be some time until consultation has been completed, especially consultation in the Eastern Arctic, and we will actually have a documented plan of action, but I will make the commitment to keep the Members aware of progress in development of that plan. I am prepared to outline to the Member in a letter from myself exactly what the principles are that we are trying to establish in the plan. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question 0247-88(1): Plan To Give Communities Satellite RCMP Detachments

MR. ZOE: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Would the Minister be prepared to inform the House as to what the time frame is in regard to this plan that you will be developing? Would it be prior to the end of this session, or would it be in the fall session? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 0247-88(1): Plan To Give Communities Satellite RCMP Detachments

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I will give a commitment to table the plan of action in this House in the fall session.

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

Question 0248-88(1): Minister's Trip To Ottawa Regarding NorthwesTel

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister responsible for Government Services. Last week he was in Ottawa pursuing the NorthwesTel situation with various federal Ministers. I realize that he probably has a comprehensive report, but I was wondering if he could give us a short oral answer on how things went while he was in Ottawa. Thank you.

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

Return To Question 0248-88(1): Minister's Trip To Ottawa Regarding NorthwesTel

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, as Ministers we had conveyed to the Government of Canada, and as well to the people who are going to put on sale NorthwesTel as a company, that as a government we had certain concerns about what may happen to the ownership and management of NorthwesTel. Very simply put, it is our view that we should do everything we can politically and otherwise to lobby for favourable terms and conditions on the sale of NorthwesTel that would ensure, as much as possible, that every opportunity be given to people of the North to end up with the ownership and management. To that end a week or two ago I had written, with the support and direction of

cabinet, to the federal Minister of Transport and the president of CN to convey our views and concerns in this regard. To add more weight to our views, I also requested that I be given an opportunity by these people, these parties, to explain personally again and convey our view to them in person.

To that end, a number of meetings happened last week. Monday was spent travelling. Tuesday was taken up with a meeting with the president of CN, who has been very sympathetic and has acknowledged the letter that I sent. In fact, he had discussed it with the Minister of Transport just previous to my arrival in Montreal and Ottawa. Following that, I had meetings set up with the deputy minister of Transport, Ramsey Withers, to explain our position, with the chief of staff of the Department of Transport, and finally, with the Hon. John Crosbie on Thursday for a very brief meeting to explain to him again personally the position we take in regard to the proposed sale of Northwesco. That was what took up my whole week. It explains where I was between Monday and Thursday. It was to deal with that rather urgent matter.

While I was in Ottawa, I also arranged for a meeting with the Minister responsible for Housing, the Hon. Stewart McInnes, to try to lobby for some changes to the manner and guidelines under which certain contracts in the North can be awarded. We met with at least some openness but nothing happened in that regard and I hope to see that Minister again in Iqaluit this week. So that, in summary, is an explanation of what I was doing last week. Thank you.

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

Question 0249-88(1): Responsibilities Of Health Boards After Transfer

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would ask the Government Leader to respond to this particular question. Does the transfer policy clearly differentiate and, in fact, reduce the responsibilities that have been transferred -- and I will explain -- to the Inuvik health board as compared to the presently existing health boards in the NWT?

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

Return To Question 0249-88(1): Responsibilities Of Health Boards After Transfer

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, the transfer policy is designed in the interests of achieving cost savings and efficiency which can be applied to urgent health priorities such as mental health. The policy is designed to examine the possibility of achieving savings through rationalizing services. Mr. Speaker, the object of the transfer policy is to take advantage of existing government departments at regional levels, departments such as Personnel, Public Works, Government Services and such as the Department of Culture and Communications -- to take advantage of those departments as a means of providing support services and administrative services to the new health boards. The object, Mr. Speaker, is not in any way to impair the critical decision-making authority of those health boards. They will, for example, still make the critical decisions on hiring, firing and discipline of personnel. However, the object of the transfer policy is to see the administrative support services shared with existing government infrastructure in order to save housing, person years and, of course, money, which savings would be applied to more urgent priorities than administrative matters, that will undoubtedly be identified by these new health boards.

Mr. Speaker, I think, to get to the bottom of the Member's question, it is true that the health transfer policy, when applied to the new boards, will result in less than totally autonomous Departments of Personnel, Government Services, or Public Works, for example. The policy thereby will provide something less than totally stand-alone administrative functions in those particular areas. However, Mr. Speaker, this is in the interests of economies of scale, and furthermore, the policy called for the budgets, the moneys to perform those service functions, to be given to those new boards. So the boards, Mr. Speaker, although they may not have the full-blown independent infrastructure, will have the financial power and the budgetary resources to deliver and, more importantly, control the delivery of those services through contractual arrangements. Mr. Speaker, to answer the Member's question, I think there will be some differences between existing boards and the new boards but they will be in the interest of saving. They will not impair the critical decision-making authority and the boards will have the money, and the leverage that flows from having the money, to control the quality and level of service provided. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Nerysoo.

Supplementary To Question 0249-88(1): Responsibilities Of Health Boards After Transfer

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Despite the long comments from the Minister, the answer is simply yes, there will be a reduction in jurisdiction. Mr. Speaker, could the Minister or the Government Leader indicate whether he is prepared to abide by the original arrangements and agreements that were made with the various steering committees, or is the Minister or the Government Leader and this government now going to retract from the original arrangements that were reached?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Well, Mr. Speaker, I am not sure that I agree with the Member's one word summary of my answer. Mr. Speaker, I think that providing the boards with the money to contract for certain administrative services certainly gives them a power in service delivery in those particular areas. I would not be quick to describe that arrangement as a reduction of their jurisdiction. I think money is power and if one accepts that axiom, then handing the money over for the delivery of all those services would in effect give them a substantial amount of power. Mr. Speaker, with reference to the Member's question, not having been intimately involved in the health transfer negotiations, I am not aware of the detailed discussions that occurred at the various regional consultation meetings, as the Member may appreciate. So, Mr. Speaker, I will have to take that question as notice and look into the matter more thoroughly before I am able to provide an informed response. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Government Leader. The supplementary question was taken as notice. Mr. Nerysoo.

Supplementary To Question 0249-88(1): Responsibilities Of Health Boards After Transfer

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the Minister is going to take that particular question as notice, could he look at the letters that were sent by the previous government which indicated that they would, in fact, establish a hospital board in the Western Arctic similar to that of jurisdictions in the Baffin Region.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Further Return To Question 0249-88(1): Responsibilities Of Health Boards After Transfer

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have indicated that I will thoroughly review the matter, including the relevant correspondence. Thank you.

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

Question 0250-88(1): Percentage Of Pay Cheque Deducted For Debt To Government

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A question for the Minister of Personnel. Mr. Speaker, I have been advised that the collective agreement, I believe it is the recently negotiated collective agreement with the employees of the government, has a provision whereby no more than 20 per cent of an individual's pay cheque would be deducted for reason of moneys that the employee owes the government for whatever reason. That was something that was negotiated so that there would not be hardship on the employee; that you would not deduct the entire amount from one pay cheque, but it would have a ceiling of 20 per cent. I am further advised, Mr. Speaker, that that is not being adhered to and was not with respect to the most recent pay period. Can the Minister undertake to look into that non-adherence to that negotiated provision?

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

Return To Question 0250-88(1): Percentage Of Pay Cheque Deducted For Debt To Government

HON. GORDON WRAY: Yes, certainly, Mr. Speaker, I will look into it. If the Member has actually some specifics, that would assist me greatly in tracking it in the system. Thank you.

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

Question 0251-88(1): Federal Cabinet Approval Of NCPC Transfer Agreement In Principle

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister responsible for Energy, Mines and Resources regarding her ongoing negotiations on the purchase of NCPC. Yesterday, Mr. Crow asked if the Executive Council had reviewed the NCPC transfer agreement in principle and she answered, "Yes." To follow up on that, I would like to ask if she is aware whether the federal cabinet has yet dealt with this item. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.

Return To Question 0251-88(1): Federal Cabinet Approval Of NCPC Transfer Agreement In Principle

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, the federal Minister has not at this time taken that particular document to the cabinet. It is anticipated that it will be going on March 10th.

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

Question 0252-88(1): Equipment Used In Searching For Boating Accident Victims

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Justice. Mr. Minister, as you are aware, summer is fast approaching and there will be a lot of people boating in the small communities. What I am wondering is if you can have your RCMP detachments have the proper equipment, such as hooks and things like that, in their detachment for searching for bodies so that people do not have to run and try to find the biggest fish hook in the community to search for bodies. It puts hardship on the families and the community as a whole if we do not have proper equipment when accidents do occur. Instead, we have to run to the bigger centres and get welding shops to make up proper equipment. If you can have your detachments have the proper equipment in the communities that are near lakes and rivers, it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

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

Return To Question 0252-88(1): Equipment Used In Searching For Boating Accident Victims

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will undertake to bring that concern to the RCMP and make sure that they are properly equipped for the summer season. Thank you.

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

Question 0253-88(1): Over-Powered Boats

MR. ANGOTTITAUROUQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is probably going to be similar to that of my honourable colleague who just asked a question. It is directed to the Minister of Justice. Really, if the RCMP are not to make any hooks, maybe they could look closely at how over-powered some boats are. I was wondering who recommends and who enforces those laws, when boats are specified to use a certain horsepower, and if that was enforced in the Northwest Territories I believe that some of the RCMP really would not have to make any hooks. Who enforces it?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I will take that question as notice and try to get an answer for the honourable Member tomorrow.

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

Question 0254-88(1): Response To Question 0137-88(1)

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for either the Government Leader or the Minister responsible for the Status of Women. Although there were a number of returns to oral questions today coming from the Minister of Justice, I waited patiently through Item 4 for a response to a question I asked sometime last month, Mr. Speaker. It is so long ago I cannot remember the date. But the question was directed, Mr. Speaker, on that date to the Government Leader and it was with reference to the five year action plan and a statement on the last page of that plan that in

terms of implementing, the Minister responsible for the Status of Women was to report semi-annually to the advisory council on progress and implementation. My question then, Mr. Speaker, was how many times has that been done? That simple question, sir, has not yet been answered. Now, it is a matter of counting up to a maximum of six to answer the question...

