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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 1988

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Red Pedersen): Orders of the day for Thursday, April 14th. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Patterson.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Ministers' Statement 62-88(1): Retirement Of Robert Pilot, Deputy Minister, Intergovernmental Affairs

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to our retiring deputy minister of Intergovernmental Affairs. After 35 years of dog sledding, delivering babies, seeking the lost Franklin Expedition, Boy Scouting and serving the people of the Northwest Territories, Bob Pilot is calling it a day.

Mr. Pilot first came north with the RCMP in 1953 and was posted to Frobisher Bay. During his early career with the force, Mr. Pilot also served at Craig Harbour, Ellesmere Island, one of the more northerly RCMP detachments. During this tour of duty he made many dog-team patrols; some of the more notable and lengthy ones were between Craig Harbour and Resolute Bay, 700 miles return, and from Grise Fiord to Alexandra Fiord on northern Ellesmere, including north Greenland, with close to 1000 miles covered.

In the mid-1950s Mr. Pilot played a role in selecting a new site and building the RCMP detachment in Grise Fiord, which he commanded until 1960. At the same time, he helped set up the first co-operative store and built wooden houses for people in Grise Fiord. It was at this time that Mr. Pilot mastered the Inuktitut language which he continues to speak very well.

In Pond Inlet in 1960, Mr. Pilot established the first Boy Scout troop, which is still active. It was while he was there that Mr. Pilot gained a reputation as a paramedic, delivering babies, pulling teeth and handling gunshot wounds. In 1964, the Queen recognized his services and he was awarded the rank of Serving Brother in the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. He has since been promoted to Knight of the Order. In 1965, Mr. Pilot joined the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs and became the first area administrator in Broughton Island. From there he moved back to Pond Inlet to help establish the local government.

Mr. Pilot joined the Government of the Northwest Territories in 1969 and became assistant regional director at Fort Smith. Two years later he was promoted to regional director in Frobisher Bay, where he and his family lived until 1975 when he moved to Yellowknife as senior executive assistant to the Commissioner. In November, 1979, Mr. Pilot was appointed Deputy Commissioner for a five year term and then became the first deputy minister of Executive Council. In 1986 Mr. Pilot took his considerable experience to our Ottawa office as deputy minister of Intergovernmental Affairs.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Pilot has made many contributions to life in the North. Just last year the Governor General of Canada awarded Mr. Pilot with the Order of Canada. He is a founding member of the Council of St. John and a founding member of the NWT Council of Boy Scouts of Canada. As an explorer, he has led several private expeditions in search of clues to the fate of Sir John Franklin and has assembled an important collection of historical books about the Arctic. Mr. Speaker, I, along with my colleagues, wish Mr. Pilot a healthy, happy retirement. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Government Leader. Ministers' statements. Mr. Kakfwi.

Ministers' Statement 63-88(1): Liquor Act Amendment, Breweries

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, I will be tabling a draft amendment to the Liquor Act today and am asking Members to provide me with their thoughts on it over the next three months.

The Department of Government Services and several MLAs have received requests from a number of persons who are interested in establishing breweries or brew pubs within the Northwest Territories. A brew pub is a pub which brews its own beer on the premises and then serves the beer to its customers on the premises. Under the current Liquor Act there are no provisions for the establishment of breweries and brew pubs. This amendment will allow for that to happen. It will also allow for the establishment of wineries to produce wine and distilleries to produce hard liquor.

Before anyone can establish such a plant, however, approval must be received from several departments of the federal government, following which the Government of the Northwest Territories will be asked to give its approval. Departments such as Health and Welfare and Revenue Canada will be involved.

A brewing operation in the NWT will serve to create some jobs, I understand not a great deal, but the economics of the North will determine where and how such operations would be established.

The more important question is, should we proceed down this path? Obviously, alcohol, particularly alcohol abuse, is a concern to all of us, Mr. Speaker. Before the government proceeds with this amendment and regulations which will determine how we would administer and control such operations, we require feedback from as many people as possible. Comments should be received by the end of July, Mr. Speaker. The government will then be in a position to make a decision on whether or not to proceed with the legislation for the fall session. Thank you.

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

Ministers' Statement 64-88(1): Victims Of Crime Act

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that later today I will be tabling the Victims of Crime Act. The purpose of this bill is to recognize that victims of crime have special needs that must be addressed. Research is needed to understand those needs and concerns so that services can be provided.

A victims assistance committee is established to promote the needs and concerns of victims and the provision of services to them. The committee may promote fair treatment of victims and give them information and assistance. It will make recommendations to the Minister about services needed to meet concerns of victims. A victims assistance fund is established to develop services and programs. The fund does not draw on existing government money but will be created through a surcharge imposed on people convicted of an offence. The philosophy behind the surcharge is that people who break the law should help in compensating victims of crime.

An earlier draft of this bill was tabled in this Assembly in June of 1987. There have been a number of developments since then. We have received comments from members of the bar, the judiciary, and other interested individuals. In November, we circulated a discussion paper which described the features of the bill. Also in November, the Minister of Justice for Canada, Mr. Hnatyshyn, introduced victims of crime legislation in the House of Commons. Bill C-89 includes

provisions for a victim's surcharge on Criminal Code offences and also includes Criminal Code amendments relating to victim impact statements, photographic evidence, restitution and the protection of the identity of victims in certain cases. For the information of Members, I will be tabling a copy of the federal Bill C-89.

At the meeting of federal, provincial and territorial Ministers of Justice, which I attended in Saskatoon last month, a statement of principles for victims of crime was endorsed. The principles were developed in recognition of the United Nations' declaration of basic principles of justice for victims of crime and are intended to promote access to justice, fair treatment and provision of assistance for victims of crime. I will be tabling a copy of this statement of principles for victims of crime today as well.

It is my intention to wait until the federal victims of crime legislation has passed through Parliament before proceeding with the introduction of the Northwest Territories' victims of crime bill. That will allow us to make sure that the federal and territorial acts complement one another and should prevent confusion. Mr. Speaker, this government is dedicated to improving the situation for the victims of crime. This bill represents a significant step toward achieving that goal. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Patterson.

Ministers' Statement 65-88(1): Aboriginal Language Courses For Senior High School

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Minister of Education, I established five major goals for the Department of Education for the years 1985 to 1990. The preservation of aboriginal languages and cultures is one of these goals. I am therefore pleased to announce that one of the steps we are taking to achieve this goal is to require an aboriginal language course for all students at the senior high school level. These courses will be phased in over the next two years. By September, 1990, all territorial high school students will be required to take an aboriginal language course to graduate.

---Applause

The task force on aboriginal languages emphasized the importance of making the North a bilingual society. The report discussed the necessity of providing opportunities for aboriginal students to learn in their mother tongue and in English. As part of this initiative, an Inuktitut language arts program for Inuktitut-speaking students will be piloted in September, 1988. It includes the study of Inuit literature and poetry as well as the Inuktitut language.

It also suggested that, in order to achieve such a goal, non-aboriginal children should have the opportunity to learn a northern language. By providing these courses at the high school level, non-aboriginal students will gain insight into the values and cultures of northern native people.

Mr. Speaker, another benefit of this course requirement will be to assist aboriginal students who, for various reasons, have lost or never learned their mother tongue. These language courses will enable them, when combined with new elementary level programs, to regain this inheritance. By taking this important step we are enabling all of our students, both aboriginal and non-aboriginal, to participate more actively in the multilingual, multicultural society of the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

---Applause

Thank you, and if I may, Mr. Speaker, I have another statement.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, go ahead.

Ministers' Statement 66-88(1): New Divisional Boards Of Education Established

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in November, 1985, the first divisional board of education was established in the Baffin Region. Since that time we have seen a dramatic increase in public commitment to education. More students are in school longer, more grades are offered in many communities, and there are better student materials and locally developed programs in schools.

Mr. Speaker, I am now pleased to inform the Assembly that two more divisional boards of education were established on April 1, 1988: the Keewatin Divisional Board of Education and the Kitikmeot Divisional Board of Education.

The eight-member board in Keewatin held its first meeting this past Saturday in Baker Lake. Although I was not able to attend the celebration, my colleague, Mr. Wray, extended congratulations on my behalf and on behalf of this Assembly. The Kitikmeot Divisional Board of Education will hold its first meeting sometime in early May. Both of these newly formed boards have worked hard to achieve divisional board status. They have been involved as an advisory body in the delivery of education for a number of years and have taken part in many training seminars. The Department of Education has assisted them to develop and will continue to provide support and advice at their request.

As divisional boards, they have greater responsibility for the delivery of school programs, the development and use of cultural materials, and staffing in schools. Their involvement, however, does not in any way diminish my accountability for the overall quality of education in the Northwest Territories. The establishment of divisional boards represents the commitment of the people in these two regions to provide the best education possible for their children.

The establishment of the Keewatin and Kitikmeot boards completes the plans for the management of education by locally elected representatives in all central, eastern and Arctic Coast communities. I am optimistic that similar boards will soon be developed for all Western Arctic communities.

Mr. Speaker, fellow Members, I ask you to join me in wishing the people of the Keewatin and the Kitikmeot every success in the challenge they have accepted. Thank you.

---Applause

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

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Retirement Of Robert Pilot

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As to what the Government Leader said concerning Bob Pilot, I feel that he was able to do this because he was in the North for a number of years. I would like to comment on the statements that you made, that he travelled by dog-team the great distances of 700 miles to 1000 miles. We should commend this, except if he had not had Inuit guides or assistants he would not have been able to do this. I would like to commend the Inuit guides who assisted him. Also, I would like to apologize; when he lived in the NWT for a long time, his salary was adequate. The money he made in the North -- it is regrettable that he has decided to move down south; as well, the money he made. I wanted to mention the guides that he had during his time in the North; I am more proud of them. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Butters, is your hand up? Thank you, Mr. Butters. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Ms Cournoyea.

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

Return To Question 0377-88(1): Management Of Inuvik Region Health Services Contracts

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I have, I hope, a somewhat adequate answer to Question 0377-88(1), asked by Mr. Tom Butters on April 12, regarding doctor and other health professional contracts.

Mr. Speaker, considering the great amount of work performed by the regional health boards, considering that the boards might not be completely operational at the time of the health transfer, and considering the lack of experience of the boards initially, it was decided that the Department of Health in Yellowknife would handle the negotiations and signing of contracts with universities involving physicians, residents and other health specialty services.

This measure, which, Mr. Speaker, is temporary, was taken to guarantee that all the contracts are uniformly administered throughout the Territories and that the terms of agreement meet all the legal standards required by the government and that adequate fiscal resources are allotted to cover these contracts. Naturally, Mr. Speaker, regional boards will provide an input in the drawing up of these contracts regarding level, type and frequency of services.

The federal government, which was responsible for health in the past, had quite a number of different contracts and we felt it was imperative to conduct an overall review of these contracts prior to renewal. The contracts must be in response to identified needs and there must be a co-ordinated approach to ensure efficient and effective use of limited dollars. Many of these contracts expire near the transfer date, which necessitates a rewrite into the GNWT format. The Department of Health has the expertise to assist the regional boards in concluding this task without overtaxing the resources of the boards. This approach allows for southern contractors to deal with one department over the transfer period. It will be easier to respond to inquiries and details as many of the groups provide NWT-wide services.

It is my intention, within a year, once the boards are fully staffed and operational, to turn over these contracts to the boards, who will then be responsible for them, including renewal and changes as required, based on experience, administration and operations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Further Return To Question 0313-88(1): Removal Of Employment Officers From Communities

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to oral Question 0313-88(1) asked by Mr. Nerysoo on March 29 regarding labour pool officers. The Inuvik Region has been the centre of a great deal of economic activity over the last few years, particularly when the Norman Wells pipeline was under construction and during the exploration activity in the Beaufort Sea. Community-based labour pool officers were funded by contributions to municipalities. The officers were the single contact in each community for major employers, and not only did they locate qualified workers but they also made sure that the workers were available to travel to Norman Wells and to Tuktoyaktuk when transportation was arranged by employers.

With the completion of the Norman Wells pipeline and the current level of petroleum exploration activity in the region, I had prepared a budget proposal to discontinue these positions. However, recognizing the concerns expressed by Mr. Nerysoo, Member of the Legislative Assembly for the Mackenzie Delta, and the fact that the services of these officers continue to be highly valued by the residents of the Inuvik Region, I have decided to retain their positions. I have directed the Department of Education to identify the funding for these labour pool officers, if possible, from within the budget for the Inuvik Region. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Returns to oral questions. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a few returns to oral questions, Questions 0322-88(1), 0323-88(1) and 0324-88(1), asked by Mr. Gargan on March 29th.

Further Return To Question 0322-88(1): Foster Homes, Yellowknife

In regard to family income in relation to rent, the maintenance payments for foster children who are living in foster homes in public housing units are excluded from the gross income of the head of the household, and are not considered when assessing rent under the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation rental scale.

Return To Question 0323-88(1): Legal Protection In Private Adoption

When a status Indian child is adopted, headquarters notifies the registrar, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Ottawa. The child's identity is amended and the child is removed from the treaty number of his or her biological parents and registered separately. If the child is adopted by status Indians, the child's number is transferred to the number of his or her adoptive family and he gains membership in their band. The adoptee may request information from the registrar directly after reaching the age of majority and have his or her original treaty rights reinstated. This procedure applies to all adoptions: departmental, private and custom.

Further Return To Question 0324-88(1): Counselling Services To Young Pregnant Teenagers

Counselling services are available to unmarried mothers before and after the birth of the child. During this counselling the process and the ramifications of relinquishments, either for custom adoption or departmental placement, are fully explained and emphasized with the parent. However, the service is voluntary and provided only on request. A person is not required to receive counselling unless she wishes to.

Return To Question 0358-88(1): T-4 Slips Issued For Open Custody Contracts

This is a return to oral Question 0358-88(1), asked by Mr. Nerysoo on April 7, 1988.

At the present time payments to individuals using their own homes to look after young offenders serving open custody sentences are made by the department using a service contract. For the 1987 taxation year 14 individuals have received T-4 slips. According to the Department of Finance, individuals who have service contracts with the GNWT are obligated to report the remuneration received to Revenue Canada. T-4s are generated automatically for all GNWT service contracts with individuals.

It is my position that these payments to individuals should be considered in the same manner as child welfare foster payments. Revenue Canada has ruled that these payments are exempt from taxation. Efforts are under way to obtain the same type of ruling for payments to young offender open custody homes. In the meantime, I have directed my department officials to contact the individuals who have been issued T-4s to determine if they are encountering problems in completing their tax returns.

Return To Question 0362-88(1): Standing Committee On Justice Hearings

The last return is to Question 0362-88(1), asked by Mr. McLaughlin on April 8, 1988.

The correctional law review is part of the all-embracing criminal law review, which was approved by the federal cabinet in 1980. It will examine the fundamental purposes of corrections and the full spectrum of issues from sentence calculation to final release. This is the first time that such a systematic examination has been undertaken.

The correctional law review, in addition to bringing all correctional legislation into a coherent whole and aligning it with the established principles governing all criminal law in Canada, will also attempt to establish what the philosophical underpinnings of corrections should be. In addition, it will spell out the rights and responsibilities of inmates, taking into consideration the impact of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and will examine all release-related problems, including parole and mandatory supervision.

The working group of the correctional law review, comprised of representatives of the Correctional Service of Canada, the National Parole Board, the Secretariat of the Ministry of the Solicitor General, and the federal Department of Justice, has been invited and has scheduled public consultations on the correctional law review working papers in Yellowknife on June 20 and 21 of 1988.

The working papers that have been published include: correctional philosophy; a framework for the correctional law review; conditional release; victims and corrections; correctional authority and inmate rights; powers and responsibilities of the correctional staff. Papers due to be published include: native offenders; federal-provincial issues in corrections; mental health services for penitentiary inmates.

The working group has scheduled a full round of public consultations and will meet with interested groups and individuals. As well, input will be made by members of the judiciary, officials of the government, correctional management and staff, and inmates. Some of the work being done is of great interest to the Northwest Territories, and the department will be commenting on the working papers during the working group's visit to Yellowknife. These nation-wide consultations will result in the preparation of a report to the Government of Canada. The responses received by the working group on the working papers will be taken into account in formulating its final conclusions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Return To Question 0329-88(1): Assistance To Hunter For Loss Of Skidoo

HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to oral Question 0329-88(1), asked by Mr. Kilabuk on March 30, 1988, concerning compensation for hunters having equipment lost or damaged.

This reply is to Mr. Kilabuk's question regarding replacement of a hunter's snowmobile that went through the ice while the hunter was on a polar bear hunt. I directed my Department of Renewable Resources to fully examine the programs which are in operation to see if anything could be done to assist this hunter, or anyone else in this situation. Unfortunately, our department does not have any programs or policies which can help.

The Department of Renewable Resources does have the territorial hunters and trappers disaster compensation fund, but it only assists for damages or losses of equipment due to natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes or forest fires. It is the responsibility of the individual hunter to carry their own personal insurance to cover losses like this. While we are very sympathetic toward this hunter, I regret to say that we are unable to assist him to replace his lost equipment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Further Return To Question 0302-88(1): Undermining Participation Of Regional Organizations

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to oral Question 0302-88(1), asked by Mr. Nerysoo on March 28, 1988, regarding the mandate of the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation in education.

Mr. Speaker, schooling, according to the federal claims policy, is not addressed specifically in claims. The Inuvialuit final agreement does not discuss schooling, nor does it identify a responsibility for the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation with regard to elementary, secondary or post-secondary NWT education systems.

The agreement does address education as one area of general social concern in the Inuvialuit settlement region. In clause 17, it states that Canada shall establish a social development fund of \$7.5 million to address the social concerns identified: housing, health, welfare, mental health, education, elders and the maintenance of traditional practices and perspectives. The Inuvialuit Regional Corporation will designate trustees for the fund and it shall be administered by COPE until that time.

The agreement recognizes education as a concern but it does not identify the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation as the prime voice of the people in that area for educational or, more specifically, for schooling issues. I welcome the advice of the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, as well as the advice of other groups and individuals in the NWT who are concerned about the education of our young people. I consider that advice in light of the advice I receive from local education authorities, which have been established according to the Education Act, and the direction I receive from Members of the Legislative Assembly. With this information and direction I believe that the decisions I make will be informed and represent the best alternatives available to me. Thank you.

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

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to Question 0253-88(1), asked by Mr. Angottitauruq on March 8. Mr. Angottitauruq asked about the enforcement in the NWT of laws regulating the horsepower of small boats.

This area of the law falls under the jurisdiction of the Government of Canada. The Canada Shipping Act and the regulations made under it, including the small vessel regulations, govern such things as horsepower, load capacity, steering and sailing rules, and safety equipment.

In the Northwest Territories the RCMP are responsible for enforcing those provisions. Most of the RCMP detachments in the Northwest Territories have water transport of one form or another and do enforce this federal legislation and the regulations. They receive support in this from the RCMP federal enforcement section at division headquarters in Yellowknife. The RCMP have been made aware of the Member's concern about this area being raised in the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Returns to oral questions. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I was going to seek unanimous consent to return to Members' statements.

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent being sought to return to Members' statements. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Nerysoo.

REVERT TO ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Opening Of Community Complex, Fort McPherson

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the Members of the Assembly for allowing me to return. I wish to inform the House that on Friday, April 8th, the hamlet of Fort McPherson, opened their newly constructed community complex.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to pay tribute to organizers of the opening ceremonies: Mrs. Louise Kay and the recreation committee; the mayor and hamlet council and staff; Chief James Ross and Mary Teya who provided translation in the Loucheux language during the ceremonies.

I wish to thank all the visitors for attending. I wish to thank the assistant regional director and the regional staff for participating. I wish also to indicate my appreciation to the Executive Council, Mr. Dennis Patterson, Mr. Wray, Mr. Sibbeston and all previous Executive Council Members and present Executive Council Members who were supportive of this project and I can indicate that this building has been and will be used well...

MR. RICHARD: What about the ordinary Members?

MR. NERYSOO: Well, that too. I thank the Members of this Assembly for supporting the project. I wish to conclude by thanking the entertainers from the community, the region and, of course, Yellowknife, because we had Cormier Country with Gordon and Loretta and I wish also to thank all those who participated in the ceremonies. In particular, through the Minister of Justice, please extend my appreciation to the RCMP for providing their assistance.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. We are on Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Zoe.

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 0384-88(1): Inequities In Employee Benefits And Pay, Home Care

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I previously requested the Department of Social Services to provide me with an overview of all home care support services which are provided to our senior citizens. In my review of this information, Mr. Speaker, I noticed that there are inconsistencies in payments of wages and benefits to various employees. My question to the Minister, Mr. Speaker, is would the Minister advise this House if she will be able to address my concern and will she be dealing with these inequities as soon as possible because I feel that these types of irregularities are quite crucial and should be resolved right away. Thank you.

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

Return To Question 0384-88(1): Inequities In Employee Benefits And Pay, Home Care

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the honourable Member for giving me notice on this issue. I have recently directed my department to look at the contract comparisons we do now have to deliver the services for the senior citizens in the Territories. I

have basically directed them to try to come up with some equitable formula. The other area my department is also looking at, and I would like to make the Member aware of is, we are taking into account that the type of services provided are different levels of services, that we provide to the Territories. This is also to be taken into consideration. I can assure the Member that this is a concern of my department and we will be looking at it and trying to find the proper way to deal with it. Thank you.

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

Question 0385-88(1): Contracts For Dental Services In Regions

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Health and I apologize to her for not giving her notice because it is a fairly substantive and detailed question. So I will not ask her for an answer but I would just like to get an undertaking from her that she would look into matters with her officials concerning the dental contracts in the NWT. It has been brought to my attention that there is quite a substantial difference in what is offered to dentists in different regions in the NWT and also that dentists in the NWT are paid substantially lower by the Health and Welfare Department as compared to the Yukon. Also, a lot of these dentists come from I think Quebec and Manitoba, to offer their services to some of the regions. When a dentist here from Yellowknife offered his services in the Keewatin at Rankin Inlet, it was very popular in the community but did not fall into Health and Welfare Canada's system of who can use their facilities. So I would just like to get an undertaking from the Minister that she will have her officials look into this and see what can be done with the contracts for dental services before proposals are called for for those services.

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

Return To Question 0385-88(1): Contracts For Dental Services In Regions

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that the honourable Member has put this on the Legislative Assembly floor. In the last couple of months I have had numerous communications from various areas of the NWT on those inconsistencies. I would like to assure the honourable Member that there are inconsistencies and that the department at this time is trying to struggle with how we can provide the best dental care from the people who wish to provide that service according to the needs of the community residents. So I certainly appreciate that the Member has brought it to this Legislative Assembly for us to recognize that there are problems in that particular area. Thank you.

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

Question 0386-88(1): Dental Services In Rankin Inlet

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Health, with respect to dental contracts in the Keewatin Region. I understand that there was a resident of the NWT last year who wanted to establish a dental service in Rankin Inlet and he would have hired a dental therapist from the Keewatin Region. I also understand that a contract for dental services from Manitoba is going to be over fairly shortly. Will the Minister support a resident of the NWT to receive that dental contract in Rankin Inlet?

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.

Return To Question 0386-88(1): Dental Services In Rankin Inlet

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I am aware of that particular situation and to unequivocally say at this time that I will or will not support a resident -- I hope that the honourable Member would recognize that at this time I have not received a proposal and in looking at any proposals that come forward, the total outcome of the decision would be based on the quality of service that will be available to residents. So at this point in time I do not have a proposal and if one comes forward, certainly I would be looking at it in terms of how it would best serve the people of that particular region.

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

Question 0387-88(1): Cut In Contribution To Regional Councils

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to another Minister, if I may proceed. My question is to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. I understand from talking to members of the Keewatin Regional Council this morning that a contribution agreement between the GNWT and regional councils has been cut by 9.5 per cent, when they were told some time ago that there was going to be a slight increase of two to three per cent. I am wondering if the Minister could confirm that to me today.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 0387-88(1): Cut In Contribution To Regional Councils

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you. Yes, indeed I can advise that there has been a cut in the funding. It is not a surprise. I advised this House when my departmental budget was up, that cuts had to be made to all bodies that the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs funds. Because so much of the funding from my department is grants to organizations, when the government was asked to introduce internal restraint measures, I had no choice but to pass along some of those cuts to community bodies, including regional councils. Indeed the cut has been made and it is unfortunate but I guess we are all going to have to learn to live with just a little bit less money than we had in the past.

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

Question 0388-88(1): CBC Programming In Kitikmeot

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be directed to the Minister of Culture and Communications. I believe it will be a simple question and I would not mind if I could get a simple answer. In the Kitikmeot we have been hoping to get CBC broadcasting, like the Western Arctic and the Eastern Arctic. We are in the centre. My simple question is: Can your department help the Kitikmeot people in any way, to get the CBC programming a little sooner than expected?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Allooloo.

Return To Question 0388-88(1): CBC Programming In Kitikmeot

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not aware of the plans of CBC to put a regional office in the Kitikmeot Region at this point. I can inform CBC the interest of the Kitikmeot people is to have a CBC regional office there.

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

Question 0389-88(1): Devolution Of NorthwesTel To NWT

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, to the Minister responsible for Government Services. In view of the fact that we have recently had devolved to us one utility, I wonder if he has any further information when we might have devolved to the NWT, the communication company, NorthwesTel?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question 0389-88(1): Devolution Of NorthwesTel To NWT

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, I just erased some notes I had written in my book. It was my information that April 15th, tomorrow, we would expect that we would have more information on the terms and conditions of sale of NorthwesTel to us and the public. The week after, on April 21st, the brokerage firm of McLeod Young Weir would be visiting Yellowknife to brief and meet with the government representatives. That is the latest information I have.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Butters.

Question 0390-88(1): Rumour On Extension Of Deadline For Health Transfer

MR. BUTTERS: I have another question based on a rumour. In view of the fact that the last question based on a rumour was so successful and did result in the answer today by the honourable Minister for Health on the contract matter -- and I thank her for indicating that is only a temporary measure and it will soon be returned to the regions. The other rumour I am questioning is: Has the Government of Canada offered to extend its deadline for transferring responsibility for health to the NWT for 90 days?

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.

Return To Question 0390-88(1): Rumour On Extension Of Deadline For Health Transfer

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, the transfer of health took place April 1, 1988, and there has been no indication of extending the transfer another 90 days.

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

Supplementary To Question 0390-88(1): Rumour On Extension Of Deadline For Health Transfer

MR. BUTTERS: I realize that the transfer was signed on March 31st, but I am talking about an offer from the Government of Canada to maintain responsibility for health for the next 90 days, in view of the fact that we do not seem to be ready to take it over.

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.

Further Return To Question 0390-88(1): Rumour On Extension Of Deadline For Health Transfer

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I am not aware that the Government of Canada or the Department of National Health and Welfare has made that offer.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Butters.

Question 0391-88(1): Time Of Discussion Of Health Transfer Agreement

MR. BUTTERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the House Leader, is it possible that the health transfer agreement will be discussed today? Is the government ready to proceed with that matter today?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government House Leader.

Return To Question 0391-88(1): Time Of Discussion Of Health Transfer Agreement

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: No, the government is not ready to proceed with that until tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Butters.