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: That is two hands.

MR. BUTTERS: That takes two hands counting.

MR. RICHARD: ...and I am wondering, with 5000 employees working for this government, what is the difficulty in getting an answer to that simple question?

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

Return To Question 0254-88(1): Response To Question 0137-88(1)

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. His question is in regard to how many semi-annual reports have been given by the Minister responsible to the advisory council. I will advise the Member that there were no semi-annual reports given to the advisory council by previous Ministers. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Item 5, oral questions.

Item 6, written questions. Item 7, returns to written questions. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

ITEM 7: RETURNS TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS

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

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to reply to a written question asked by Mr. Richard on February 25th, 10 days ago. He asked eight questions. Mr. Speaker, in regard to the young offenders facility in Yellowknife:

- 1) No. Alternative locations for the construction of a specialized maximum secure facility in the Western Arctic were not considered in any study. However, a study was completed which examined four service delivery scenarios, each of which assumed that one of the needed facilities to accommodate high security risk young offenders from across the NWT would be placed in Yellowknife.
- 2) The study referred to in 1) above was done by Ferguson, Simek and Clark, in association with William Wood Consulting Limited. It was completed in March of 1987. Although the consultant's report is an internal planning document, I am prepared to make it available to the Members of the standing committee on finance. It was utilized by the department in developing planning principles and in examining alternative service delivery scenarios for the provision of secure custody in the NWT.
- 3) Program delivery factors which justified the original location of the facility in Yellowknife included: a) availability of psychological and related services; b) shared services with the main YCC facility in terms of recreation, food services and laundry; and c) readily available court services.
- 4) Economic factors considered at the time which provided justification for the facility to be placed in Yellowknife included: a) readily available land; b) shared kitchen services at YCC; c) shared laundry services at YCC; d) recreational facilities already on site; and e) that Yellowknife is central in terms of travel.
- 5) Capital costs have already been incurred for implementing design and site preparation in Yellowknife. The amount of the costs are as follows: a) \$10,000 was spent on consultant's fees for the program; and b) \$28,000 was spent on architectural fees. About \$7000 will be lost due to site preparations; soil testing which is a part of the architectural fees. The balance of the consultant's programs can be adapted for use in Fort Smith. The architectural firm that was retained for the Yellowknife facility will be utilized for the Fort Smith facility.

6) Some soil testing was done on the Yellowknife site, approximately \$7000. No other work has commenced.

7) As indicated in part 6) of this question, \$7000 was the only money expended which does not have a direct application to the facility, if built in Fort Smith.

8) The facility will have 14 beds. Approximately 53 youths per year, including Baffin and Keewatin, are expected to go through the program. If past patterns are maintained, the youths will originate from the following regions: a) approximately 23 per year from Inuvik and Kitikmeot; b) approximately 11 per year from Rae-Edzo and Yellowknife; c) approximately 12 per year from communities south of the lake; d) approximately seven per year from the Keewatin and Baffin, who are deemed not manageable in the purpose-built secure facility to be constructed in Iqaluit. Thank you.

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

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Return to written Question W18-88(1), asked by Mr. McLaughlin to the Minister of Social Services on custody sentences under the young offenders program; and return to written Question W23-88(1), asked by Mr. Nerysoo to the Minister responsible for the Status of Women on Status of Women portfolio.

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

Hon. Jeannie Marie-Jewell's return to Question W18-88(1), asked by Mr. McLaughlin on February 25, 1988:

1) Individual secure custody sentences by year: April 1, 1984 to March 31, 1985 were 11; April 1, 1985 to March 31, 1986 were 137, with age level increase from 16 to 18; April 1, 1986 to March 31, 1987 were 135; April 1, 1987 to February 22, 1988 were 133.

2) No statistics are available for remanded youths until April 1, 1985. Total number of remands by year since that time: 1985-86 were 14; 1986-87 were 60; April 1, 1987 to date were 56.

3) Annual statistics are not yet available for regional breakdown of sentences by year. However, from available statistics at the YCC young offenders unit, a regional breakdown is available for total young offenders in secure custody, based on a total of 202 admissions. Statistics are taken from an interim stand-alone microsystem. The implementation of a computerized information system for young offenders is not yet complete.

| | <u>Total</u> | <u>Remand</u> | <u>Sentenced</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------|
| Fort Smith Region | 26 | 7 | 19 |
| Inuvik Region | 33 | 11 | 22 |
| Keewatin Region | 16 | 9 | 7 |
| Kitikmeot Region | 16 | 9 | 7 |
| Yellowknife, Rae-Edzo | 29 | 20 | 9 |
| Baffin Region | 50 | 25 | 25 |
| Fort Simpson area | 19 | 2 | 17 |
| Out of NWT | 2 | | |
| Uncertain | 11 | | |

Fort Smith Region south of the lake breakdown by community total admissions to date:

| | <u>Total</u> | <u>Remand</u> | <u>Sentenced</u> |
|------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------|
| Fort Providence | 13 | 2 | 11 |
| Fort Resolution | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| Fort Smith | 14 | 4 | 10 |
| Hay River | 6 | 1 | 5 |
| Jean Marie River | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Fort Simpson | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Wrigley | 1 | 0 | 1 |

4) The recidivism rate for the territorial system is approximately 25 per cent. This cannot be broken down to actual figures which are facility specific, due to the fact that youth who reoffend may not be given secure custody by the courts, may go to another facility, or may be returned via the adult system.

The implementation of a computerized information system for the Young Offenders Act is not yet complete. Once it is ready, it will be necessary to analyse all available information and ensure the type of information being requested can be produced upon request. It is anticipated that this will be ready by December, 1988.

5) Attached is a summary of the education, training, areas of speciality and work experience of employees working at the three young offenders facilities.

Return To Question W23-88(1): Review Of The Status Of Women Secretariat

Hon. Jeannie Marie-Jewell's return to Question W23-88(1) by Mr. Nerysoo on March 4, 1988:

Thank you for your continued interest in the Status of Women portfolio.

1) I first want to respond to the Member's inquiry about increased representation on the advisory council in order to ensure regional input into the review which is being conducted on behalf of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women and the government. As I indicated in my oral response on March 4th, I have to date received input and recommendations for the review from the advisory council. I have received letters from the executive of the advisory council, which have been sent to the government as far back as June, 1987. The ideas in the correspondence given to the previous government and to myself will generally form the framework for the review. The concerns expressed by the advisory council include the overall structure of the Status of Women portfolio, that is the Women's Secretariat and the advisory council, staffing, membership, operating procedures, and allocation of funding within the specific budget. In essence, the regional input into the review of the portfolio has already happened and is acknowledged by the letters from the advisory council to the government since June, 1987, which I could provide to the Member if he wishes.

I will reiterate that on review of the number and method of appointment of women to the advisory council, changes may be recommended to improve and strengthen the current structure. Therefore I do not want to fill all the vacancies at this time, because legislation requires that the terms be for three years and it is important to have some flexibility in building on the new structure upon completion of the review.

2) I am pleased to tell you who I met with during my visit to the Mackenzie Delta on December 9 and 10, 1987. I had sent a telex to you at that time with the schedule of meetings I had, and the facilities I visited. I have attached that for your information, as well as the names of the women with whom I spoke. You can see from the itinerary that I had numerous opportunities to hear from people who have first-hand experience in working with the serious issues which face many families in the Delta. As a result of these discussions, I have arranged for Dr. Terry Fellows of Inuvik, the physician handling Social Services cases, to come to Yellowknife to further brief me and my officials on the social issues and the severity of the impact that these problems are having on residents in the Delta communities. I will be sending you, and the other MLAs from the Delta, a memo under separate cover to invite you to meet with Dr. Fellows during his visit to Yellowknife.

3) While I was in the Delta, I was able to meet with residents of Fort McPherson, Aklavik and Inuvik. I heard a wide range of concerns, predominantly related to family violence, but also ideas related to women's perspectives on other matters such as career aspirations and women in the economy. We also arranged for a public luncheon meeting in Inuvik on December 10, sponsored by the Inuvik's women's group and many women were present to discuss their various areas of interest. As I indicated in my letter to you on December 11, I would be pleased to meet with you to discuss my visit to your constituency.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. 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. Ballantyne.

ITEM 11: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 92-88(1), amendment to the 1988-89 capital estimates, Department of Social Services; the change in location for the young offenders maximum secure facility. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Tabling of documents.

Item 12, notices of motion.

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

Item 14, motions.

Item 15, first reading of bills.

Item 16, second reading of bills. Item 17, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Report of Standing Committee on Finance on the 1988-89 Main Estimates; Bill 1-88(1), Appropriation Act, 1988-89, 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 THE 1988-89 MAIN ESTIMATES; BILL 1-88(1), APPROPRIATION ACT, 1988-89

Department Of Health

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): The committee will now come to order. We are on the Department of Health. Details, medical transportation, page 14.16. Does the committee agree that the Minister bring in her witnesses? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Madam Minister. For the record, would you introduce your witnesses?

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the witnesses at the table for the further examination of the Department of Health are Paul Moody, deputy minister of Health, and Mike Pontus, assistant deputy minister of Health.

Medical Transportation, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Madam Minister. We are on medical transportation. Are there any further questions on medical transportation? Medical transportation, total O and M, \$4,139,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Detail Of Grants And Contributions, Total Contributions, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Page 14.17, detail of grants and contributions. Total contributions, \$44,350,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Detail Of Work Performed On Behalf Of Third Parties

Northern Oil And Gas Action Program, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Page 14.21, detail of work performed on behalf of third parties. Total northern oil and gas action program, \$16,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Medical Transportation, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total medical transportation, \$7,600,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Cancer Amongst The Inuit

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total cancer amongst the Inuit, \$24,000. Agreed? Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What results did you get out of this budget with regard to cancer amongst the Inuit?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Madam Minister.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the project is continuous, and is a world study which will compile information on cancer amongst the Inuit. The study is continuing.