Question 0392-88(1): Due Date For Offers Of Employment To Nurses

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I have another question for the Minister of Health in that regard. I know that the Minister of Health and her colleague, the honourable Minister for Personnel, are working very hard to effect this transfer and obtain the services of the nurses who have still to date not returned their offers of employment, and there is a concern because that extended date concludes tomorrow, April 15. Could I be advised that it is the expectation that those offers will be returned by that date, by tomorrow?

MR. SPEAKER: Ms Cournoyea.

Return To Question 0392-88(1): Due Date For Offers Of Employment To Nurses

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, we are doing everything possible to relay to the nurses who are delivering medical services to the residents of the Northwest Territories, and primarily in the trouble zone of the Inuvik Region, to look upon employment with the Northwest Territories in a positive nature. Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope that in terms of attempting to address the concerns

that the professional nurses have, that by five o'clock tomorrow, a majority of those job offers will have received a positive response from those individual nurses. We are attempting to do everything we can to allow those individuals to feel that it would be appropriate and beneficial to them to work for this government. Thank you.

AN HON. MEMBER: Well said.

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

Question 0393-88(1): Commitment To Services In French

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, in the standing committee on finance review of the Department of Culture and Communications, we were told that the government was committed to providing services in French. There have been three competitions posted within the last month, I refer to competitions 17-2731, 17-3248 and 17-2730. Of these positions, only one has been filled. Does this indicate that the government no longer has the commitment to this program, as it indicated it did when we made a review of this department?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 0393-88(1): Commitment To Services In French

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are still committed to hiring French translators. It has been very hard to recruit French translators to this date, and our hope is to meet what we have said in the past, that we would like to see all the pieces of legislation, old and new, translated by the end of 1989 or the beginning of 1990. The full bilingual systems within the government will be in in that period of time. I can assure the Member that we are committed to that date. Thank you.

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

Question 0394-88(1): Replacement Of Deputy Minister Of Intergovernmental Affairs

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Government Leader announced today the departure of the deputy minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Mr. Bob Pilot. I wonder, if the replacement has been named for Mr. Pilot, if he could indicate to us as to who the replacement is.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Return To Question 0394-88(1): Replacement Of Deputy Minister Of Intergovernmental Affairs

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I expect to make an announcement on that subject tomorrow. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Government Leader. Oral questions. Mr. Kilabuk.

Question 0395-88(1): Housing Budget Cut, Pangnirtung

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct this question to the Minister responsible for Housing. I tried to ask a question but I had made a mistake so I would like to ask the question that is correct. In my community the housing association has had some problems for a long time. They know that in Baffin Region they have cut back over \$300,000. My community, Pangnirtung, is the second largest in the whole Baffin Region, so they were cut back \$150,000, or close to \$150,000. Perhaps, Mr. Minister, you could work with the district housing office in Iqaluit, to find out if you can try and resolve some of the problems we are encountering. Because my community is the second largest community in the whole Baffin Region, I do not think the funding that is allocated to my region will be adequate to cover all the things that we have to do. If it is possible, could you work together with the Iqaluit region to find out if you can resolve some of the problems we have?

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

Return To Question 0395-88(1): Housing Budget Cut, Pangnirtung

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, just from vague memory I know that the overall budget allocated to the different regions, and to housing in general, between last year and this year, as presented in the original main estimates, are not much different. What made the difference last year was a supplementary, I think of about two million dollars or so, and so it does look and will feel like there is a reduction. But, in fact, it is just, you might say, some gravy added to the main course last year and there is not any expected, or planned definitely, for this year. As I said during the discussions in committee of the whole, I think the Baffin, because it is the largest region and has the largest number of communities, also is bestowed with the largest O and M budget and capital budget of any of the regions of the Northwest Territories. But having said all that, there may be still something that I am missing. If there are cutbacks that are not warranted, just to be sure and to satisfy my own curiosity, I will do what the Member requests and look into it and have the officials brief me, after consulting with their district office. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question 0395-88(1): Housing Budget Cut, Pangnirtung

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, thank you. Thank you for your reply, and I would like to elaborate to you more. In the Baffin Region there are 13 communities. I think that the cutbacks should be more equal that are given to the communities because looking at the communities, Pangnirtung is one of the largest communities, so I think the cutbacks should be more equal. I have a document to be tabled regarding the housing budget. Thank you.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, there is, I guess, a response required here but I need to know what the allocations to all the communities are in the Baffin and then look at what the allocations are to the other communities in the Northwest Territories. I do not know if the allocation may be unfair to Pangnirtung within the Baffin Region or whether he is saying that the allocation is unfair, given the size of the community in comparison to all the other communities in the Territories. I cannot answer it right now but I have written it down and I will look at it.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. You will take that part of the question as notice. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Zoe.

Question 0396-88(1): Regulation Of Charter Aircraft Rates

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Government Services. Could the Minister advise me if the chartered aircraft rates are regulated in any way? I understand that the commercial airfares are regulated. I just wanted to find out because I understand that some of the charter rates have gone up recently and I want to know if they are regulated or not. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. The question is taken as notice. Oral questions. Item 6, written questions. Item 7, returns to written questions. Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Sorry, could I ask unanimous consent to return to written questions?

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being sought to return to written questions. Are there any nays? Mr. Nerysoo, proceed.

ITEM 6: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question W28-88(1): Review Of Effect Of Federal Taxation

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to ask the Minister of Finance if he could conduct a review of the federal taxation regime as it affects the residents of the NWT, in particular housing benefits. Further, would the Minister review the consequences of the new taxation regime on

housing benefits for the residents of Yellowknife. Such a review should take into consideration the consequences of the tax regime on employees of private business, governments, both federal and territorial, and the mining industry.

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

Item 7, returns to written questions.

Item 8, replies to Opening Address.

Item 9, petitions. Item 10, reports of standing and special committees. Mr. Ernerk.

ITEM 10: REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Report Of The Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The standing committee on legislation has met in February, March and April 1988, to review legislation proposed by the government. The committee has raised concerns with the government regarding the procedures for reviewing bills. Many proposed bills are long and detailed. They require translation and the Members require time to consult their constituents. As a result, the committee has encouraged the government to table several lengthy bills at this session so that they can be reviewed by the committee in more detail over the summer. We hope to have recommendations at the fall session on the proposed Public Utilities Act, the Victims of Crime Act, the Land Titles Act, the Evidence Act and the Liquor Act, for example.

Mr. Speaker, the standing committee by motion has indicated to the government that we will continue to recognize the procedure established in past sessions to require at least a six week period for the review of bills in the standing committee on legislation and that the proposed legislation be translated.

Mr. Speaker, the committee has recommended to the House the passage of several bills. However, many Members of the committee continue to have reservations with certain aspects of these bills, especially matters related to the Act to Amend the Education Act and the Act to Amend the All-terrain Vehicles Act, for example. Committee Members will raise these concerns when the bills are considered in the committee of the whole. Mr. Speaker, I recommend that the House proceed with the consideration in committee of the whole with the government's agenda for legislation. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ernerk. Reports of standing and special committees. Mr. Richard.

Report Of The Standing Committee On Public Accounts

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the standing committee on public accounts met two weeks ago to consider the financial statements of the Government of the Northwest Territories for the year ended March 31, 1987; the report of the Auditor General of Canada, entitled "Other Matters for the Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 1987"; another report of the Auditor General of Canada, entitled the "Comprehensive Audit of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation"; and also to consider outstanding recommendations of the public accounts committee from the 10th Assembly.

Public hearings were held, Mr. Speaker, on March 28 and 29, 1988, at which time the committee had appear before it witnesses from the Office of the Auditor General of Canada, from the office of the comptroller general of the Northwest Territories and from the Departments of Finance, Executive, Economic Development and Tourism, Public Works and Highways, and also the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation. A transcript, Mr. Speaker, of these public proceedings has been prepared by the Hansard office and I wish to thank all of the people associated with the Hansard office for the extra effort in getting those proceedings taped and transcribed in a prompt fashion.

As a result of the public hearings, Mr. Speaker, and the deliberations of the committee, the committee has prepared a 30 page report containing some 20 recommendations. Mr. Speaker, the written report is being distributed to Members of the House in two of the official languages of the House, English and Inuktitut.

The recommendations arise out of some genuine concerns that the committee has with respect to the financial administration of the Government of the Northwest Territories. I will not at this time, Mr. Speaker, read the entire report. It is the committee's intention that this report be referred to the committee of the whole for a full discussion of the standing committee's recommendations.

Motion To Move Report Of The Standing Committee On Public Accounts To Committee Of The Whole,
Carried

So, Mr. Speaker,

I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre, that the Report of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts be received and referred to the committee of the whole.

Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Richard. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Reports of standing and special committees. Item 11, tabling of documents. Ms Cournoyea.

ITEM 11: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 134-88(1): the proposed act to amend the Evidence Act.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms Cournoyea. Tabling of documents. Mr. Kilabuk.

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 135-88(1), a document regarding cuts to Pangnirtung housing association maintenance budget. This paper was recently given to me and I wish to table it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Tabling of documents. Mr. Kakfwi.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 136-88(1), the proposed act to amend the Liquor Act. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Kakfwi. Tabling of documents. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 137-88(1), the transcript of the public proceedings of the public accounts committee held on March 28 and 29, 1988.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Richard. Tabling of documents. Mr. Kilabuk.

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 138-88(1), a letter dated 14th April, 1988, from Pangnirtung Inuit Co-operative Ltd., requesting funding from the Department of Economic Development and Tourism for our community. This piece of correspondence that I will be tabling is in regard to funding for arts and crafts purposes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 139-88(1). In accordance with section 39 of the Interpretation Act, I wish to report to the House on the orders, rules and regulations made under the acts of the Northwest Territories. I am therefore tabling the following documents: Two extraordinary editions and Numbers 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 of Volume VIII and Number 1 of Volume IX of Part I of the Northwest Territories Gazette; and Numbers 3, 4, 5 and 6 and one extraordinary edition of Volume VIII of Part II of the Northwest Territories Gazette; and Indices of all regulations, statutory instruments and non-statutory instruments made under the acts of the Northwest Territories for the period from May 1, 1987 to January 31, 1988. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. I wish to table on behalf of the Management and Services Board, Tabled Document 140-88(1), the Report of the Commission on Members' and Ministers' Indemnities, Allowances and Salaries, dated March 31, 1987, prepared for the Management and Services Board for the 10th Legislative Assembly.

Tabling of documents. Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I have three documents I would like to table. Tabled Document 141-88(1), proposed Victims of Crime Act in English and Inuktitut; Tabled Document 142-88(1), a federal bill to amend the Criminal Code, victims of crime, and also Statement of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime prepared by federal and provincial Ministers responsible for criminal justice; and Mr. Speaker, Tabled Document 143-88(1), the proposed act to amend the Boilers and Pressure Vessels Act. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Further tabling of documents. Item 12, notices of motion. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

ITEM 12: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 25-88(1): Appointment To Workers' Compensation Board

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to give notice that on Monday, April 18, I should like to put forth the following motion regarding an appointment to the Workers' Compensation Board: Whereas there is a vacancy on the Workers' Compensation Board; and whereas the Workers' Compensation Act requires that the vacancies be filled on the recommendation of the Legislative Assembly; now therefore, I move, seconded by my honourable colleague for Yellowknife North, that the Legislative Assembly recommends that Wilfred McDonald be appointed to the Workers' Compensation Board for a term of three years.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Notices of motion. Ms Cournoyea.

Notice Of Motion 26-88(1): Appointment To The NWT Public Utilities Board

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, April 18th, I will move a motion on appointments to the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, that this House recommend to the Commissioner that Mr. Jack Heath of Inuvik, Mrs. Beulah Phillipot of Yellowknife, Mr. David Fox of Iqaluit and Mr. Raymond Mercer of Rankin Inlet, be reappointed as chairman, vice-chairperson and members respectively, to the NWT Public Utilities Board until December 31, 1988. Mr. Speaker, I will be seeking unanimous consent to deal with this motion at the appropriate time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms Cournoyea. Notices of motion. Mr. Lewis.

Notice Of Motion 27-88(1): Appointment To The Special Committee On The Northern Economy

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I shall seek unanimous consent to return to this at an appropriate time. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Aivilik, Mr. Ernerk, that notwithstanding Rule 88(2), the special committee on the northern economy shall consist of eight Members of the Legislative Assembly; and further that the honourable Member for High Arctic, Mr. Pudluk, be named as a Member of the special committee on the northern economy. I should point out that Rule 88(2) requires consent of the Assembly before a committee can be expanded beyond five Members.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Lewis. Notices of motion.

Item 13, notices of motion for first reading of bills. Item 14, motions. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

ITEM 14: MOTIONS

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to seek unanimous consent to deal with the motion for the appointment to the Workers' Compensation Board. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent being sought. Do I hear any nays? There are no nays, Mrs. Marie-Jewell, proceed.

Motion 25-88(1): Appointment To Workers' Compensation Board, Carried

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS there is a vacancy on the Workers' Compensation Board;

AND WHEREAS the Workers' Compensation Act requires that the vacancies be filled on the recommendation of the Legislative Assembly;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, Mr. Ballantyne, that the Legislative Assembly recommends that Wilfred McDonald be appointed to the Workers' Compensation Board for a term of three years.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour? Opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Motions, Item 14. Ms Cournoyea.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I wish to seek unanimous consent to deal with the motion previously addressed in regard to the NWT Public Utilities Board.

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent being sought. Any nays? There are no nays, Ms Cournoyea.

Motion 26-88(1): Appointments To The NWT Public Utilities Board, Carried

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS there will occur vacancies on the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that this Assembly fill these vacancies in order for the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board to conduct its business;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, Mr. Ballantyne, that this House recommend to the Commissioner that Mr. Jack Heath of Inuvik, Mrs. Beulah Phillipot of Yellowknife, Mr. David Fox of Iqaluit, and Mr. Raymond Mercer of Rankin Inlet, be reappointed as chairman, vice-chairperson and members respectively, to the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board until December 31, 1988.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister, the motion is in order. To the motion. Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Item 14, motions. Mr. Lewis.