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

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, obviously this is not the first time that such a study has been undertaken. Am I correct? Is this an ongoing study?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Madam Minister.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the Department of Health of the NWT just began its involvement in this study this last year.

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

MR. ERNERK: So is it too early to tell what causes cancer among the Inuit. I mean, years ago we did not have cancer; what is the problem today with cancer among the Inuit?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Madam Minister.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, this particular study is to gather information and data on cancer incidence in the Northwest Territories, and in more detail, on the issue of what causes cancer and why there appears to be an increasing number of cases of cancer among Inuit. That is an ongoing health problem that is being dealt with day by day in the delivery of health, and I realize that there have been a number of individuals who are extremely concerned about this. I have certainly made the commitment that we would attempt to see if there are other things that can be done, not only this continuing study, but if we can put in a more extensive program that would help to alleviate some of the causes.

Known Causes Of Cancer

Internationally, it has been determined that smoking contributes to one type of cancer. Certainly these types of findings will be ongoing as people look into the various causes. I realize that there are some very particular circumstances that certain Members would like the Department of

Health to address more specifically, that would be related to, perhaps, the issue of Baker Lake where they feel that the uranium content in some of the mines in that region may be contributing to a higher rate of cancer. So we will attempt to address these specific issues or concerns. However, this particular funding is to gather information.

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

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, this one employee travels around the Northwest Territories visiting all of the Inuit communities within the NWT, am I correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Madam Minister.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, for that detail and for someone who has been more involved than I, I would like Mr. Pontus to add to the answers I have already given.

MR. PONTUS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, the study is to compile all the incidents of mortality and of morbidity, that is, illness among the Inuit in Canada, which includes Northern Quebec and Labrador. We are doing this by looking at our records for the past number of years and also in conjunction with all the cancer registries of all the provinces of Canada, so that we capture people who have been treated in other jurisdictions. We have had to form agreements with all of these jurisdictions so that they give us their information, and then we have to make sure that it is not duplicated with any records that we have. In the end we will have a set of very clear, concise statistics that are confirmed by laboratory reports and that will then enable us to analyse the causes in more detail.

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

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, thanks for that answer. Did I understand you to indicate that the study includes Northern Quebec? Yes. What you are really talking about is some 60-odd communities in the Northwest Territories, plus 13 or 14 communities in Northern Quebec and Labrador. Should we not be requesting the Government of Canada for more funding to do this kind of study? The reason why I ask that is because, as I mentioned a few minutes ago, cancer was unknown among the Inuit up until a few years ago. It has become more of a problem to me, as an observer of the situation, much more than even, say, five or six years ago. So, the solution, to me, would be to take a look at this problem and continue to do the job that the department is doing, but at a much more aggressive level. I guess that would be my recommendation to the department. Thank you.

Cancer Amongst The Inuit, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Ernerk. Total cancer amongst the Inuit, \$24,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Dr. Otto Schaefer Health Resource Centre, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total Dr. Otto Schaefer Health Resource Centre, \$64,000. Agreed? Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Can I just have some explanation on this Dr. Otto Schaefer Health Resource Centre? What does it do? What is involved in this program?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Madam Minister.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, it is a library of information and documentation that can be used by agencies and by the Department of Health as a resource centre. It is a library.

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

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, does it include things like nutrition, that Dr. Schaefer is very well-known for, nutrition meaning traditional meat is very useful, such as seal meat, seal liver and meats like that? Yes.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the library has all of Dr. Schaefer's papers, I am sure. As well, the library also provides for public use and to the nursing stations, videos that have teachings on nutrition. I am not aware of every document or video that is there, but they have a wide variety of aids that could be used by the public, by the Department of Health and other agencies. I would be pleased to have the Member come along with me so we can both take a look at the library facility that is being supplied under the Dr. Otto Schaefer Health Resource Centre.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I would be very pleased to do that. However, I have a number of other questions with regard to this resource centre. Does the program extend to libraries in the Eastern Arctic, adult education centres or classrooms in the Eastern Arctic, with resources like programming to classrooms? Yes?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Madam Minister.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the Dr. Otto Schaefer Health Resource Centre and what it offers is available for anyone who wishes to use material. There is a bibliography of what is available. The information and the resources that are there are available to anyone in the Northwest Territories.

Language Bureau Enhancement, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Madam Minister. Total language bureau enhancement, \$105,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Detail Of Work Performed On Behalf Of Third Parties, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total detail of work performed on behalf of third parties, \$7,809,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): The last two pages are information items. Are there any questions about these items?

Total O And M, Agreed

Department of Health program summary, page 14.09. Total O and M, \$90,271,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I just did not want to let this opportunity go by without asking one more question which is of great concern to myself and that is the issue of chronically ill people. I remember a few years ago when an individual spent her last years in the Churchill hospital away from her community. That must have been extremely difficult for a person like that, especially spending her time in a strange place where -- I keep referring to Inuktitut language again because a lot of our people do not speak English. Sometimes it gets extremely difficult when you are in a place like Churchill where the majority of people speak the English language. I can also recall when the issue of chronic care facilities was discussed as being lax in the Keewatin Region. Has the government looked at this issue, so that we can begin to provide more services to the people who are chronically ill, people who are unable to care for themselves, people where even relatives are unable to care for them for some reason? Has the department looked into that kind of a program across the Northwest Territories?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Madam Minister.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, it is my understanding that the Department of Health, along with the Department of Social Services, continues to explore the most humane or human way of delivering services to the chronically ill. Although I would say and perhaps agree that we have not done everything, as we move along in terms of personal care to these particular people, I would presume that the thrust is to attempt to provide home care to these individuals as much as possible.

Care Of The Chronically Ill

In terms of what is planned, these are ongoing discussions and I feel that the department's intent is to attempt to provide services in the most human way and in a way that the care can be close to home unless the clinical treatment is of a fashion that individuals require a doctor's care. I realize that, in all the regions of the Northwest Territories, the approach on how we provide care to the chronically ill is an ongoing discussion and new arrangements are being sought all the time. Perhaps Mike Pontus can explain or bring you up to date on some of the latest discussions on this particular topic.

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

MR. PONTUS: Mr. Chairman, I believe there is only one item that I could add that the Minister may have left out, and that is that we have had an extensive report done by someone who travelled around the Territories and went to every community and did assessments. That report came in with all its recommendations. In order to validate that report, the Minister has sent it out to almost every community and every agency and asked for their comments. These will be assembled and then brought forward to the Minister for her perusal and to forward those that she wishes to the Executive.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Pontus. We will go now to the capital estimates. Does the committee agree we go to the details of capital? Page 11.07. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: If there are no questions, I wish to make a motion; but if there are questions, I will withhold my motion until they have been made.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Looking at Keewatin, total capital, 1988-89, \$452,000. I understand there is a plan to expand the Rankin Inlet nursing station. Am I correct, or is that just a rumour?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Madam Minister.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, it is anticipated to do that work in 1988-89 for \$678,000.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, \$678,000 will cover what? A building? Expansion? Equipment? More staff?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Pontus.

MR. PONTUS: Mr. Chairman, that will cover the renovations, furnishings and equipment, but not staff, for the upgrading of the nursing station and some changes to the nurses' residence in Rankin Inlet.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is there a plan sometime in the future to allow these nurses, medical staff, to live in public housing, like everybody else? Or is it because of the possibility of health problems that you must require nurses to have their own residences?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Madam Minister.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the possibility exists that in the future the nurses could be allowed to seek private accommodation. However, the honourable Member should recognize that these facilities which are total units, were built by National Health and Welfare in order to take care of the nurses once and for all. Yes, there is the possibility that nurses will stay in public housing.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): General questions. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, this motion attempts to capture some of the concerns raised in questions put to the Minister in the last few days. I think it also reflects her assurances that she would work to reduce or diminish such concerns.

Motion To Recommend That Minister Reaffirm Commitment To Strengthening Regional Medical Services,
Carried

I move that the Minister of Health and her officials confirm and reaffirm their constant and unalterable commitment and intention to continue strengthening regional medical services and regional medical facilities currently in place and will tirelessly impress upon the federal government the responsibility of the federal government to upgrade existing regional facilities and replace and enhance existing infrastructure capital inventories.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Butters. Can we have a copy of your motion? Mr. Butters, the Chair is having some difficulty with the wording of the motion. The motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: I asked the question of this Minister when this department first came before us and noted at that time that she sat in this seat or near this seat, and asked almost this same question, that the programs that are being provided and offered in the small regional hospitals and in the regions would not be diminished, or protracted, by the construction of the Yellowknife hospital. I can recall that she pursued this question tirelessly, at that time. So when I use the word "unalterable" here, I feel that this is the commitment she had as an ordinary MLA when she sat opposite, and it is a commitment that she retains as a Minister. When I asked her the question, she said, and I paraphrase: I am quite sure that the situation you describe will not occur as long as I and the Member for Inuvik continue to take this position.

I was very concerned, and Mr. Nerysoo pointed it out in some detail and some length when he examined the particular situation regarding the needs of the Inuvik General Hospital and the federal program that had been developed for improving the capital infrastructure there and bringing that hospital up to an adequate and modern day standard. Mr. Nerysoo quite correctly indicated that while there may be some expectation that would continue, there was no definite statement and commitment to ensuring that infrastructure would be brought up to standard. I use the word "tirelessly" because the Minister, in my experience, has tackled anything that she has been assigned by the Government Leader, tirelessly. And she will pursue it like a terrier until she overcomes it. So I think the words are directed here to the Minister, who knows exactly what I am talking about and in whom I have confidence, to move and achieve the objective that is expressed in the motion.

The motion does not specifically refer to the Inuvik regional hospital. It refers to any region where people wish to receive treatment close to their home communities with the best possible medical attention available. So I guess I am saying we do not want to see one large central medical centre or unit diminish and reduce the programs that have been currently put in place, not only by the federal government but by this government as well. So that is the intent of the motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Butters. To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

We are on page 11.07, detail of capital. Are there any further comments on capital? Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, are you planning to take a break within a short period of time so that I could get my motion translated as well? Please.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Is that a motion regarding Health again? I would have liked to conclude this and then go for a break. But if you have a motion then perhaps we could deal with it now.

Motion To Recommend Departmental Study On Keewatin Regional Hospital Or Birthing Centre, Carried

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, my motion is this: I move that this committee recommend that the Department of Health carry out the feasibility study in the Keewatin Region to establish if there is a need for a regional hospital or a birthing centre.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Ernerk. Can I get a copy of the motion please? Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: I noticed that there has not been a move in the last while to study the possibility of construction or establishment of a regional hospital in the Keewatin Region. Secondly, there has not been a move to establish a birthing centre in the Keewatin Region in the last while, although the previous government indicated that they wanted to try out one birthing centre as a pilot project in the Keewatin Region. That was an agreement that I had on February 6, 1986, in Yellowknife. This motion would be supported by the native organizations in the Keewatin and the regional councils. I know that the health board would agree with it. I know that the University of Manitoba, who co-sponsored a study with the Keewatin Inuit Association, would agree with this. And the Inuit Women's Association of Canada. So without saying much more, I would like to just end there for now.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): The motion is recommending to the Executive that the Department of Health do a feasibility study to establish if there is a need for a regional hospital or birthing centre in the Keewatin. Question is being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? This motion is carried.

---Carried

NWT Share Of Health Care Services

Contributions, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

Detail of capital. NWT share of health care services, contributions, headquarters, total headquarters, \$168,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Contributions, Fort Smith, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Fort Smith, total Fort Smith, \$180,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Contributions, Inuvik, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Inuvik, total Inuvik, \$1,044,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Contributions, Keewatin, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Keewatin, total Keewatin, \$452,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Contributions, Kitikmeot, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Kitikmeot, total Kitikmeot, \$213,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Contributions, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total contributions, \$2,057,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

NWT Share Of Health Care Services, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total NWT share of health care services, \$2,057,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Territorial Hospital Insurance Services

Buildings And Works, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Page 11.10, detail of Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, buildings and works, headquarters, total headquarters, \$2,357,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Baffin, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Baffin, total Baffin, \$2,400,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total buildings and works, \$4,757,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Equipment Acquisition, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Equipment acquisition, headquarters, total headquarters, \$697,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Equipment Acquisition, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total equipment acquisition, \$697,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, \$5,454,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Program Summary, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Program summary, capital estimates, total capital expenditures, \$7,511,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is a question to the Minister in regard to capital. In this transfer of health, is the Minister going to be guaranteeing the communities that have been on the capital plans of National Health and Welfare -- there have been some commitments made to various communities in terms of capital projects -- in terms of transferring, would those capital items be diminished or would they still continue to be on the books within the Department of Health?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Madam Minister.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, under National Health and Welfare there was a projection of expenditures over a five year planning program and in the transfer, when the GNWT takes over the National Health and Welfare program, we will take the projections and the capital projects intact and we do not plan at this time to make any changes to the planning programs as they were outlined under National Health and Welfare.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I hear the Minister correctly, you are inheriting whatever National Health and Welfare had currently and once you do inherit this, the government will not give new priorities to those particular capital projects.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Madam Minister.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, at the outset, the projects as they are in the planning will stay as National Health and Welfare had arranged them, and according to the time period that they set out. It may be that once we take them over we would review them to see if there should be changes, but at this time there are no plans to do so.

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

MR. ZOE: Just a comment, Mr. Chairman. A lot of these communities have finally convinced National Health and Welfare to put their communities within the capital plan. It has been a number of years now that they have been looking forward to this project. So as the Minister indicated, hopefully the government will not change these capital plans that they inherit. It is good to hear that from the Minister.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Zoe. The 1988-89 main estimates. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: One question which I think is justified in view of the timetable the government has set up for transferring health, which I believe is April 20th. Yesterday the Minister said that the Department of Health could prepare a document to be brought into this House once we return, on or about March 22nd. Could we have the Minister's confirmation that that document will be available to be moved into committee of the whole on March 22nd?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Madam Minister.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, yes.

Department Of Health, Total Expenditures, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. The 1988-89 main estimates, page 14.09. Department of Health, program summary, total expenditures, \$97,782,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Does the committee agree that the Department of Health is now concluded?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): I would like to thank the witnesses, Mr. Pontus and Mr. Moody, and Madam Minister. We will take a 15 minute coffee break.

---SHORT RECESS

Department Of Culture And Communications

The committee will now come to order. We are on page 6.07, Department of Culture and Communications, main estimates for 1988-89. Does the Minister wish to make his opening remarks at this time?

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mahsi cho, Mr. Chairman. (Translation) Our total departmental budget includes \$7,825,000 for O and M. For capital, \$191,000. There were no new person years. (Translation ends)

It is a very tight budget but I believe it will allow us to continue meeting our objectives, particularly in the area of heritage and culture. Since I became Minister in November, I have reviewed departmental programs and began the process of negotiating an extension to Canada-Northwest Territories language agreement. In respect to languages, the Hon. David Crombie, Secretary of State, has agreed to begin talks about what steps we might take to ensure that various native language projects we have established do not end once the present five year agreement ends on March 31, 1990. The existing agreement commits the federal department to providing \$16 million and sets out the amount of money to be spent during each of the five years.

I have reviewed our expenditure for the first three years. I note that we have fallen behind by about \$2,600,000 in respect to the payment schedule set out in the agreement. The reasons for this are quite understandable. Our first payment was not received until March of 1986, one month before

the fiscal year end, and because of this it was not possible to get a number of our projects off the ground. Since that time it has not been possible to move as rapidly as we would have liked to because of difficulty in recruiting the personnel needed for various language projects. In any case, I plan to seek an extension to the agreement. If this approach is acceptable, our underexpenditure would be used to finance the extension. This would ensure that the time frame is extended to better suit existing realities.

As a second step, I will be discussing the establishment of a new five year agreement that would come into effect at the conclusion of the first.

Arts And Entertainment

Mr. Chairman, I have also directed my department to review its existing programs and to see what can be done to develop new directions over the next few years, beginning in 1988-89. One of the things that I have in mind is the development of a new direction in the area of arts and entertainment, recognizing its potential as a tourism attraction and its importance in maintaining cultural traditions. Some of the things we will be looking at are development of training opportunities for northern artists and entertainers and the provision of increased performance opportunities. We also want to examine alternative forms of funding for artists and entertainers and develop a stronger funding partnership between all three levels of government -- municipal, territorial and federal -- the private sector and the consumer.

Television Northern Canada

In the area of communications, I recently met with the Hon. Flora MacDonald to discuss the federal government's reaction to the establishment of Television Northern Canada. TVNC is a project to create a new public/educational television service. The new network would serve 96 communities from the Yukon, NWT, Arctic Quebec and Labrador. Its projected start-up date is September of 1989. The Hon. Flora MacDonald supports the idea and has given strong indication of federal financial support. As a result of this meeting, I have instructed the department to continue its role as a member of the working committee established to develop the network and to research and produce a report for my consideration on how departments of the territorial government can work together to develop a common production agency.

Mr. Chairman, the department has 95 person years funded by the NWT and 31 person years funded under contribution agreements with the federal government. Almost half of the department's total person years are members of the NWT language bureau. Language-related initiatives in 1987-88 included establishment of a working group that held meetings in all linguistic regions in the western Territories to discuss and develop a work plan for the standardization of written Dene languages. The development of that plan is on schedule and the final report is due by March 31.

As well, the department worked on development of an interpreter-translator curriculum for Arctic College, which I understand is presently arranging for its first course. It also assisted in development of a training program for legal interpreters which is scheduled to take place in the new fiscal year.

Both these initiatives are in direct response to recommendations of the NWT task force on aboriginal languages.

Another initiative, which will continue in 1987-88, is the development of amendments to the NWT Official Languages Act that will ensure certain native language rights are included in the body of the legislation rather than by regulation. It is my intention to ensure these amendments are in place before proclamation of French language provisions of the act in late 1989.

Development Of French Language Services

French language services, for your information, are now part of the NWT language bureau. Our staff is now expected to provide professional services in six Dene languages, two distinct Inuktitut languages and French. The department's French section was established last year and is currently providing translation services to all government departments and agencies. In addition, the department is working closely with the French Cultural Association of the NWT and has provided it with financial support to establish a task force that will consult with NWT French-speaking people

in an attempt to more clearly define Francophone language service expectations. Mr. Chairman, we have translated over 250,000 words into the French language since the French section was established. As well, the French language is now being used in various information materials produced in our publications section. An example is the Executive Council's recently tabled Directions for the 1990s.

Mr. Chairman, I am excited about my new portfolio. And, as I stated earlier, I am confident that our estimates will allow us to continue our objective of enhancing and nourishing heritage and culture in the Northwest Territories. At this time I would be happy to answer any questions that committee Members might have. Mahsi cho, Mr. Chairman.

---Applause

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mahsi cho, Mr. Alloofoo. General comments, Department of Culture and Communications. Mr. Nerysoo.

Comments From The Standing Committee On Finance

MR. NERYSOO: (Speaks in Loucheux. No translation)

Mr. Chairman, with regard to Culture and Communications, there were a number of general questions that the standing committee on finance asked, and to which the department responded. Firstly, with regard to mandate, the department was given its mandate by the Executive Council in 1985. Its primary mandate is to provide services in the areas of languages, broadcast communication, public affairs, publications, museums, libraries and culture, in addition to executive direction and policy.

With regard to new programs, there are no new programs. There is a performance evaluation system for the different sectors of the department. With regard to person years, there is no change in person years. There were six vacant positions, two that had been vacant for more than six months. With regard to travel, travel is reviewed by department heads. Highlights included no increase in total O and M, and a decrease in capital budget estimates; negotiations on an extension of the NWT languages agreement as well as a comprehensive evaluation of the existing agreement; encouragement of the arts and entertainment sector, including the establishment of Television Northern Canada. It is also the intention of the department to respond to the recommendations of the NWT task force on aboriginal languages, including an amendment to the NWT Official Languages Act.