MR. LEWIS: I ask for unanimous consent to proceed with the motion to add one Member to the special committee on the northern economy.

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent being sought. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Lewis, proceed.

Motion 27-88(1): Appointment To The Special Committee On The Northern Economy, Carried

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS the special committee on the northern economy desires to increase its membership to eight Members;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Aivilik, Mr. Ernerk, that notwithstanding Rule 82(2), the special committee on the northern economy shall consist of eight Members of the Legislative Assembly;

AND FURTHER, that the honourable Member for High Arctic, Mr. Pudluk, be named as a Member of the special committee on the northern economy.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Lewis. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Item 15, first reading of bills. Item 16, second reading of bills. Mr. Patterson.

ITEM 16: SECOND READING OF BILLS

Second Reading Of Bill 15-88(1): Education Act

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that Bill 15-88(1), An Act to Amend the Education Act, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill is to amend the Education Act to provide that the term of office for members of a local education authority is the same as the term of office of the municipal or settlement council of the community in which the education district is located. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Are you ready for the question? Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 15-88(1) has had second reading. Second reading of bills.

Mr. Clerk, Bill 15-88(1) has had second reading and is ordered into committee of the whole. Item 17, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Bill 3-88(1); Bill 4-88(1); Bill 5-88(1); Bill 8-88(1); Bill 9-88(1); Bill 12-88(1); Bill 13-88(1); Bill 14-88(1); Bill 15-88(1); Bill 16-88(1); Bill 17-88(1); Bill 19-88(1); Bill 21-88(1); Bill 22-88(1); Bill 26-88(1); Bill 28-88(1); Bill 31-88(1); Bill 32-88(1); Report of Standing Committee on Finance on the 1988-89 Main Estimates; Tabled Document 71-88(1); Tabled Document 80-88(1); Tabled Document 125-88(1); Tabled Document 130-88(1); Ministers' Statement 13-88(1); Ministers' Statement 43-88(1); and the Report of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, with Mr. Zoe in the chair.

ITEM 17: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS AND OTHER MATTERS

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 3-88(1), FIRE PREVENTION ACT; BILL 4-88(1), INCOME TAX ACT; BILL 5-88(1), LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ACT; BILL 8-88(1), ASSIGNMENT OF BOOK DEBTS ACT; BILL 9-88(1), BILLS OF SALE ACT; BILL 12-88(1), COMPANIES ACT; BILL 13-88(1), CONDITIONAL SALES ACT; BILL 14-88(1), CORPORATION SECURITIES REGISTRATION ACT; BILL 16-88(1), HOME OWNERS' PROPERTY TAX REBATE ACT; BILL 17-88(1), LABOUR STANDARDS ACT; BILL 19-88(1), LIQUOR ACT; BILL 22-88(1), PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION ACT; BILL 26-88(1), RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES ACT; BILL 28-88(1), JUDICATURE ACT; REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE ON THE 1988-89 MAIN ESTIMATES

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): The committee will come to order. We will be dealing with Report of Standing Committee on Finance on the 1988-89 Main Estimates.

Report Of Standing Committee On Finance On The 1988-89 Main Estimates

There are four recommendations that have not been concluded yet. We are on page 53. Mr. Pollard.

Motion To Recommend A Comprehensive Base Review Of Spending, Carried

MR. POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, you are correct. It is page 53 under recommendations, subtitle, base review. The government has indicated its intentions to present restraint or no-growth budgets in the future. To achieve this goal, cuts will have to be identified in departments' base-level funding. To ensure that the cuts and reductions are appropriate, the committee recommends and I move, that a comprehensive base review of spending of the GNWT be conducted.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Your motion is in order. To the motion. Question is being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Pollard.

Motion To Recommend An Analysis Of Potential Impacts On O And M Of Capital Projects

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to capital. The committee believes that the GNWT has embarked on a cycle of capital projects without an adequate study of its impact on O and M in future years. The committee recommends, and I move, that an analysis of the potential impacts on the GNWT's O and M be completed for all future capital projects.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): The motion is in order. Question is being called. Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: In defence of the government, the government does not 100 per cent agree with the analysis. We are not going to vote against the motion. But I will say that obviously right now I think there is fairly careful consideration of the O and M impact. We are prepared to look at it and improve the system we have, but I cannot accept the fact that we are doing none of that right now. I think that is giving an erroneous impression. I am prepared in the next budget session to show the House what sort of analysis is being done. So we will try to improve it, but I think this is overstating the case. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): To the motion. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to see the standing committee on finance, under the chairmanship of Mr. Pollard, come forward with a specific recommendation like this, because it brings to mind the many days of debate we had in the Assembly a year ago when the previous administration brought in...

MR. BUTTERS: Terrible bunch.

MR. RICHARD: ...brought in a deficit budget which had a very large capital component to it. Some of us back then were trying to make the point that the government, in its supposedly thought-out fiscal framework for the four or five years following that budget year, had not included an allowance for the increased O and M that would necessarily result from the fact that there were now many, many more government buildings in place. I think some MLAs a year ago tried to make that point and maybe it was not communicated properly. But I think the point was there to be made. So I am pleased to see that the current standing committee on finance has identified this as a specific concern and is bringing forward this recommendation. I will not hesitate to support the motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): To the motion. Member for Yellowknife Centre.

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, I find the honourable Member for Yellowknife North's comments objectionable because what we are doing in this report of ours was to summarize what we found out by talking to individual Ministers when we reviewed their budgets. I do not believe that the Minister of Finance was at all those meetings. When we make the statement we do, we make it on the basis of the review that we have done of each department of government. It was our perception that in fact all this thinking had not taken place, that there had not been an analysis of the impact of this big capital program on the future cost to this government. So I do not believe that the Minister of Finance is competent to judge what we heard at those meetings. He may know what he has a responsibility for but he is in no way competent to know what happened in each one of those meetings when we reviewed each department of government.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): To the motion. Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I thank the Member for his kind words.

---Laughter

No, I appreciate the Member's own observations and I will accept his right to have his observations and I am sure he will accept my right to have mine. Thank you.

Motion To Recommend An Analysis Of Potential Impacts On O And M Of Capital Projects, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): To the motion. Question is being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It was just a simple motion.

---Laughter

I really did not want to cause any problems, Mr. Chairman.

Motion To Recommend Development Of Comprehensive Policies For Guidance In Departmental Operations

Under policy, Mr. Chairman, the committee sees the development and implementation of policy as the first phase of all departmental planning and operations. Policies assist and guide managers in making appropriate decisions regarding the allocation of limited resources.

The committee recommends and I move that all GNWT departments develop comprehensive policies which will provide guidance in all areas of departmental operations. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Government Leader.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you. If I may, Mr. Chairman, I just want to say I agree that there is a need for policies to provide guidance for departmental operations. Mr. Chairman, there are, of course, a number of policy instruments available to government which are already in place, such as legislation and regulations, the GNWT policy manual and a number of departmental manuals. May I note that the GNWT policy manual contains almost 60 policies. They have wide application to the government and to the public. They are arranged in sections by department and in many cases give specific direction to departments. Also, some time ago, the Executive Council directed that all programs of a continuing nature with financial implications were to be authorized by means of a GNWT policy if they were not covered by legislation.

Mr. Chairman, I think we have made some good progress in this task of developing policies to guide departments in the delivery of specific programs. I would also like to note that by stating the purpose of these programs in a public document and clearly defining the authorities and responsibilities for delivering a specific program, the process of program evaluation is greatly aided and I know there is a recommendation on evaluation as well, coming forward.

Mr. Chairman, in addition to the departmental policies that apply to specific programs, I want to inform the House that cabinet will be reviewing the need to state the mandate of a department, which came up with each Minister's budget before the committee, and the need for establishment of legislation or policies to provide direction, guidance and purpose to that department. So, Mr. Chairman, cabinet has been working toward the development of comprehensive policies to provide guidelines in all areas of departmental operations. We will continue this work once we have the opportunity to get to work on it and I therefore fully support the motion. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): To the motion. Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The Chair does not recognize a quorum here, so I cannot let the vote go ahead. Sergeant-at-Arms, could you ring the bells for a few minutes?

Motion To Recommend Development Of Comprehensive Policies For Guidance In Departmental Operations, Carried

We have a motion on the floor. Question is being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for gathering the troops.

Motion To Recommend Development Of Program Evaluation System

Under program evaluation, the government has indicated that in future years the level of funding available for continuing and new programs will be limited. Therefore, in order to add a program, an existing program may have to be reduced or eliminated.

The committee recommends and I move that each department of the GNWT develop a system of program evaluation to ensure the continuation of effective programs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): The motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I may, I would also wish to briefly comment on the motion. I would like to say I certainly agree that there is a need to be able to review programs being offered by the government. Departments must be able to determine if the results of their programs are meeting objectives. Implementation is now under way of a management for results system. We believe this is the best way to assess whether programs are meeting their objectives and I would like to inform the House that so far 11 out of 16 departments have submitted their plans for a management for results system for review.

As well, Mr. Chairman, we must determine if programs are designed well to deliver on the government's objectives. Over the last year there has been an extensive evaluation, for example, of the business incentive policy. This has been a major evaluation initiative, and Mr. Kakfwi has tabled a report on that subject in the Legislature. Several departments' programs are involved in that. We have learned from the evaluation of the business incentive program, the extent to which government objectives have been realized. I would also like to suggest that some degree of program evaluation is involved in the operational plan and main estimates development. We strive not to automatically renew program funding levels unless there is evidence of value for money. To this end, our audit bureau does more than just check that funds were expended according to the rules. We recognize the need for evaluation and recognize also that it must be appropriate evaluation which will assist cabinet and managers and I therefore fully support this motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Member for Yellowknife South.

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not only pleased to see this recommendation come from the standing committee on finance, I am comforted by the Government Leader's response to it. When I hear the Leader of our government say publicly that instead of automatically renewing a program year after year, they are looking at whether they are getting value for dollars, I wish that that could then be carried out onto the streets and roads in the communities so that the public knows that the government is doing that. If the government can say it honestly, and I do not mean that critically, if you are doing that, then I would suggest that you get hold of someone in your Department of Culture and Communications or whoever puts the propaganda out for government, and communicate that message to the people, because my assessment is that the public have the opposite view. My own impression is that the government has not historically, in previous years, been doing value for dollar assessments. So if you are starting to do them, then let us tell the public that you are doing it.

Evaluations Included With Estimates

Mr. Chairman, another comment I have on this and again a suggestion I would have to the government, and I made this suggestion a year or two ago, is to look at something that is being done in the federal Parliament. I may have the terminology wrong and the documents wrong, but to my recollection it was from people on the public accounts committee in the federal regime. Their main estimates documents, and they are very bulky documents, of course, with the budget that they have, now annually have a section that the parliamentarians see each year as they vote the money, that has the results of the program evaluations in it. And it only makes sense, as a legislator or a parliamentarian when you are asked to vote moneys, particularly for renewal of programs and services, that you see right there and then whether the thing is fulfilling its objectives. I would recommend again that the government look into carrying through this recommendation from the standing committee on finance, to that kind of disclosure. It would then, Mr. Chairman, be proof that all these nice words and phrases and statements are, in fact, being carried out, if annually legislators could see that in fact there has been a performance measurement or evaluation done. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I could just briefly respond to Mr. Richard and say that I appreciate that advice. I am not familiar with the federal practice that Mr. Richard refers to but it would seem to be something we should look into and I would think that at least such information might usefully be supplied to the standing committee on finance in its review. But that is something our Minister of Finance will look to follow up on.

Mr. Chairman, I also welcome the advice on getting the message out to the public that there is not an unlimited supply of money and that we are going to have to be rigorous in the coming years in ensuring that we are spending dollars that are achieving the results that we hope to achieve. I think that in my experience in this government for the last eight or nine years there has been a period of relatively steady growth. I think that it is true that the public is beginning to take for granted that programs that are in place will be in place forever. I think we have to make it very clear that there are difficult times ahead of us and we are going to have to husband our public resources with great care and that we will be rigorously reviewing programs in order that we can delete lower priority programs so we can establish higher priority programs.

I think that there has been, perhaps, a bit of an automatic tendency in communities to complain whenever a program is lessened in the slightest way. I think we are going to have to therefore provide the message consistently that the good times are over and it is simply not possible to sustain everything that is in place and also to meet the new initiatives that are being expected of us. So I welcome that advice and I certainly will give some serious thought to an information or public relations strategy which would provide that message in addition to what Ministers must do in their day-to-day work. So I thank the Member for those comments.

Motion To Recommend Development Of Program Evaluation System, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): To the motion. Question is being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to thank the Ministers who appeared in front of the standing committee on finance. I would like to clear up the fact that I do not believe we feel, as a committee, that the Hon. Jeannie Marie-Jewell tried to mislead us on the Fort Smith correctional centre. I think that it was a mistake, but we do not think there was the intention to mislead. I would like to thank in particular Big Bird, the Minister of Finance who -- well, it is not true, Mr. Chairman, that there are only four recommendations because the Minister cannot count past four. That is not true. But I would like to thank him because he co-ordinated from the government's side the information requested by the standing committee on finance and that was a considerable amount this year. I hate to think of the pounds of documents that were received. So I would like to thank the Minister of Finance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Does the committee agree that the report of the standing committee on finance on the 1988-89 main estimates is concluded?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Government House Leader, which bill would you like to proceed with?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: In discussions with the chairman of the legislation committee, I think there is a series of bills that the chairman is ready to proceed with, starting with Bill 3-88(1); so we will follow along that agreed order of bills.