Concerns and issues were expressed by the standing committee on finance with regard to the languages agreement. The Minister explained the potential implications, loss of staff, if a new agreement is not reached. He also indicated that the framework of the previous agreement is being revised for the new agreement. With regard to French services the Minister discussed the implementation of French language services including the difficulties in hiring interpreter-translators and the financial implications of this service. With regard to grants and contributions for community projects, Members suggested that criteria should be developed for evaluating applications for grants and contributions for community projects. The committee indicated that established criteria would enable the department to ensure the most effective use of the available funds.

Need For Certification Of Interpreters And Translators

With regard to interpreter-translators, there was a need for certification and consistency in the quality of interpreting and translating. This was discussed during the standing committee review. Reference was made to the Yukon program. Members were also concerned about the ability of the current number of interpreters and translators to keep up with their increasing workload, particularly in specialized areas such as medicine and law.

On the issue of the Arts Advisory Council, a Member questioned the short-term nature of support provided by the Arts Advisory Council as opposed to ensuring the long-term viability of a project before discontinuing support. Mr. Chairman, that is all I have to report on behalf of the standing committee. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could have permission to bring in my officials.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Agreed, Mr. Allooloo. You can bring in your witnesses. Just as a reminder to the witnesses, these red ropes around the chamber are for security reasons and I would appreciate it if you would use the area that has been designated to enter in and out of the chamber. Mr. Minister, I believe you do have a response to Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, I did not quite get your request.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): I believe Mr. Nerysoo did have some concerns and some questions, if you would like to respond at this time.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, I thought Mr. Nerysoo was reporting on the committee's concern regarding the items I mentioned when attending their committee meeting.

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

MR. CROW: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Department of Culture and Communications. In listening to the report, their estimates are the smallest compared to other departments, but their responsibilities seem to be more than other departments in regard to the culture and language of native people, Inuit or Dene/Metis. This should not be lost.

There are several peoples who are culturally lost, but in our region in the Eastern Arctic we still have our language, and the schools use the Inuit language. They have the Inuktitut curriculum in process now. They do not want to lose their language. For sure in our Legislative Assembly it has been used for several years now, and in the future as well, our language will be used in the Assembly.

Use Of Dialects Restricts Communication

They are using it more in other departments, but just a few of us who can use the language have restrictions in using our language. For instance, speaking personally, as an Inuk, and living in the Northwest Territories, we have different dialects and we do not understand one another as readily, myself included. I understand Baffin and Keewatin dialects. I have a limited understanding of them, but if I use the dialect we speak in Sanikiluaq, they will not be able to understand me. I have noticed, it is quite obvious in Sanikiluaq, that our language is closer to Quebec dialect. We speak the Quebec dialect in our proceedings and meetings and we are not understood as well. In Baffin Region, and if we have to go to meetings in Keewatin as well, the people of our community do not understand the dialect as well. This concern has been expressed many times. They wonder how they could use their dialect in conferences and meetings. This concern has been expressed several times now.

Other groups of native people probably have the same problem in communication using their own language. Although they want to use their own language, when it comes to conferences and meetings, they have to use the languages of those present at the meetings and they think that they might not be understood if they use their own dialect. People in my community who have gone to different meetings in other regions of the NWT, say that the people could not understand them. They can go to the meetings and they can follow the procedures, but they are limited by the fact that they are unable to be understood by those speaking other dialects, by other Inuit. So they do not express themselves. That is the first concern that has been expressed in my region. I am referring to it again.

In the field of communications and interpreter programs, if they could in future years raise the funding for the interpreter program for our region. We are very proud of them and the written language as well. Some of the written documents are not translated into Inuktitut and they are specifically geared toward the Inuit. Reading and research that have been done are not written in Inuktitut and even the ones that are already written in Inuktitut, especially in reference to Sanikiluaq, are not understood. The people cannot understand the dialects of the other Inuit.

This happens with people who are permanent local residents in small communities and maybe Sanikiluaq people are not the only ones. Maybe there are other communities too. The communities of Dene/Metis who are also presently represented in our Legislative Assembly. I have not heard them use their language very often. Maybe they are in the same predicament as I am, although they are capable of speaking their language. This is my first concern, that has been expressed to me. It is quite obvious that for work with languages, the budget is quite small and should be increased in accordance with the cultural budget. The heritage and traditional values of the Inuit and the Dene should always be preserved.

Return Of Artifacts

There are many native people in the South; you can hear that there are several cultures living in the South, but when it comes to our own artifacts these should be returned. We should get our cultural artifacts back. They have been exploited. When I was campaigning in BRC this concern was expressed quite vocally. Our traditional culture has been exported out of our communities although there have been concerns expressed to return the artifacts to the original communities. They should be returned to heritage centres and cultural institutes so that we can pass them on to our children. So that they can see what our elders have produced and they can learn from them. I think this is also related to our culture.

The Baffin Regional Council, meeting in October, also expressed what they would like to see happen with elders in the Baffin Region. There is the Inuit Cultural Institute in Eskimo Point and we are aware of that but they do not have a cultural institute in Baffin Region, and concern was expressed that they might be losing their traditional culture. I believe that is a reality that you can see when you visit the communities. For the department that we are reviewing right now, the budget should be increased gradually through the years. I am probably not the only one who wants to express their concerns in regard to this so I will stop at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation lost) ...a lot of cases, are happy to translate that, mostly through hamlet employees. I am also happy to report to the Member that we have a person in our interpreting services here today and for the duration of this session. She understands Mr. Crow's dialect and can interpret it very well. We have that service. That is not always possible but for this session we have a person that is able to understand his dialect very well. We have tried to accommodate different dialects of aboriginal languages whenever possible. We try to hire a person who has a different dialect from what we have. I will be able to ask at the language bureau whenever the positions are open.

On the museum items or artifacts that have been taken out of the Member's area, we will be very happy to talk to the Member. We are working with the school in Sanikiluaq, talking about these artifacts. Also there will be a survey this summer in Sanikiluaq on this topic. As for getting the artifacts back to the respective communities, you have to talk to a lot of different institutions. It is sometimes quite difficult to do that. Right now we are talking to some museums and also to the federal government which has some artifacts.

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

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have a brief comment in Inuktitut with my own dialect. There are positive programs in the language programs and also some of them have some problems. If I were to be working at home I would be using my own language, my own dialect. In some cases when you have different dialects you misunderstand each other. I hope you understand this. I am speaking in my own dialect. (Translation ends)

This Department of Culture and Communications may be satisfactory in the government's eyes but it is still not ordinarily satisfactory to many people in the NWT. I believe it is providing services to the majority of the people, but in between there are still some difficulties. I guess the major part would be that this department deals with ordinary people out there. Some of their most important documents are available to the communities, for the community people to read, things like special news on what the government is going to do. But for some ordinary people who are

interested in what is happening to the government, it is still not reaching them in some form; the ordinary people out there, especially those who read only syllabics. In travelling I was asked a number of times. It seems that all these important things that we should know are being kept away from us for some reason.

News Items Not Interpreted

The people say, "You people who speak English have newspaper clippings and newspapers that you can read and inform yourselves, without waiting for a meeting to come to the community to explain to those of us who really do not have any access to getting information." I guess what I am really talking about are the newspaper clippings that are very important to the communities. I still do not see them interpreted. As the Minister said, it will be up to the hamlet councils and they will be happy to interpret them. In order to try to reach the majority of those who speak only Inuktitut and who would like to be informed, to study, in their spare time, the important correspondence that the government is putting out, more of these have to be interpreted.

I really would not depend on the hamlet councils because they do not have any budget given to them that would be used for interpreting on behalf of those ordinary people out there. So I guess I am saying what the honourable Member for Sanikiluaq has said. The funding of the Department of Culture and Communications has to increase in the future so that those people who wish to become politically involved and get more information on their own behalf do not have to wait for us MLAs to interpret them. We do not have time to interpret them. I totally believe that hamlets really do not have time to interpret them. I believe the hamlets are more into interpreting their own material, to prepare for their own meeting.

What I am trying to say is that the most important items, which should go to the public, are never interpreted properly. For instance, if some of the people out there are really interested in seeing the main estimates and the capital estimates even after they are passed, a lot of those people who are really actively interested in them would not have any access. For instance, the other day there was a document that was requested by the Assembly and the Minister himself has said that it would take \$10,000 or so to have it interpreted. Now, to get the people involved, and everyone who is interested involved, I firmly believe the budget has to be raised. The most important parts, like the newspaper clippings that we receive, are good valuable information to the people in a lot of the communities in the NWT. A lot of them may just stop short at the MLA's desk and also they may stop at the local municipal affairs desk.

Hamlet Employees Do Not Have Time To Interpret Documents

There are also ways of getting to the people, but some of those assigned to give the information to the people really never have the time to do interpreting. Talking to the hamlet secretaries and the assistants, they sometimes do not even have time to translate their own minutes because they have other things to do. I find it very hard to believe that the hamlet employees would be happy to translate some of the documents. I find it rather hard to believe that there is no person assigned to translate some things at the community level, who has a separate budget for translating on behalf of the people in the communities.

So I just wanted to bring that to the committee. Better information to the natives who have only one language and who still can read some of the important information, stops short. Many times it is because they do not have any way of getting the information until once in every year or two, they sit in a meeting and get that information that was documented. I believe we have really smart people in the communities who really sometimes do not get a quarter, even, of the information that they require. Only the totally active ones can sometimes get information. So I guess my main question is: Are we going to see in the future, not only the working materials of the government but information going to the communities? I am talking especially about the newspaper clippings that are very important to us MLAs and also these newspaper clippings are very important to some people back home who cannot read the language when they are only written in English.

For instance, just to note to this committee that some communities are very active, there is this one little heading here that somebody who knows how to speak and write only Inuktitut would be interested in. "Alcohol is tearing out the social fabric of the North." How many broadcasters would really announce it to the communities? It is only documented. Here is one just for example, "Unspent funds for native language development".