Bill 3-88(1), Fire Prevention Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): All right. In your green legislation binders, tab three. It is Bill 3-88(1), An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act. Mr. Ballantyne.

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to introduce this bill. This bill makes a number of amendments to the Fire Prevention Act that are necessary to bring the act up to date.

We are replacing "Commissioner" with "Minister" in a number of sections. At present, the Commissioner appoints the fire marshal, the deputy fire marshal, and the fire safety officers. The Commissioner also assigns duties to the deputy fire marshals, receives the fire marshal's reports, and designates persons to make inquiries into fires. These sections will be amended to refer to the Minister rather than the Commissioner.

Other amendments will include the changing of the title "fire safety officer" to "assistant fire marshal" and "fire brigade" to "fire department". The fire marshal's duties will be expanded to include establishing training positions for firefighters in the NWT. His powers with respect to structures that threaten public safety are also expanded. The fines for hindering the fire marshal, deputy fire marshal or assistant fire marshal in the performance of his duties or for breaching the act will be raised significantly.

Mr. Chairman, if I could bring in as witness, the director of legislation, Ms Bentivegna and the fire marshal, Mr. McPhee.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Does the committee agree that the witnesses appear before our committee? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Mr. Ernerk, chairman of the standing committee on legislation, do you have any comments on the Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act?

Comments From The Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The standing committee on legislation discussed the bill with the Minister of Justice on February 22, 1988. The Minister explained that the purpose of the bill is to amend the Fire Prevention Act by replacing in the bill, the following: References to the Commissioner replaced with that of the Minister responsible, in numerous sections of the act; the term "fire department" replaces "fire brigade" and "assistant fire marshal" replaces the "fire safety officer"; and the establishment of training programs for firefighters has been included.

Some of the main concerns of the standing committee, Mr. Chairman, were the following. A Member of the committee inquired as to when training programs for firefighters would be made available. The Minister responded by pointing out that training programs are now being offered through the firefighters' association and that these programs are supported with the expertise in the office of the fire marshal.

In the "powers during investigation" section, the Minister explained that the powers to investigate fires have been more specifically detailed in the bill in order to clarify responsibilities in investigations. A Member of the committee and the Law Clerk questioned the purpose of the significant powers given to local assistants. The Minister explained that only when there is no established fire department would a local assistant be needed and that person would be working under the direction of the fire marshal.

A Member expressed concern that in the case of a fire in a business establishment, records necessary to carry on business may be lost. If these records were held as part of the fire investigation, which may take months, could these records be available for the purpose of operating a business? The Minister agreed that provisions would be added to the bill. Subsection 7(4) has been added. It provides that copies be made wherever possible. Mr. Chairman, the standing committee on legislation completed the review of the bill and recommends passage through the House. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. General comments. Are there any general comments? If not, does the committee agree we go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. The Chair notices that it is three o'clock, our regular coffee break that we usually take. Does the committee agree that we will take a break and return to go clause by clause right after the coffee break?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

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

MR. BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, just a question of process. I know that the chairman for the legislation committee has read out his report, and I am not sure whether there have been any changes in the bill as a result of the examination by his committee. If such changes have occurred, will he be bringing those to the notice of the committee as we proceed? I forget whether changes were made by Mr. Ernerk's committee.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): I understand that the chairman will be following, once we get into clause by clause. He will indicate to us the changes that were made. Am I correct, Mr. Chairman of the standing committee on legislation?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): With that, we will take a 15 minute coffee break.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Committee will come to order. Mr. Zoe.

Reports Of Fire Departments

MR. ZOE: Just for my information I wanted to raise a few suggestions or comments at this time in regard to the Fire Prevention Act. Mr. Chairman, during our review of the budget, I raised a number of concerns in regard to the fire marshal's office, when we were reviewing the Department of Justice and also the Department for MACA and also under the Housing Corporation. I raised a number of concerns in terms of the process of how the inspections of various units are conducted within various municipalities. Maybe I can put a question forward to the Minister.

I have a concern where various fire departments, once they do their unit inspections, their reports are forwarded to the municipality and then the municipality forwards them to the fire marshal's office and, if it is a case where the unit happened to belong to the Housing Corporation, it appears to me, Mr. Chairman, that these reports -- I do not know where else they go once they reach the fire marshal's office. I do not know if they are sent on to the headquarters of the Housing Corporation or to the district office. I would like to get some clarification as to where these reports go. I understand that these reports stop at the fire marshal's office and that should not be the case. I think they should be reviewed by the fire marshal's office and something done to those reports and then forwarded, especially to the Housing Corporation where they can take the action that is required. If I can put that question forward to the Minister at this time. It is related to the Fire Prevention Act, Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: My understanding is that when an inspection takes place in a community by, for instance, the local fire chief, a copy of that report would generally go to the housing authority and a copy of the report would go to the fire marshal's office. The fire marshal would ensure that the Housing Corporation has a copy. What we try to make sure is that everybody who is directly affected has a copy of the report for their records.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Zoe.

Reports Not Acted Upon

MR. ZOE: Well, that is another point I wanted to point out, Mr. Chairman. I realize all the parties that are affected get these reports but they are not acted upon. What I am asking is, what is the fire marshal's office doing to ensure that these reports are acted upon or enforced? What type of enforcement does the fire marshal's office have? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: When deficiencies are reported, then it is the responsibility of the corporation or in a community, because of the independent nature of an association or authority, it is for them to follow up on the report. What would happen is that in the next inspection, the subsequent inspection, the fire marshal's office would try to ensure the deficiencies have been looked after. If it appears after the second inspection that there are some things that have been ignored, the fire marshal has the power to force the authority or the association to take action.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: The Minister is indicating that is the procedure that is supposed to be followed, but from what I know, and as a previous municipal administrator, a number of times, once we filed these reports it appeared that they were not enforced to the fullest. I can recall a number of inspections that we have done, especially within the Housing Corporation units, that deficiencies reoccur in our reports that we file. I am not too sure what type of system is in place to rectify this problem that is recurring in communities because the fire marshal's office is not in every community.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I recall when I was Minister responsible for Housing that some major electrical deficiencies were shown in inspections in Lac la Martre and in Rae Lakes. Because of that particular report from the fire marshal when it would come over to the Housing Corporation, we fixed up the situation. What I will do for the Member, if there seems to be some confusion as to the follow-up or the process, I will ensure that everybody is aware of the process and aware of the responsibilities. Maybe what has happened in some communities is that we have not kept up on our education side for responsibilities of authorities and associations. We can work with the Housing Corporation to ensure that these procedures are followed through. But the powers are laid out in the act and they should be followed. What we will do is to ensure that they are if they have not been.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Thank you. Well, I just want to make my concerns known. I have great respect for the fire marshal's office and also for the municipal volunteer fire brigades. They are doing a tremendous job, but there is this particular office which could be improved, especially the item that we are discussing. It could be improved a little and -- I am not knocking the fire brigades or the fire marshal's office -- I just wanted to indicate or to let my concerns be known that there has to be something done in a more effective manner. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I have taken note of the Member's concerns.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): General comments on Bill 3-88(1). Is the committee ready to go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 2, assistant fire marshal. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 3, fire marshal and deputy fire marshal. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 4. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 5. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 6. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 7. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 8. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 9. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 10, local assistants. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 11. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 12. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 13. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 14, powers during investigation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 15, return of property. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 16, fatality or injury. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 17. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 18. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 19. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 20. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 21. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 22. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 23, danger to public safety. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 24. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 25. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 26. Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: Before we had coffee, I asked whether or not there would be any advice from the chairman of the legislation committee if changes had occurred to any of these particular provisions after study by his committee. So as he has not indicated, I assume that there have been no changes to the legislation as it was originally presented by government. Is that correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, every time I say "Agreed", will you say "Thank you"? No, not in this one, Mr. Chairman, but as we go along I will indicate some changes to other pieces of legislation.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Butters.

Oral Communication Of Dangerous Situation

MR. BUTTERS: Clause 23. I recall sitting in that committee and looking at subsection 14(d) and I thought I had suggested that the fire marshal and the deputy fire marshal, while carrying out an inspection, whether formal or informal, notice a dangerous condition and this requires the fire marshal to put that in writing. Why would not an oral communication in the presence of another official be sufficient? It could be that by the time the fire marshal was back with his memo or letter, the dangerous condition had become a fire. I think I raised that in the committee, and I do not see that any response was made to the concern or the suggestion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: My understanding is that it is necessary to put it in writing because in the whole process somebody may disagree and may appeal the decision, so it has to be put in writing. There is nothing to prevent the fire marshal, or the fire officer at the time, to put it in writing right there, if it is that dangerous. I can assure you that the fire marshal, or the fire marshal's representative, is going to make sure that no needless amount of time elapses before the situation is looked after.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Butters.

MR. BUTTERS: I appreciate that the fire marshal is not going to let an inordinate time elapse before a written report of the unacceptable condition is made to the owner. It is just that I feel that he may not be able to do it at that particular time and it might not be convenient. I had thought that as he is a professional and he has been given responsibility in this area, an oral communication witnessed by another responsible individual should be sufficient to get some action moving in this particular regard. I am not going to fight the issue, but I think that it ignores the reality.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: We had the discussion and I see the Member's concern. The fire marshal and his staff are satisfied that the legislation gives them the necessary powers to make sure there is no danger to person and property. I might add, though, for Mr. Butters' sake, there were a couple of minor amendments that we did make as a result of Mr. Butters' concerns in committee back in clauses 14 and 15, where there was a concern about evidence being taken out of a building. We added some changes to, hopefully, alleviate the Member's concern.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Zoe.

Reason For High Increased Penalties

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I can return to clause 24. They are substituting \$10,000 and deleting \$200. Can the Minister elaborate as to why the amount is so much? Why are they amending this particular section?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The intent here is, if a serious offence takes place that results in some sort of serious injury to person or property, and in order to have any signal sent out, to have people recognize that if you allow a situation to continue which ultimately ends in major damages to persons or property, there are severe penalties. The penalties across the country are fairly consistent. I want to add that this is just the upper limit of a fine that a judge could impose if a judge found somebody guilty of the offence. It does not mean that there is going to be a fine of \$10,000 or that the fire marshal imposes the fine of \$10,000. It just gives a judge that range of options up to \$10,000 when a judge decides the severity of a violation of this act.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: If I understand right, then, subsection 19(3) would now read, "Every person who violates subsection (1) is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 and to a further fine of \$500 for every day after conviction upon which a violation continues", etc. Am I correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: That is correct.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: On clause 24, does "on summary conviction", mean going through the court system or is it a ticket that is levied by the fire marshal?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: You have to go through the court system. It is not a ticket issued by the fire marshal.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Butters.

Level Of Court Hearing

MR. BUTTERS: This was a section that gave the committee concern when it considered it and again the committee reflected the point that Mr. Zoe is making now, that it has jumped from \$200 to \$10,000 and \$25 to \$500. A little earlier, the Minister indicated that the judge would make this decision and be within those limits, the upper limit. But as I understand it, this could appear before a JP and a JP might not be so understanding and he might sock you with \$10,000. Would he confirm that this could be heard in JP court?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think the Member should recognize that by putting upper limits, we are talking about potential situations, for instance in a public building someone locked a door and there was a fire and a number of people were killed. That is the sort of offence we are talking about and that normally would not be heard in a JP court. The system is pretty good and, depending on the severity of the offence, the decision will be made if it will be held within a JP court or a higher court. But the point we are making is that if somebody commits a violation of the law that results in serious injury, they should have a severe penalty, and everybody should recognize before the fact that if they do not obey the law and somebody is badly injured or killed, that they could be subject to some fairly severe sanctions. It is there in every other jurisdiction in the country.

If there is a motion of the committee to bring it down -- I think Mr. Butters talked about a huge increase, but the fact is that it was far too low before. It has been sitting there for years and years and the feeling from the fire marshal's office and across the country is that we need stronger sanctions. We are suggesting this because we think it is important. We are sending a message out and we think it is an important message.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, I was going to ask, just for information, what offence is being referred to? The material in front of us shows the old subsection 19(3) but does not show what the subsection is that amounts to an offence. So could the Minister or officials read out what we are talking about in subsection (1)?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: "The outside doors and the main inside doors of every structure used as a theatre, dance hall or skating rink and of every structure used as a church, school, or place of public resort or amusement having a seating capacity for more than 50 persons shall be so hung as to open freely outwards and, during the time when the structure is being publicly used, shall not be bolted, barred or locked in any manner other than with standard panic hardware; and the gates or outer fences if not so hung shall be kept open by proper fastenings during the time when such structure is being publicly used."

Responsibility For Elementary Safety Procedures

I think Members have read, over the years in the newspapers, the times when there is a fire in a theatre or a dance hall and somebody locked the exit doors so dozens of people are killed. What this is saying is that whoever is responsible for these sorts of facilities is responsible to ensure that those very, very elementary and easy-to-do safety procedures have taken place.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: If I understood the Minister right, you are saying this particular section is consistent with other jurisdictions? We are almost equal or better?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: That is correct.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Is the committee ready to go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 25. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 26. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 27. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 28. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): The bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Does the committee recommend Bill 3-88(1) is now ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister, what is your wish at this time?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: My understanding is the standing committee on legislation is ready to deal with Bill 8-88(1), Bill 9-88(1), Bill 12-88(1), Bill 13-88(1) and Bill 14-88(1) and those are really a package of bills that can be dealt with together. So perhaps we can deal with that package and then we can decide where we go from there.

Bill 8-88(1), Assignment Of Book Debts Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): We are dealing with Bill 8-88(1), An Act to Amend the Assignment of Book Debts Act. Mr. Minister.

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: What I will do for all five of these acts is that I will give one opening comment and it affects all five of them the same way. Mr. Chairman, the reason I am introducing these bills is that over the past few years, more and more the emphasis in the NWT is on economic and business development. There have been a lot of complaints, especially from communities outside of Yellowknife, that our legislation ensures that there is so much red tape for people who are trying to undertake transactions that it makes it very, very difficult to do business. So these amendments to these five acts, I think will help to streamline at least part of the process of doing business, especially in smaller communities.

These amendments will cut through the red tape for filing a document late. The document could be a mortgage or a bill of sale. This will benefit the business community by cutting the cost of filing a document late. At present, all these acts require a court order in order to file a document after the time period set out in the act. Commercial lenders, particularly those outside Yellowknife, have expressed concern over the cost and delays involved in obtaining a court order. Also, businesses have expressed these concerns. With these amendments, a document that is filed late will have the same effect as a document filed on time. However, if rights have accrued to others between the proper time of filing and the actual time of filing, these rights are still protected. Nothing is taken away from individuals' rights by the amendments we are proposing in these five bills. What it does, though, is allow someone in a smaller community especially, because of the mail and because of the difficulty of getting information into Yellowknife, some comfort that they will not have to go to court to have the particular document recognized. I think with that, and the fact that these amendments are consistent with amendments that have been made in other jurisdictions, that this is the trend; it will streamline the doing of business in the NWT.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Those were your general comments for all those little bills, right? Mr. Ernerk, the chairman of the standing committee on legislation. Are you going to do the same type of comments that the Minister has, on the package of the five bills in front of us? Mr. Ernerk.

Comments From The Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. ERNERK: No. I can only speak for a few minutes at a time, Mr. Chairman. May I go on then? Bill 8-88(1), An Act to Amend the Assignment of Book Debts Act. Mr. Chairman, the bill was discussed at the standing committee on legislation meeting of February 29, 1988. It was introduced by the Minister of Justice, Mr. Ballantyne. The Minister explained that the purpose of the bill was to amend the existing act by removing the necessity of requiring a court order for the late filing of documents. Mr. Chairman, the committee reviewed the bill and had no serious concerns. The standing committee on legislation recommends passage through the House. Thank you.

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

A Positive Response To Public Request

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, let me applaud the government and the Minister of Justice, in particular, in bringing forward this bill and the other four identical bills. The legal profession, the courts and, as the Minister indicated, the commercial world are going to be delighted when they learn that these long-awaited amendments have gone through the Assembly. The current process under these five pieces of legislation is very, very cumbersome and very expensive for simple transactions. This kind of change was made in similar provincial legislations many years ago. I just want to state for the record, because I have mentioned some of these to the Minister in the past, these are the kinds of clean-up amendments that are needed in an awful lot of our outdated statutes. I just wanted to commend the Minister because sometimes he says that I accentuate the negative and not the positive. This is a very positive response to a request by the public to have the legislation updated. I am very pleased to see that the Minister has brought them forward.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): General comments on Bill 8-88(1). If not, does the committee agree we go clause by clause? Thank you. Clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Clause 2, late registration. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Clause 3, omission or misstatement. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Does the committee agree that Bill 8-88(1) is now ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 9-88(1), Bills Of Sale Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. We will now proceed to Bill 9-88(1). The Minister already indicated his opening remarks for all the five bills. Mr. Ernerk, chairman of the legislation committee.

Comments From The Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Bill 9-88(1), An Act to Amend the Bills of Sale Act. Mr. Chairman, the purpose of the bill is to amend the existing act by removing the requirement of a court order for delayed filing of documents. The committee reviewed the bill and the standing committee recommends passage through the House.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. General comments. If there are no general comments, does the committee agree we go clause by clause? Thank you.

Clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Clause 2, late registration. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Clause 3, omission or misstatement. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): The bill as a whole? Does the committee agree that Bill 9-88(1) is now ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 12-88(1), Companies Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. We will now proceed to Bill 12-88(1), An Act to Amend the Companies Act. Mr. Ernerk.

Comments From The Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The purpose of the bill is to amend the existing act by removing the requirement of a court order for the late filing of documents. The committee reviewed the bill and recommends passage through the House.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. General comments. Are there any general comments? An Act to Amend the Companies Act. If not, does the committee agree we go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Clause 2, late registration. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Clause 3, omission or misstatement. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Does the committee agree that Bill 12-88(1) is now ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 13-88(1), Conditional Sales Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Bill 13-88(1), An Act to Amend the Conditional Sales Act. Mr. Ernerk.

Comments From The Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The purpose of the bill is to amend the existing act by removing the requirement of a court order for late filing of documents. Mr. Chairman, the committee reviewed the bill and the standing committee on legislation recommends passage through the House.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. General comments on Bill 13-88(1), An Act to Amend the Conditional Sales Act. Are there any general comments? If not, does the committee agree that we go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Clause 2, late registration. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Clause 3, omission or misstatement. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Does the committee agree that Bill 13-88(1) is now ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 14-88(1), Corporation Securities Registration Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Bill 14-88(1), An Act to Amend the Corporation Securities Registration Act. Member for Aivilik.

Comments From The Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The purpose of the bill is to amend the existing act by removing the requirement of a court order for late filing of documents. The committee reviewed the bill and recommends passage.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. General comments on Bill 14-88(1). Are there any general comments? Clause by clause, does the committee agree?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Clause 2, late registration. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Clause 3, omission or misstatement. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Does the committee agree that Bill 14-88(1) is now ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Mr. Minister, that concludes the five bills that you proposed to do as a package. Which bill would you like to proceed with at this time?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Chairman, I am ready to do any of the bills that are on there, so I will leave it up to the chairman of the legislation committee.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mr. Government House Leader, which bill would you like to proceed with at this time?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Okay. It seems that we are moving right along here. We can do Bill 17-88(1), Labour Standards Act, Bill 19-88(1), Liquor Act, and Bill 28-88(1), Judicature Act.

Bill 17-88(1), Labour Standards Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Okay. The committee will be dealing with Bill 17-88(1), An Act to Amend the Labour Standards Act. Mr. Minister.

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Today I am introducing an Act to Amend the Labour Standards Act. These amendments will significantly improve the protection currently provided to NWT workers. An earlier draft of this bill was tabled as a discussion paper in June, 1987. Some changes have been made in the bill, but the basic principles remain the same. The discussion paper was tabled to ensure that all interested persons had an opportunity to comment on the proposed changes and to ensure that all Members could, if they wish, discuss these changes with their constituents. Few comments have been received.

A significant part of this bill addresses the issues raised in the five year action plan for the equality of women that was tabled in 1985 by the Minister responsible for the Status of Women. This bill guarantees women the right to maternity leave provided the prescribed conditions are met. The NWT is the last jurisdiction in Canada to enact provisions respecting maternity leave. Domestic workers, who were also identified in the five year action plan, are included in this bill. The Labour Standards Act will apply to domestic workers as defined and to the extent specified by regulation. At present, there is no protection for domestic workers.

The standard work week is to be shortened to 40 hours, although a maximum of 60 hours per week may be worked. Overtime is payable after 40 hours per week, which is consistent with similar legislation in most western Canada jurisdictions.

Managers are to be covered by all of the act except for those portions dealing with hours of work and overtime. The lien and charge on property provisions have been clarified to make them less susceptible to challenge in the courts. Arrangements with other jurisdictions for the reciprocal collection of wages are to be permitted. And a provision has been added to enable the labour standards officer to declare that two corporations are associated corporations for the purpose of this act.

These amendments are the first part of a two part program to modernize our labour law to bring it totally up to date in the Canadian context. This will afford NWT workers the protection they deserve. With that, Mr. Chairman, I turn it back over to you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mahsi cho. Mr. Ernerk, chairman of the legislation committee.

Comments From The Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister of Justice met with the standing committee on legislation, SCOL, on April 7, 1988 to discuss the bill. The purpose of the bill is to amend the Labour Standards Act. Mr. Chairman, the Minister explained that this bill would provide minimum protection for workers in the NWT, including domestic workers, and would bring this jurisdiction in line with other areas of Canada. Changes would include the designation of the standard hours of work and provisions for maternity leave. A holiday pay calculation has been clarified. Regulations to accompany the act will be included at a later date.

Mr. Chairman, Members of the committee had certain concerns with this bill. A Member of the committee requested that this government provide a definition and a list of those occupations which are classified as domestic workers in the act. The Minister stated that he would finalize a list and include it in regulations. A Member asked the Minister if the government would consider allowing the application of leave to also apply to adoptions, especially with regard to infants. The Minister replied that the government will require time to research this matter and may amend the section of the bill to accommodate leave for those persons adopting infants. The acting chairman asked if the rights of the husband should also be clarified, especially with regard to concerns under the Charter of Rights. The Minister replied that he would look into this and may make amendments to the bill in the next year, once this issue has been researched by the legislation division.

A Member of the standing committee observed that in a section concerning entitlement to maternity leave, a certificate required for maternity leave without pay must be provided by a qualified medical practitioner. Since many communities do not have resident doctors, can a local nurse test for pregnancy and provide the certificate? The Minister replied that he would look into this matter and make amendments to the bill when the bill comes before the House. Mr. Chairman, the standing committee recommends passage of the bill with the recommendation that the government amend the bill accordingly. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): The Chair would like to recognize Roy Fabian from the Hay River Reserve. Welcome to the House.

---Applause

General comments on Bill 17-88(1), An Act to Amend the Labour Standards Act. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: For the record, I wonder if the Minister could indicate the types of people or bodies who had the draft of this bill to provide input.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: As the Member is aware, this bill has gone through a very long process. There was originally, two and one-half years ago, I guess, a contract given out. An individual went around to a number of communities and talked about changes to the Labour Standards Act and a report was given to the government two and one-half years ago. We decided at that point to deal with it in two parts: to deal with the very pressing issues in the first part and then to do a more comprehensive review in the second part. So this is part one. Pretty well what is in this bill, I tabled at the last session for all Members. I sent around copies of that to unions and businesses and chambers of commerce and they also had input when the original contractor went around. There was full consultation two and one-half years ago on that.

Changes Made

Since we met with the standing committee on legislation and because of their recommendations, we made all the changes I said I would. There are a couple I said I would do a year from now, but for the ones they recommended, we made amendments. So I think this bill has had pretty full discussion and consultation.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): General comments. Bill 17-88(1). Does the committee agree we go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Clause 2. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Clause 3, application of act. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Clause 4, exception. Mr. Richard.

Professionals Designated By Regulation

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, clause 4 repeals the current exemption section, which is subsection 3(2). The replacement is a little different. I am wondering if I could ask the Minister, under the current exemption section which is 3(2), it states that the current Labour Standards Act does not apply to domestic servants, to trappers, to fishermen, to professionals that are designated by the regulations, and managers. I appreciate one of the thrusts of this bill is to include domestic servants within the mandate of the act, but with that subsection 3(2), paragraph (c), professionals who are designated by regulations, it would appear that that group, whoever they are, is affected by this clause 4. Has the government in the past, by regulation, designated certain professionals to whom the act does not apply?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Up to this point in time we have not designated those classifications of professionals, no.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, that may be a result of just inadvertence or oversight by the government, and my point is that if that was a desirable exemption before, to allow the government, by regulation maybe, to exclude certain professionals as you are excluding managers, should you not at a minimum retain the ability to, by regulation, exempt certain professionals as you are doing with managers for part of the act?

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The reality is that most of the professions are self-regulated and because we have had the power for a long period of time and we have never actually designated it, we did not think it was necessary. There has been no occasion to do it. So we thought that we would take it out.

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

Ability To Exempt Professionals Should Be Retained

MR. RICHARD: Well, Mr. Chairman, I am only looking at this thing at the last minute, I suppose, but I do not accept that response in that -- sure, some of the professions in the Northwest Territories are self-regulating -- but self-regulating in that context does not refer to hours of work, or other things in the Labour Standards Act. Self-regulating in that context refers to their conduct in their activities as professionals. So I would ask the Minister -- perhaps it is not an urgent matter -- because I seriously think that the regulations should have been enacted and I think it was just an oversight and inadvertence that the government has not. I would ask that the Minister give me at least some undertaking that he will look into whether or not that provision should not be retained in the legislation, that government or Executive Council will at least retain the ability to, by regulation, exempt certain professionals. I see it as a desirable thing in the current legislation and I do not think it should be repealed.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Yes, as the Member says, it was inadvertent and it was due to the fact that nobody has made representation to the government that there has been a problem with these professions, so it has just not come up, and nobody in all the discussions we had, as far as I am aware, thought it was an important point. But I do not have a problem if -- you know it is understood that managers generally are protected. I think what the Member wants to do is put a provision in regulation that we may want to exempt some classification of manager from that blanket protection. I do not have a problem with that. If you want to make a motion, we could do one and put that back in for now. It is not a problem because it does not really in any way change what we are trying to do with the principle of the bill. And if the need does arise, I think the Member is saying that we should have some mechanism to act on it without having to come back with legislation.

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

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I will, in a moment, prepare a quick motion but can I ask the Minister on another part of the subsection you want repealed, subsection 3(2), paragraph (b), trappers and fishermen, that is commercial fishermen. You know, at the current time, trappers and commercial fishermen are exempted from the provisions of the Labour Standards Act. Can the Minister tell me what was the reason, or what is the reason why trappers and commercial fishermen are now exempt, and secondly, why are you now changing that, to have trappers and commercial fishermen come within the provisions of the labour standards legislation?