More Funding Needed

I am simply trying to let the rest of my colleagues know that the Department of Culture and Communications is still much short of the funding needed to go even approximately halfway to bringing information to the communities. Mr. Chairman, I may have some more questions and comments as we go page by page, but at this point I would just like to stop at my comments. I really do not hope and expect to get any reply to my comments, because they are really comments, but I still ask the question: Is this budget going to increase in the future? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Angottitauruq. Mr. Alloofoo.

HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO: I basically agree with the honourable Member that this department is very small and we are still very much in the developing stage. First of all, our service is mainly for the departments and agencies of this government. I just want to make one clarification on what I said, that most of the time the community people like to see their own translation. For instance, if we were to translate a document in the Baffin dialect, the Keewatin public might not understand it. In a lot of cases they do not understand it. There was one instance where a very small document, not very important either, came back to us with a note saying that it does not mean anything to them. It was translated in the Baffin dialect. What I was trying to say was that the best translators, for people to understand the documents, are the people from the communities, in most cases. Qujannamiik.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Morin.

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, I guess I will do a little bit out of the ordinary here. I would like to congratulate the department for a job well done.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

Funding For Fort Resolution Children's Dance Group

MR. MORIN: I should sit over there I guess. But it is quite true. The department has sensitivity in listening to the smaller communities and what they have to say to you, and when they make requests to you for getting certain things done in the communities. Your department last fall, I believe it was December, funded the community development program in Fort Resolution to buy dancing outfits for the local children's dancing group. They started with just a couple of them doing it, and since that time they have up to 20 dancers. They dance four nights a week, they are all up at the community centre and that is how they pass their time. To watch them dance makes you feel very proud to be from Resolution and I am just hoping that your department can continue to do this sort of thing. Thank you very much. Mahsi.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Morin. General comments. Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A number of times previously I have raised the particular issue I am going to raise with you. Firstly, I am extremely happy that Mr. Crow and Mr. Angottitauruq raised the fact that there are differences in even the Inuktitut language, in the various dialects throughout the Northwest Territories. For a number of years now I have tried to impress upon the government, and I am happy they are beginning to listen by establishing positions in Inuvik and here in Yellowknife, to provide service in the Loucheux language. I wanted to also tell the people here in this Assembly, that despite the fact that we use the word Dene, there is no such word in the Loucheux language. It is out of respect for the other Dene languages, and out of recognition that we have a language of our own, that we use it, as well, and we know what the meaning is. But there is no such word in the Loucheux language.

The other thing I want to continue to impress upon our government is, I notice a number of arrangements, including the one with the University of Alaska, which I must commend both the Department of Education and the Department of Culture and Communications for getting involved in, trying to ensure recognition of differences of language. But I think that internally we have to do more in recognizing the various dialects throughout the NWT and to try to improve the services that we offer in those various dialects. I do not expect you, as a government, to accomplish that tomorrow or within the next two days or a month, but I do believe that some direction should be developed in our government that shows our final goal is to recognize that we have to provide services in all the dialects that exist. I think that is a goal that we should continue to work toward and try to accomplish, at least in our lifetime, so that we can see what we accomplish.

Development In Interpretation For Assembly

I wanted to say to you as well that, despite the fact that we might have some criticism about the lack of interpreters or some of the service we have, I can remember when I was elected in 1979 the first time we only had one booth in which translation was being provided to Members of the Assembly. Now we have five and probably more in future. I think that is a sign of the development in the languages area that we should be extremely proud of, as an Assembly and yourselves as a government. That recognition usually is never there. We have to recognize the fact that we, ourselves, have developed substantially over the past few years. I also want to say that I believe it was about three or four years ago that we began the process of developing the Dene interpreters. In such a short time we now have those people here with us simultaneously translating for the Members of this Assembly. When you recognize what we have done, and recognize the effort, not only of our government but of those who are interested in providing the services, the translators, the interpreters and their commitment to delivering programs and services on behalf of our government and this Legislature, I think we have come a long, long way.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. NERYSOO: I know for a fact that all Members here are still committed to providing better service. I know our Minister and the departmental officials are. It is a good sign for us. It has been helpful and I think we ought to be very proud of what we have accomplished over the past few years with regard to the Dene languages, as well as, since about 1967 I think, with the Inuktitut languages. We have a lot to learn as Dene, but a lot of the learning comes from the experience of the development of Inuktitut language translation and the work and the effort that they have put into that development. I think we have gained from it and I just wanted to make you aware of that. I probably will have a few more comments to make as we get into the detail but I just wanted to recognize the work that we have done, and also make you aware that there are still other issues that we need to accomplish in the languages area over the next three years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. General comments. Mr. Arlooktoo.

English Words Inserted Into Inuktitut Translations

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the topic that has been discussed, I also have the same line of thinking. But when I would like to express some of the translations into Inuktitut there is no word for it and sometimes they insert an English word and that is where a difficulty arises. If the translation is not included in Inuktitut but uses English words then this can cause poor communication. Sometimes they are translated into syllabics when ABCs should be used instead and it corresponds more with the English document. We all know that the Inuit language will not be lost, especially in the Eastern Arctic. We are not shy to use the Inuktitut language. Sometimes when there is a combination of English and Inuktitut, that is a sign of the language being lost. The Inuktitut language is widely used in the Baffin and in the Keewatin.

We are handicapped in what Mr. Angottitauruq mentioned about the translation provided in the communities, and he was quite right. Sometimes when there is a lack of funding, materials cannot always be translated, especially the by-laws and the legislation, and the public is not informed. The hamlets sometimes provide translations, but only for hamlet business, and do not include all the documents written in English. We always ask for additional funding for translation services into Inuktitut and I am not aware of the content of any acts because they are not translated into Inuktitut. This is a big problem for the Inuit because some individuals are taken to court when they do not understand the laws. This was just a comment I wanted to make.

Mr. Minister, when we had our fall session I asked a question concerning Cape Dorset. I know that you are not responsible for the Cape Dorset satellite dish, so that the residents of Cape Dorset could enjoy viewing television, but this was going to be considered by your department. I would like to get a response at this time, to see if this community is going to be assisted. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Thank you, Mr. Arlooktoo. Mr. Alloofoo.

HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The first answer in response to your question. First, I agree totally with your comment regarding the translation into the Inuktitut language. As the Member indicated, often the English language is not translatable. For that

reason they are setting up through ICI in the regional dialect, terms that cannot be easily translated so that there are words that are available for those. We are negotiating that. We are working with ICI. I totally agree with the Member's comment, when he suggested using the alphabet ABC rather than using syllabics for English words -- to keep using the English alphabet. I agree with him. In television, I was not quite clear as to what he was aiming at. However, in the communities, when the population is 500, then the services in television and radio are more available. But I was not sure exactly what he meant. I would like him to clarify that so that I may answer him. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Mr. Arlooktoo.

Television For Cape Dorset

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was trying to say I was aware that a community with a population under 500 was not able to get the viewing of television but in Cape Dorset settlement, I know that television is available. However, I asked whether television could be made available when they do not have that population. As we know, Cape Dorset is divided into three. The question I was asking was in regard to some who cannot get television satellite and the main settlement, Iluittuk. What if they could get television available within the community? Could they upgrade that so that the other areas could see television?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Thank you, Mr. Arlooktoo. Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Regarding the television, we can talk further to CBC and we will get back to the Member on this subject.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Thank you, Mr. Allooloo. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am happy that I can talk in my language to the Minister, finally. I am pleased. I have a brief comment. I had tried to write what I wanted to say but I do not have a long comment to make. When I was working in the language bureau in 1971 to 1973 it was called the Department of Information. We were working mainly on information services and when we started, the department was very small. To date the department has developed and they have a lot more work in that department regarding cultural affairs. They are providing different types of television information in the native languages and the department has developed a great deal since then. The goals that they have is for the betterment of the language.

Also, on the comments that we heard earlier from the Members, I felt that we, the Inuit in our community in the North, have felt the same way as Charlie Crow felt regarding historical things, especially, that where there were artifacts brought to the South, they could be brought back to our community. We have concerns and we feel very strongly about the artifacts that the Inuit people had years ago. They have preserved them in the museums although they belong to our people in our community. We think of it as stealing our artifacts. I understood the Minister very clearly, that he can talk to Charlie Crow, and I understood how we can go about taking these artifacts back; they would have to talk to many Inuit people and they would have to talk to the government. However, I do not think we should stop there in trying to get our artifacts. Some are overseas and some are in Canada down south. How would we go about making policy in order to get the artifacts back to us? To make an act powerful enough to get the artifacts back -- how would it be if we went, Mr. Minister, that route?

Inuktitut Dialects Being Lost

I understand that the language from Keewatin to the Baffin area is the same. I understand that. However, the dialect is slightly different at times, although for myself, I can communicate very well with my Inuit friends on Baffin Island. Unfortunately, some of us are losing our language, and the dialects are slightly different. The Natilikmiot language and the Kivallivik language, to the Baffin Region, are becoming more and more into one; they are uniting. Often, too, we are losing our language because we are sometimes talking English. Perhaps we can say to the government, let us be stronger to develop this and let us, the aboriginal people, the Inuit people, work toward this because we lack communication because we have lost our language.