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

Fishermen And Trappers Not Generally Employees

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: We had a real problem with fishermen and with trappers inasmuch as they are not generally employees. If they were employees we could deal with them, but they are not. So there is just not a way to deal with them, when they are generally self-employed. It is difficult to set certain hours -- I mean a trapper might want to work 90 hours one week and nothing the next, or a fisherman might want to work 80 or 90 hours a week in the summertime -- and so it becomes difficult because most of them are self-employed. That is the reason that trappers or fishermen have not been included in this.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, that is precisely my point. The Minister is explaining why they are exempt, but now you are going to make the legislation apply to them. Why are you changing that?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: It is only if they are employees now. It still means that we will not be dealing with the vast majority of them. But if they are employees, for instance, I am not quite sure how it would work -- there are other people who are more expert than I am -- but I suppose if somebody set up a trapping business and hired three trappers to work as employees for him and paid those trappers a certain wage, then they would be covered. But generally most trappers still are not covered. So we are just saying, if you are an employee -- fisherman or trapper -- then you are covered; otherwise we are not covering them.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Clause 4. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Just so that the Minister will look at it again. I am not going to move a motion to change this bill, but I really think he is going too fast on this (b) and (c).

Motion To Reconsider The Repeal Of Paragraphs 3(2)(b) And (c), Labour Standards Act

I move that this committee recommend that the Minister of Justice reconsider the repeal of paragraphs 3(2)(b) and (c) of the Labour Standards Act.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Your motion is in order. To the motion.

MR. RICHARD: The motion is simply to recommend that the Minister of Justice reconsider the repealing of paragraphs 3(2)(b) and (c). These provisions were in there for good reasons before, and I have not heard, with due respect to the Minister, an explanation as to why we should be removing them. I know overall what the Minister is doing here; he is putting domestic servants within the protection of the act, as is desirable, and he is also putting managers within partial protection of the act. I agree with those things. But those other paragraphs have not been explained, to me anyway, and why he is repealing those. I am simply asking for the committee to agree that the Minister revisit those particular categories. I am not asking that the bill be changed. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): To the motion. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I was just going to suggest that we have it translated into Inuktitut.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): The Chair will take as much time as is needed to carry out the request of the Member for Aivilik.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Richard. To the motion.

Motion To Reconsider The Repeal Of Paragraphs 3(2)(b) And (c), Labour Standards Act, Withdrawn

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, with respect to my motion, I have had the opportunity during the break to speak with the Minister and his assistant with the result, I believe, that the Minister is prepared to go further than my motion goes and I would therefore ask that my motion be withdrawn.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Motion withdrawn. Mr. Minister.

Motion To Amend Clause 4, Bill 17-88(1), Carried

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The Member made a good point and rather than wait until the fall to redress a problem we thought we would do better to go ahead with an amendment now. So with the committee's consent I will move a motion. I move that subsection 3(3) -- this is a subsection dealing with non-application to certain employees -- be added to clause 4, of Bill 17-88(1) to read as follows: "(3) This act does not apply to employees who are (a) trappers and persons engaged in commercial fisheries; and (b) members or students of such professions as may be designated by regulations as professions to which this act does not apply."

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Your motion is in order, Mr. Ballantyne. To the motion. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Just for clarification so that I am totally understanding of the intent of the motion. If the mover of the motion could explain to me why he left out the word "hunter" in paragraph (a). I am thinking about hunters who hunt commercially. Polar bear hunters. To me, hunters and trappers are one group of people. So I wonder if the Minister could explain to me why he left that particular word out.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The word was never there so we did not leave it out. In the original, it just referred to trappers and persons engaged in commercial fisheries. For whatever reason it was not there originally, I cannot tell you; but the intent, then, of this particular motion means that because of the fact that most fishermen and trappers are self-employed, there is really no need to have them bound by the act. It might cause some problems that we are not 100 per cent aware of; so it is something that I will research between now and the fall, as to whether or not trappers, commercial fishermen or hunters -- we will look at that to see if there are any parts of this legislation that should apply to them. I will come back in the fall on that. But I will definitely add hunters to that list if we bring it back into the legislation.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): To the motion. All those in favour? Opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Clause 4, as amended. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 5, standard hours of work. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 6, maximum hours of work. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 7, exception where general holiday in a week. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 8, regulations respecting domestic workers. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 9. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 10, calculation of general holiday pay. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 11, holiday that is a non-working day. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 12. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 13, maternity leave. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 14. Agreed? Mr. Richard.

Maternity Leave

MR. RICHARD: Just an observation, Mr. Chairman. In the context of the health transfer and this new provision here that in place of a doctor or qualified medical practitioner, the confirmation of maternity can be done "by a nurse in that community who holds a valid certificate of registration issued under the Nursing Profession Act". As the Minister of Health has told us, the federal nurses are not required to hold that certificate; so maybe we had better get on with the health transfer since we are relying on that certification to assist the maternity leave provisions.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 14. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 15, lien and charge on property. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 16, reciprocal enforcement of certificates. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 17. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, on clause 15. This clause changes the wording of the lien and charge on property, that is the preference given for unpaid wages against the property of an employer. I regret that I have not had enough time to go through the thing in detail but one note I made was why is the section charging personal property but not real property or real estate? It appears that the...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Richard, are you finished?

MR. RICHARD: Yes, the question is why is the charge against personal or movable property as opposed to over real estate?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I am just looking at this one, Mr. Chairman. The question is we are dealing with only personal property but not real property. Why is that happening? Is that what you are asking? Mr. Richard?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: I am sorry, Mr. Chairman. I think my note was made on an earlier draft. I withdraw the question. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 15, lien and charge on property. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 16, reciprocal enforcement of certificates. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 17, associated corporations. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 18. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Clause 19. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): The bill as amended? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): The bill as a whole. Agreed? Does the committee agree that Bill 17-88(1) is ready for third reading as amended?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 19-88(1), Liquor Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Minister, are we ready to go on to Bill 19-88(1)?

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have some brief opening remarks on Bill 19-88(1). The amendments to the Liquor Act are necessary because a recent decision of the territorial court calls into question the validity of liquor prohibition and restriction regulations that were made under the old Liquor Ordinance.

The decision affects 25 communities in the NWT. The purpose of this amendment is to preserve the system of restriction or prohibition that is in place in each of these communities. Without this amendment, prohibition or restriction could not be continued unless the communities held new plebiscites. Even if the plebiscites were successful, the communities could not restrict or prohibit the use of liquor in the interim.

This bill also contains two minor amendments. The minimum alcohol content of an intoxicating preparation is reduced from one per cent to 0.5 per cent. Secondly, a provision is added prohibiting liquor stores from selling alcohol to persons who are under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

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

Comments From The Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister of Justice introduced the bill to the standing committee on legislation on March 8, 1988, and explained that the purpose of the amendment was to prevent the challenge of provision restrictions in some 25 communities, as he stated just now. There was one concern raised by the Law Clerk; he questioned whether or not sections of the bill were open to appeal under the Charter of Rights. The Minister stated that this may be possible but the government will continue to proceed with the legislation as written. So, Mr. Chairman, the standing committee on legislation recommends passage.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): General comments on this bill. Does the committee agree to go clause by clause? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 2. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 3, liquor prohibition and restrictions. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 4, prohibition on sale. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Does the committee agree that Bill 19-88(1) is now ready for third reading? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Does the committee wish now to go to Bill 28-88(1), An Act to Amend the Judicature Act? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 28-88(1), Judicature Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Minister.

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to place before this Assembly Bill 28-88(1), An Act to Amend the Judicature Act. The purpose of this bill is to increase the number of judges of the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories from two to three. The reason for this amendment is that Mr. Justice Marshall of the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories has been named the first executive director of the newly established Canadian Judicial Centre, as I have previously stated. During his expected three year term with the judicial centre, Mr. Justice Marshall will remain a member of our court. It is expected, however, that his duties elsewhere will only allow Mr. Justice Marshall to hear a limited number of cases.

The federal Minister of Justice has agreed to appoint a third permanent judge to our Supreme Court. In order for such an appointment to take place, the Judicature Act has to be amended to provide for a third position on the court.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Ernerk, as chairman of the standing committee on legislation, do you have any comments?

Comments From The Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, the Minister of Justice, Mr. Ballantyne, introduced the bill and stated that the purpose was to increase the number of judges of the Supreme Court from two to three judges. Mr. Chairman, the committee reviewed the bill and had no serious concerns. The standing committee on legislation recommends passage through the House. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Do any Members have any general comments? Is the committee prepared then to go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 1, composition of the court. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Does the committee agree that Bill 28-88(1) is now ready for third reading? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Ballantyne, would you like to advise which bill the government is prepared to recommend next?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think, Mr. Chairman, that the Speaker is here and is prepared to deal with Bill 5-88(1), so I will vacate my seat in order for the greater good to be done.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Does the committee agree to deal now with Bill 5-88(1)?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 5-88(1), Legislative Assembly And Executive Council Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Speaker, would you like to make introductory remarks on Bill 5-88(1)?

Speaker's Opening Remarks

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As chairman of the Management and Services Board, I am pleased to make these opening remarks to Bill 5-88(1), An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act. The purpose of this bill is to increase the Members' basic indemnity and to provide for a daily indemnity to the Deputy Speaker and chairpersons of committee of the whole. The bill will reduce the allowances paid to the Deputy Speaker and the chairpersons of committee of the whole, and eliminates housing allowances, as such, paid to Members. Mr. Chairman, the bill will also increase Members' per diems and living allowances for committee work.

The proposed changes to the act are the end result of recommendations from the 10th Legislative Assembly. The 10th Assembly established an independent commission on Members' and Ministers' indemnities, allowances and salaries in November of 1986. The establishment of this commission was a result of a recommendation of the special committee on rules, procedures and privileges of the 10th Assembly. The commission was chaired by Mr. Grant Hinchey of Yellowknife and there were two other members, Mr. Andy Theriault of Iqaluit and Mr. Danny Yakeleya of Fort Norman. The commission in carrying out its duties sought comments, advice and assistance from a variety of sources. All Members of the 10th Assembly were given a questionnaire and interviews were held with a number of Members. The commission held discussions with senior government representatives from the audit bureau and the Office of the Auditor General of Canada. The commission also met with Revenue Canada and personnel from the Department of Finance in Ottawa.

Mr. Chairman, the commission reported in March of 1987 to the 10th Assembly's Management and Services Board, who reviewed the report and its recommendations and forwarded their own recommendations, based on the commission's report, to the caucus of the 10th Assembly. The caucus reviewed the report and the Management and Services Board recommendations and after lengthy discussion recommended to the 11th Assembly the amendments that are now contained in the bill before the House.

I feel that it is important to note that the recommendations of the commission were not adopted in their entirety. In a number of cases, amounts suggested were reduced but in no cases were amounts increased. It was noted by the commission that the responsibilities of Members of the Legislative Assembly have dramatically changed over the past few years and that many MLAs have entered public life at considerable personal sacrifice to themselves and to their families. In recent years, remuneration for service in office has fallen behind in escalating costs. Many have served at substantial financial cost to themselves both in direct costs and in loss of income that may have been derived from business, from professional practice or from other activities.

Principles Of Remuneration Considered By Commission

It was felt by the commission that in addressing the standard for MLAs, remuneration, certain principles should be considered. The commission suggested that remuneration should be adequate to cover the time and responsibilities involved in the office and the disruption of career and personal opportunities. Secondly, remuneration should be reasonable so that individuals who have no personal financial resources are not dissuaded from seeking office merely because of financial circumstances. They also suggested that remuneration should be adequate to ensure that MLAs and their families are supported without undue financial sacrifice, particularly in their prime earning years when family and other obligations are likely to be heavy. It was also felt that remuneration that is fair and reasonable would not encourage anyone interested primarily in financial reward only, to seek office. The commission felt that the electorate could be counted upon to reject those candidates who do not have the best interests of the people at heart. Nor, it was felt, would such remuneration result in any significant financial advantages for any elected Members.

When the commission applied these principles, a number of factors were then taken into account:

- 1) The increasing workload of Members of the Legislative Assembly and Ministers with regard to both their legislative and government responsibilities and in service of their constituents.
- 2) Changes in general economics to circumstances throughout the Territories.
- 3) Comparisons with levels of similar payments for service in the legislatures of other Canadian jurisdictions. Our basic remuneration is the lowest in Canada and, Mr. Chairman, I would point out here that Members' salaries have increased from a basic salary in 1979 of \$12,442 to a basic salary in 1987, prior to this bill, of \$18,720. Mr. Chairman, that is an increase of only some \$6000 for eight years.
- 4) The funds involved are public funds and because of that, monitoring and maintenance of records, accountability and auditing procedures are already in place and are administered by the Legislative Assembly's Management and Services Board.

Mr. Chairman, the amendments contained in the act will provide a system of remuneration to elected Members that is still not on par with many other Canadian jurisdictions, but it will ensure the Members' ability to serve their constituents. It should be noted that the independent commission did recommend that future commissions be appointed to review Members' entitlements on an annual or biannual basis. This matter has yet to be addressed by this 11th Assembly.

Mr. Chairman, the checks and balances within the Legislative Assembly ensure that all funds expended are properly accounted for in accordance with the regulations, policies and laws of the NWT. Mr. Chairman, for further details, Members can refer to the commission's report which I tabled earlier today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Do any Members have general comments on this? Are Members prepared to proceed with Bill 5-88(1), clause by clause?

---Agreed

Clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 2. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 3, indemnity of Speaker, Deputy Speaker, chairpersons and deputy chairpersons. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 4, indemnity of Deputy Speaker, chairpersons and deputy chairpersons. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 5. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 6. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 7, indemnity for constituency work. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 8. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 9. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 10, constituency allowance and expenses. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 11. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 12, payment of indemnity or allowance in special circumstances. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 13, "Seal". Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 14. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 15, Schedule B. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 16. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 17. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Bill as a whole? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Does the committee agree that Bill 5-88(1) is now ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Ballantyne, would you like to advise us which piece of legislation you would like the committee to deal with next?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I have a couple of small bills. If we could do Bill 4-88(1) and Bill 26-88(1).

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Does the committee agree to deal with Bill 4-88(1), An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 4-88(1), Income Tax Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Minister, do you have an opening statement?