For myself, I can say I am sorry that we are losing our own language. On the other hand, within our work area in the departments, because there is no encouragement to use our language in the departments, when we are talking to the government in our communities we use English and sometimes

when you are talking to an Inuk friend, they often respond in English. I previously mentioned the Inuktitut language. When the aboriginal language is recognized, our language will be stronger, so that we may use the language within our departments. Perhaps a lot more people will start talking again and get it back. It is our identity; the language is our identity. If we Inuit lose our language, we will still be Inuit, but our identity will be lost. I am not putting the blame on the government totally for the loss of our language. However, the communication part has a lot to do with it -- the radio station, CBC, and the use of our language and the deterioration of our language, in the use of our language. We have to encourage our language to be used in our community. (Translation ends)

Cultural Identity Being Lost

What I want to do is to say a few more things about this culture issue. Let us face it, the Inuit culture, for instance, is leaving us, and I really cannot blame this on the Government of the Northwest Territories, and to some extent the Government of Canada. I think we do have to take, as Inuit-speaking people, for our people in the East, a certain amount of responsibility for losing this cultural identity. I was always envious of Greenland and Alaska, not of the culture itself, but how these people are able to continue to keep up with their cultural activities. I am particularly talking about the drum dancers and cultural beliefs, when they come to perform in various countries. I guess one of the things that we are coming pretty close to catching up with Greenland and Alaska with is this Tununiq theatre group which came to Yellowknife to perform just a few days ago. So I think we have to continue to encourage that kind of thing to go forward on the part of the people at the community level in the Eastern Arctic. And if we are really serious about keeping our culture, then we have to take a certain amount of responsibility for practising it.

I just indicated a little while ago that the Inuktitut language is not being encouraged in the place of work, in the government offices, in company offices, because the English language has taken over much of what is going on in terms of activity in all areas of work, in all areas of life. So naturally we are going to begin to lose the Inuktitut language. So while I agree that we have to be able to continue the language itself, where I am more concerned nowadays is with the loss of various dialects across the Northwest Territories. The distinct dialects that existed once are gone. For instance, the Natilikmiot dialect is basically gone now, unfortunately. That is the most direct dialect within all Inuktitut dialects in the Northwest Territories, extending to Alaska and extending to Greenland. To me that is the most direct dialect and it is very, very lovely, a very good dialect, and I am really sorry that it is gone.

Museums For Inuit Artifacts

The other area where I have some concern is the issue of museums. I recognize that the government has been working again in our region with the ICI to carry out some of the cultural activities in the Keewatin Region, extending them to the Eastern Arctic. But this refers again to Charlie Crow's earlier comments with regard to artifacts. I wonder how much effort, and I am wondering if there is a real effort being undertaken by the concerned parties, whether it is ICI or whether it is working with the GNWT, to preserve the artifacts from the communities for the communities. I am really concerned about that because not only do we know now that many of the artifacts from our side, the Inuit side, have gone to southern Canada, but do we really go all out and attempt to preserve the artifacts for the communities?

I think Igloodik has done a good job establishing a community museum. And perhaps we should be taking a look at that kind of program across the NWT. Let me first ask the Minister about the issue of museums. In particular, I am interested in the relationship that you may have with museums outside of the NWT. I am particularly talking about the one in Churchill, the Eskimo museum. I will have questions after I hear from the Minister.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Thank you, Mr. Ernerk. Mr. Alloodoo.

HON. TITUS ALLOODOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (Translation ends)

Regarding statements first of all on the language issue or the retaining of language and different cultures, the only people who can retain the culture and keep the language is the people themselves. Government will never do it for them, and the act or any amount of acts or regulations will never keep our language or culture. There is a saying in my dialect when you are referring to

somebody who does not understand, or whatever. We call it kutanniq. If I lose my language then I become kutaktuq in my own culture. It means that I am clumsy or childlike in my own culture. If I lose my language then I cannot keep my culture. The language is the key to keeping culture. Once we lose that, then nothing will get it back to us. I agree with the Member that it is very, very important for all the aboriginal people to keep their culture and language. The only one to do that is the people themselves.

As for the museums in southern Canada, we are working with the federal government to get the artifacts back to the NWT in some cases. Whenever the artifacts that have been brought out of the NWT become available, the only way that we have been able to get them back is through private purchases. As the Member might be aware, last year our budget to purchase items was drastically cut. We have not been able to recover from that budget cut.

Direct Contact With Churchill Museum

As for the Churchill museum, we have direct contact with the museum and by correspondence and through telephone we are developing a close working relationship with the museum to exchange information and on projects. We have joint archival projects with the museum in Churchill.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Thank you, Mr. Alloofoo. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Did I understand you to say that you have a direct -- what is the word you used? Contact. You are not telling me that you are managing the museum together? No?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Thank you. Maybe, Mr. Ernerk, the Minister could respond to your comment because your question is on record.

HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO: Mr. Chairman, we are in a very formative stage of developing a direct relationship with the museum. We are working on possibly exchanging information and artifacts. We are working with them but the financial aspect of it has not come in. We do not have joint management of the museum.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Thank you, Mr. Alloofoo. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: I know from many years ago that there was an idea that was brought to the Eskimo museum in Churchill that the GNWT should purchase it. I think this idea originally came from the former Commissioner of the NWT, Mr. Hodgson. Has there ever been any further thought to purchasing the museum?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Thank you, Mr. Ernerk. Mr. Alloofoo.

HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not aware of the purchase of the museum and the museum is out of our jurisdiction. It is in Manitoba. We do not have plans in the near future to purchase the museum.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Thank you, Mr. Alloofoo. Mr. Ernerk.

Manitoba Government And Churchill Museum

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, maybe I should put it this way to get my point across. What I am really worried about is this, Mr. Chairman. In Churchill, the Churchill harbour board died and that was sort of the end of the town of Churchill. I used to live in Churchill from 1963 to 1965 and I watched the town decreasing in population, decreasing in businesses, the GNWT moving to the Keewatin Region, and Churchill has not stopped decreasing since then. I worry that one day Churchill will be no more, which is always a possibility. It brings me to a point where some day the Manitoba government may be taking over something like this, which is in Manitoba right now. I want to know and I want to help you out as much as I can to avoid having the Manitoba government take over such a fine facility. There are lots and lots of artifacts in there, very, very nice pieces of carving from way, way back. The thing to do some day is to get ready for something like this so that the Manitoba government does not take over something that rightly belongs to the Inuit of the Keewatin and the NWT and to the Roman Catholic diocese.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Thank you, Mr. Ernerk. Mr. Alloofoo.

HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the honourable Member for the good advice and to assure him that if the museum ever came to be for sale we would definitely look into the possibility of purchasing it. Before that, I can assure the Member that there will be time to talk to the people in charge. I understand it is the church that looks after the museum. My officials will be discussing the future of the museum with them. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Thank you, Mr. Alloofoo. Any further questions, Mr. Ernerk?

MR. ERNERK: I just have one other question. If a community has a population of 500, did I understand you to say that you will provide them with television and radio? I always thought this was the CBC's policy, that if there are 500 people and over in the community, then CBC will provide both radio and television, or did I misunderstand?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Mr. Alloofoo.

HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO: Mr. Chairman, if the population is under 500 we provide the service. If the population is over 500, CBC provides the service.

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

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, just a couple of concerns that I have. I tore up my paper but I think I can still read it. With regard to the Department of Culture and Communications, aboriginal languages is one area that the department has. I have always been curious about this. The government just today indicated that the reasons why they are transferring health is to cut costs and eliminate duplication of services. I thought that was a really good move on the government's part but this is another area where the language program budget is not within your department. You still have to, I believe, go through the Department of Education to transfer moneys to the communities. Now if that has changed since last year, good. But I believe that last year, when I questioned the Minister of Education on this particular program, the situation was that the program was administered through the Department of Education. We have run into this difficulty of duplication. If that has changed since last year, good. But if it has not, then there is that difficulty. If the government is looking at cutting costs and making improvements to program deliveries, then I like the direction that the government has taken but again, with regard to this particular language item, I would like to know whether it is still within your mandate or that of the Department of Education.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mr. Alloofoo.

Culture And Communications Funds Education Department To Deliver Language Service

HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO: Mr. Chairman, the program has not changed from last year. We co-ordinate delivery of the program through the Department of Education to the communities. Essentially, we give funds to the Department of Education and they deliver the service to the communities.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Why?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Good question. Mr. Alloofoo.

HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO: I think that my deputy may be the best one to answer the question.

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

MR. SORENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To make the job very easy and so we do not duplicate things, our Minister has been given the responsibility to co-ordinate the Canada-NWT language agreement. This is what the Member is referring to when he says "community projects". Our officials head up the committee that puts together the yearly spending plan in co-operation with the Department of Education, the Department of Health and the Department of Justice. We take a lead role. We go to Ottawa and we negotiate the money for the year. Once the negotiation has taken place and we have received the money, we simply provide it to Education which supports a

number of community education projects, language projects related to education. They have the staff in the field and they are able to monitor and assist with the program development. It works very well, and I am not aware of any problems, since the Member pointed it out at the last session, of payments not being received on time. If it involved an Education matter in languages, then perhaps it is something that we can address with the Department of Education. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Thank you, Mr. Sorensen. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to say with regard to the cultural aspect of the department that there are some difficulties right now within the Department of Education that I feel have a lot to do with the existing education system and the cultural content that is within the system. There is confusion with regard to value systems in those areas. I would like to know whether your department has been looking at other avenues to promote the cultural portion, perhaps not in the education system but in the community. What is your department doing to encourage this, whether it is in the Renewable Resources or Culture and Communications aspect of the aboriginal people in the communities?

The other area that I wanted to mention is that I wanted to find out how many aboriginal language development programs you have in the area. How many of those programs are on a funding base, and which ones of those have you now accepted as part of the Department of Education or the Department of Culture and Communications personnel? I could only use the example in Fort Providence, where Mrs. Margaret Thom now has been on the government payroll with regard to aboriginal language development. I understand that you do have language development in the communities but which department is paying this individual? Is it the Department of Education or the Department of Culture and Communications?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mr. Alloofoo.

HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO: Mr. Chairman, I am not quite clear as to what the Member is referring to about the cultural inclusion program. Is he talking about the education? There is a program in the communities called cultural inclusion program. Is he talking about that, or is he talking about other initiatives that the government is putting in communities?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Thank you, Mr. Alloofoo. Explanation, Mr. Gargan.

Number Of Language Programs

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, all I am referring to is that you do have that language development program in some other communities. Arrangements have been made now to create some of these positions, the one in Fort Providence, for example. There is a PY there now. The person works for the government on the language development aspect of it. I only asked the Minister how many language development programs do we have in the Western Arctic, how many of these are through grants and contributions, and how many of those are actually done by payroll from here? That is what I was trying to get at.

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO: Thank you for clarification. The position that he is talking about, and the programs that he is talking about, are done by the Department of Education and they will be the one to answer his question.

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

Two Departments Involved In Cultural Programs

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I understand what the Minister is saying. I am still quite confused with regard to this whole issue of cultural inclusion in the communities. We do have, in the schools in particular, two departments that are looking again at the responsibility of this particular program. I now have the difficulty that the Department of Education is not being too supportive of that program in the schools. Or maybe it is the difficulty of the schools to deal with that component within the communities. You cannot really nail down a Minister and say, "You are responsible for this particular program of cultural promotion or cultural inclusion in the schools." You really deal with two Ministers on that whole issue.

In the communities, although 90 per cent of the population is aboriginal, that 90 per cent of the population is still not being utilized to promote culture. I believe that it should be the communities that promote or teach those cultures. But this is not what is happening. We still have, during one week, maybe one hour of the 35 hours in the school system, that little portion being designated as developing the culture of the students. That is not very much and we still have the difficulty in the schools that there are two distinct cultures involved. The value systems are also quite different. As long as you combine them, you confuse a child more than if you try to develop and identify the two distinct cultures.

Give Responsibility To The Community

Mr. Ernerk touched on a good point on this whole business of the aboriginal language being a criterion for promotions or for raises, and that is not the case. The situation in the schools is still that non-native people who are teaching in the schools still do not care whether they are part of or take part in the aboriginal language programs. I said that with the Department of Education and I am saying it again with the Department of Culture and Communications, that this issue of the educational system and the culture has to be addressed. It has to be addressed in such a way that we might be able to accommodate the existing education system and, as well, the communities so that this government will be able to say that we are serious about the culture of the aboriginal people. I think that the best approach to it is that we let the responsibility for the cultural programs be the responsibility of the community rather than the local education authority and that the LEAs will be the ones responsible for the overall schooling as was defined maybe 10 years ago, which is strictly on the basis of the white perspective of what they mean by the education system. I do not know whether you have any formula or any vision -- you could call it that -- as to where this government is going with regard to those two very distinct ways of learning.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mr. Minister, do you wish to comment?

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, I know that at least in the Eastern Arctic, the cultural inclusion program in the schools is done under the authority of the LEAs or education councils and the curriculum is developed by these local people. That is going away from my department and going into the Education department. My colleague, the Minister of Education, could address that more clearly than I can, but the cultural inclusion program is done basically by the LEAs. I do not know how it is done in the West, but there the local people have taken the initiative to take part and to develop this curriculum for their children, especially in the area of cultural inclusion. The teachers are hired by the LEA or education council or society. It stays in the community. To inform the Member more about our cultural programs, my officials would be very happy to brief him on what we do in this area if the Member agrees to be briefed in this area.

Education System Viewed As Imported Institution

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

MR. GARGAN: Yes, I would like to be briefed. I will be very brief. Mr. Chairman, I know what the existing programs are. I have been told that for the last five years, but that is not what I am getting at. Perhaps the types of programs in the Eastern Arctic might differ from the programs that we have in the Western Arctic. The Western Arctic also has band councils as well as hamlet councils. In the Eastern Arctic I believe they have one council as opposed to two. That is the situation that we are in. What I am saying is that perhaps because there is that situation, where the communities still view the existing education system as an imported institution, they have nothing to do with instituting that institution in the communities. They really do not concern themselves too much about this building, or what is in it or what is operating in it, or the direction that it is taking. We need a buffer zone, if you want to call it that, with regard to this institution and the community.

Now I think the best approach to take is to ask the band council to take on the responsibility for promoting the cultural programs, whether it is handicrafts, hunting, trapping, fishing or music or language development. This way you probably might be able to utilize as many resources from the community as humanly possible and that is with regard to musicians, craftsmen, storytellers. That is not what is happening. You have what is known as the aboriginal language development program in the schools but if you are looking at the cultural content of it, it just goes as far as language,

period. It might differ a bit in the other communities, in Fort Simpson for example, but all they offer is aboriginal language development programs. You have to get the consent of the parents in order to be part of that program.

Unsuccessful Approach Through LEAs

I am saying that we have gone through the local education authority route already and we have tried unsuccessfully to use that forum to further develop the aboriginal language programs. I have a response from the local education authority chairman. I have not got it with me but he was very insensitive about the cultural programs of the aboriginal people. He is saying that people cannot go back on the land because they are lazy. They are spoiled. This person has cultural promotion within his mandate. How do you deal with a person who has that negative attitude? I do not know. I have not got the answers but perhaps the only way to go about it is that I think perhaps it is time we went a political route, saying that maybe it is time that the communities, the local councils, the hamlet or the band councils took on some of those responsibilities. I think if we took that route, we might get more of a positive result. I have lived under the regime of LEAs for the last 15 years. Other than the general administration portion of it, there have not been drastic strides taken with regard to this particular body or what their functions are.

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Member is right. Unless the local people are involved in this cultural inclusion program, the program does not work. We have experienced that in the East. I could speak for North Baffin and basically throughout the Baffin area, that unless the communities get involved, the program does not work. With the grant that Education gives to the communities in the Baffin, they usually have two aboriginal teachers from the community -- usually these are older people -- who teach the kids their culture.

In the Western Arctic we give some funds to the Dene Cultural Institute, which Ms Ethel Blondin-Townsend will speak to you about. They are developing a five year work plan to address the cultural needs of the communities. If I could get your permission, Mr. Chairman, for my assistant deputy minister to speak on that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Ms Blondin-Townsend.

Activities Of Dene Cultural Institute

MS BLONDIN-TOWNSEND: Mr. Chairman, with regard to the types of programs that the Department of Culture and Communications carries out, to complement or enhance the Department of Education's cultural inclusion program, we have, as the Minister mentioned, resources allocated for the Dene Cultural Institute. The Dene Cultural Institute has the mandate, as carried out by its board of directors, to develop a five year work plan which will lay out major objectives. One is to work with the youth and the elders, one is an NWT elders advisory council and another is to identify the kind of training and research that is required to develop, for instance, a Dene studies curriculum. These are the types of work that the Dene Cultural Institute is mandated to carry out. It was founded at a conference in the summer of 1986. It has been fairly active with its board. It has lobbied for federal funds and that has been enhanced by \$222,000 which has made its work in the area of cultural education, and the development of that work, possible over the next year.

The other projects that we undertake are by way of grants and contributions. We provide grants and contributions to communities to undertake the publication of Dene material. One which Mr. Gargan is familiar with is the publication of the book on the elders. We also sponsor various activities; for instance, we sponsor camps that relate to cultural activities that are undertaken basically in the bush which teach bush skills as options to drug and alcohol abuse. We undertake a number of different cultural activities in the communities. These are done on a case by case basis. The strength of the proposal basically comes out in the review that it is given by the department. We encourage communities and assist them in developing and strengthening their proposals. We review each and every one that comes to our department. Thank you.

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

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, just one short comment before we make a motion to report progress. I do not know what the difficulty is with regard to the whole issue of culture. I do not know what the hang-up is. I truly believe that this government does have two distinct programs. The very people

that live up here are being affected by two systems of education, and if the communities feel that they could take absolute control of the delivery of cultural programs in the schools or in the community, I think they should be given every opportunity to do so.

With regard to the Dene Cultural Institute, this government has given a major native organization moneys to develop this institution. Whether or not it is to do with literature or language development is something that they have to plan for within the next five years. There were advertisements with regard to the Dene Cultural Institute for executive directors, administrators and secretaries. I do not know whether that meant that a grant was given last year and then they have to wait this year before they get another grant. I do not know which direction they will be taking and whether we are looking at a whole new concept of Dene culture or not, but I strongly feel that major concessions have to be made by this government. I think there are 18 of us aboriginal Members in this House who can verify that, as far as the aboriginal culture goes, we are still alive and kicking.

Promoting Our Culture Ourselves

We are not going to go away, not just on the basis of new models of education that happen within the communities, to make you model citizens. We have to be able to make model citizens of our own people in their own culture, and I think that is what we are missing. We have some token services if you want to call it that, but nothing that is really ours, to say that it is ours. You are the ones who are developing my culture. You are the ones who are promoting my culture, rather than me being the one to promote my culture. That is the difficulty I have. I mean, when is that going to change? When is that trend going to change? I believe that it is not changing and it has not, and it will not unless we keep addressing it.

The same situation applies with the aboriginal translation program; it is all stationed in Yellowknife here. There is nothing in the regional councils. Although the regional councils are aboriginal organizations, there are absolutely no provisions for them to have translators. They have to rely on them from the districts or else from Yellowknife. So once again in a way it is still the same situation -- it is the government that is providing us with our services rather than we, the aboriginal people, providing our own services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo): Before the Minister answers, I recognize the hour being 6:00 o'clock, and I am going to recognize the clock.

I am sorry, I did not express our appreciation to the witnesses for appearing before the committee. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The House will come back to order. Mr. Nerysoo.

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. NERYSOO: Thank you, 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. Nerysoo. Is there a seconder for the motion? Thank you, Mr. Arlooktoo. To the motion. All those in favour? Those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Clerk.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Speaker, Members are reminded of the NTCL reception at the Explorer Hotel from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. tonight and at 6:00 p.m. this evening, a meeting of the standing committee on legislation. Tomorrow morning at 8:00 a.m., a meeting of the standing committee on finance; at 9:00 a.m. of the ordinary Members' committee; at 10:00 a.m. the Management and Services Board; and at 11:30 a.m. a caucus meeting. There will also be a striking committee at 3:00 p.m. tomorrow afternoon.

ITEM 19: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Wednesday, March 9th, at 1:00 p.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); Tabled Document 80-88(1)
18. Report of Committee of the Whole
19. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: This House stands adjourned until Wednesday, March 9th, at 1:00 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT

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