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Chairman, the amendment to the Income Tax Act I am introducing will provide that interest on unpaid taxes, refunds and penalties, will be compounded daily rather than quarterly, retroactively to January 1, 1987. Under our income tax collection agreement with Canada, we were required to make this change to keep active our agreement with the federal act. The changes will not affect our revenue, since the federal government keeps interest and penalties collected on our behalf in exchange for collecting the tax. The change will mean that taxpayers who are late paying taxes will pay slightly more interest and the government will pay slightly higher interest on refunds.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): There are no comments from the standing committees on legislation or finance. Are Members agreed to go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 2, compound interest. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 3, interest on penalty. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): The bill as a whole?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Are Members agreed that Bill 4-88(1), An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act, is now ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Minister, which bill would you like to proceed with now?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Chairman, if we could do Bill 26-88(1).

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Is committee prepared to deal now with Bill 26-88(1), An Act to Amend the Residential Tenancies Act?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 26-88(1), Residential Tenancies Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Minister, do you have an opening statement?

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Chairman, I am placing An Act to Amend the Residential Tenancies Act before this Legislative Assembly. The purpose of this amendment is to rectify an error that was made when the Residential Tenancies Act was passed in the first session of the 1987 Legislative Assembly. The error is in subsection 41(3) of the Residential Tenancies Act. This subsection sets out the calculation of the penalty for the late payment of rent. Some of the elements needed to calculate the penalty were omitted by error. This bill corrects the omission and sets out all the elements of the calculation.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Does the chairman of the standing committee on legislation have any comment?

Comments From The Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, the bill was introduced by the Minister of Justice, Mr. Ballantyne, on March 8, 1988, before the standing committee on legislation. The Minister explained that an oversight occurred when the act was passed at the last Assembly, concerning the calculation for late payment of rent. The bill is being amended to more clearly specify how the penalty will be calculated. A Member of the committee had concerns and questioned as to whether or not housing associations were included under this act. The Minister replied that they were and the housing associations will decide if there are to be late penalties for rent from their tenants. The committee reviewed the bill clause by clause and recommends passage through the House. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: I just note that sometimes MLAs have said that one of the problems with the government is that they never admit when they are wrong or when they have made a mistake. This bill is proof positive that they do admit it, because it says so right here, that the purpose of this act is to correct an error that they made.

---Laughter

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Thank you, Mr. Richard. Any other comments? Does the committee agree we go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Bill 26-88(1), Residential Tenancies Act. Clause 1, penalty calculation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): The bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Does the committee agree that Bill 26-88(1) is now ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Minister, do you have any suggestions as to where the committee should go from here other than home?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I would suggest that we could do Bill 16-88(1), Bill 21-88(1) and Bill 22-88(1), with Mr. Wray sitting in the witness stand.

Bill 16-88(1), Home Owners' Property Tax Rebate Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Wray, would you like to introduce Bill 16-88(1), An Act to Amend the Home Owners' Property Tax Rebate Act? Mr. Wray.

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Bill 16-88(1), An Act to Amend the Home Owners' Property Tax Rebate Act. What we will do with this bill is that, because of the passage of the Property Assessment and Taxation Act a year ago, we are changing the definitions and the definitions of "municipal taxing area" and "municipal taxing authority" are added to make it consistent with the Property Assessment and Taxation Act. These changes are made to sections 2, 3.1(1)(a), 3.1(1)(b), 3.1(2), 10.1(a), 10.1(b), 10(2) and 12(e). There are the same changes in all of these sections.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Does the chairman of the standing committee on legislation have any statements to make regarding this piece of legislation? Mr. Ernerk.

Comments From The Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the Minister of Justice, Mr. Ballantyne, explained that the purpose of the bill is to amend the existing act in order to bring it into line with the Property Assessment and Taxation Act. Mr. Chairman, the committee reviewed the bill clause by clause and recommends passage through the House. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Thank you, Mr. Ernerk. Are there any Members of the committee that have any general comments to make on this piece of legislation? Bill 16-88(1), An Act to Amend the Home Owners' Property Tax Rebate Act, clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 2, "municipal taxing area" and "municipal taxing authority". Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 3. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 4. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 5. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 6. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 7. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 8. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): The bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Is the committee agreed that Bill 16-88(1), An Act to Amend the Home Owners' Property Tax Rebate Act, is now ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Wray, where would you like to steer us to next?

HON. GORDON WRAY: Could we do Bill 22-88(1), Mr. Chairman? We are still checking out a couple of things in Bill 21-88(1).

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Is the committee prepared to go with Bill 22-88(1), An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 22-88(1), Property Assessment And Taxation Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Minister, do you have an opening statement?

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is to allow the council of a municipal corporation which is a municipal taxing authority to pass a by-law exempting part of a parcel, improvement or mobile unit from property taxation for the next taxation year as long as the by-law is enacted before October 1st of the previous calendar year. Subsection 75(4) of the Property Assessment and Taxation Act is redrafted to make this clear. There was some confusion by some of the municipalities, so we have come up with new wording which makes it clearer. Subsection 91(1) is amended to correct an error. When we passed the original legislation, we had the collecting authority receiving notice of tax payable as opposed to sending it, so we are substituting "sending" for "receiving".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Does the chairman of the standing committee on legislation have any comments on this act?

Comments From The Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, the Minister of Justice, Mr. Ballantyne, introduced the bill before the standing committee on legislation on March 24, 1988. The purpose of the bill is to amend the existing act to allow municipal bylaws providing exemptions from taxation that are passed prior to October 1 of any year to apply in that year and subsequent years. The standing committee on legislation recommends passage.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Do any other Members have any comments to make on Bill 22-88(1)? Bill 22-88(1), An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act. Clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 2, effective date of by-laws. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Clause 3. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Does the committee agree that Bill 22-88(1) is now ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Minister, which bill would you like to go to now?

HON. GORDON WRAY: Mr. Chairman, we were going to proceed with Bill 21-88(1) but I have been advised there may be an error in our proposal so rather than go ahead with it right now I will delay it until tomorrow until we check it out with legislative counsel.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): What is the committee's wish now? Mr. House Leader, do you have any suggestions as to where we should go from here?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think we could go on to third reading and better and brighter things.

MR. PUDLUK: I move we report progress.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin): Mr. Pudluk moves to report progress. There is no debate. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Motion is carried.

---Carried

I will now rise and report progress to the Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Committee will come back to order. Mr. McLaughlin.

ITEM 18: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILL 3-88(1), FIRE PREVENTION ACT; BILL 4-88(1), INCOME TAX ACT; BILL 5-88(1), LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ACT; BILL 8-88(1), ASSIGNMENT OF BOOK DEBTS ACT; BILL 9-88(1), BILLS OF SALE ACT; BILL 12-88(1), COMPANIES ACT; BILL 13-88(1), CONDITIONAL SALES ACT; BILL 14-88(1), CORPORATION SECURITIES REGISTRATION ACT; BILL 16-88(1), HOME OWNERS' PROPERTY TAX REBATE ACT; BILL 17-88(1), LABOUR STANDARDS ACT; BILL 19-88(1), LIQUOR ACT; BILL 22-88(1), PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION ACT; BILL 26-88(1), RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES ACT; BILL 28-88(1), JUDICATURE ACT; REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE ON THE 1988-89 MAIN ESTIMATES

Motions To Accept Report Of Committee Of The Whole, Carried

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 3-88(1), Bill 4-88(1), Bill 5-88(1), Bill 8-88(1), Bill 9-88(1), Bill 12-88(1), Bill 13-88(1), Bill 14-88(1), Bill 15-88(1), Bill 16-88(1), Bill 17-88(1), Bill 19-88(1), Bill 21-88(1), Bill 22-88(1), Bill 26-88(1), Bill 28-88(1), Bill 31-88(1) and Bill 32-88(1) and wishes to report that Bill 3-88(1), Bill 4-88(1), Bill 5-88(1), Bill 8-88(1), Bill 9-88(1), Bill 12-88(1), Bill 13-88(1), Bill 14-88(1), Bill 16-88(1), Bill 19-88(1), Bill 22-88(1), Bill 26-88(1) and Bill 28-88(1) are recommended for third reading and that Bill 17-88(1) is recommended for third reading as amended.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Is there a seconder to the motion? Mr. Arlooktoo, thank you. To the motion. All those in favour? Opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Report of Standing Committee on Finance on the 1988-89 Main Estimates; Report of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts; Tabled Document 71-88(1), Direction for the 1990s; Tabled Document 80-88(1), Task Force on the Meech Lake Accord; Tabled Document 125-88(1), Health Transfer Agreement; Tabled Document 130-88(1), Evaluation of the Business Incentive Policy Second Report, The Results; Ministers' Statements 13-88(1) and 43-88(1), and wishes to report that the Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on the 1988-89 Main Estimates is concluded.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Is there a seconder for that motion? Mr. Ernerk, thank you. To the motion. All those in favour? Thank you. All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

I wish to advise the House that I received the following letter dated April 11, 1988, from the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, John H. Parker. It reads, and I quote:

"I wish to advise that I recommend to the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories the passage of Bill 32-88(1), An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act, during the second session of the 11th Assembly." As I mentioned, that was signed by the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories. Item 19, third reading of bills. Mr. Ballantyne.

ITEM 19: THIRD READING OF BILLS

Third Reading Of Bill 3-88(1): Fire Prevention Act

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kivallivik, that Bill 3-88(1), An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour? Thank you. All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 3-88(1) has had third reading. Third reading of bills. Mr. Ballantyne.

Third Reading Of Bill 4-88(1): Income Tax Act

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that Bill 4-88(1), An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour? Those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 4-88(1) has had third reading. Mr. Ballantyne.

Third Reading Of Bill 8-88(1): Assignment Of Book Debts Act

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Amittuq, that Bill 8-88(1), An Act to Amend the Assignment of Book Debts Act, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour? Thank you. Those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 8-88(1) has had third reading. Mr. Ballantyne.

Third Reading Of Bill 9-88(1): Bills Of Sale Act

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kivallivik, that Bill 9-88(1), An Act to Amend the Bills of Sale Act, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour? Thank you. All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 9-88(1) has had third reading. Mr. Ballantyne.

Third Reading Of Bill 12-88(1): Companies Act

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Bill 12-88(1), An Act to Amend the Companies Act, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order. To the motion. Question being called. All those in favour? Thank you. All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 12-88(1) has had third reading. Mr. Ballantyne.

Third Reading Of Bill 13-88(1): Conditional Sales Act

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that Bill 13-88(1), An Act to Amend the Conditional Sales Act, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order. To the motion. Question being called. All those in favour? Thank you. Those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 13-88(1) has had third reading. Mr. Ballantyne.

Third Reading Of Bill 14-88(1): Corporation Securities Registration Act

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kivallivik, that Bill 14-88(1), An Act to Amend the Corporation Securities Registration Act, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question being called. All those in favour? Thank you. All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 14-88(1) has had third reading. Third reading of bills, Mr. Ballantyne.

Third Reading Of Bill 17-88(1): Labour Standards Act

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nahendeh, that Bill 17-88(1), An Act to Amend the Labour Standards Act, as amended, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, the motion is in order. To the motion. Question being called. All those in favour? Thank you. Those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 17-88(1) has had third reading. Mr. Ballantyne.

Third Reading Of Bill 19-88(1): Liquor Act

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Iqaluit, that Bill 19-88(1), An Act to Amend the Liquor Act, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question being called. All those in favour? Thank you. All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 19-88(1) has had third reading. Mr. Ballantyne.

Third Reading Of Bill 26-88(1): Residential Tenancies Act

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kivallivik, that Bill 26-88(1), An Act to Amend the Residential Tenancies Act, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order. To the motion. Question being called. All those in favour? Thank you. All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 26-88(1) has had third reading. Mr. Ballantyne.

Third Reading Of Bill 28-88(1): Judicature Act

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Bill 28-88(1), An Act to Amend the Judicature Act, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question being called. All those in favour? Thank you. Those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 28-88(1) has had third reading. Third reading of bills. Mr. Wray.

Third Reading Of Bill 16-88(1): Home Owners' Property Tax Rebate Act

HON. GORDON WRAY: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Bill 16-88(1), An Act to Amend the Home Owners' Property Tax Rebate Act, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order. Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 16-88(1) has had third reading. Mr. Wray.

Third Reading Of Bill 22-88(1): Property Assessment And Taxation Act

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Amittuq, that Bill 22-88(1), An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order. To the motion. Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 22-88(1) has had third reading. Third reading of bills. Mr. Patterson.

Third Reading Of Bill 5-88(1): Legislative Assembly And Executive Council Act

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Bill 5-88(1), An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order. Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 5-88(1) has had third reading. Third reading of bills. Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I think that is the end of the third reading of bills, but I wonder if the House would permit the Commissioner on conclusion of this part of the agenda, to enter and give assent to many of the bills that have had third reading.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Clerk, would you ascertain if the Commissioner is prepared to give assent?

ASSENT TO BILLS

COMMISSIONER PARKER: As Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, I assent to the following bills: Bill 1-88(1), Bill 3-88(1), Bill 4-88(1), Bill 5-88(1), Bill 8-88(1), Bill 9-88(1), Bill 12-88(1), Bill 13-88(1), Bill 14-88(1), Bill 17-88(1), Bill 19-88(1), Bill 26-88(1) and Bill 28-88(1).

MR. SPEAKER: Item 20, Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Announcements, Mr. Speaker. There will be a caucus meeting immediately after adjournment this evening. At 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning there will be a meeting of the ordinary Members' committee.

ITEM 20: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Friday, April 15th.

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: Bills 15-88(1), 21-88(1), 31-88(1), 32-88(1); Report of Standing Committee on Public Accounts; Tabled Documents 71-88(1), 80-88(1), 125-88(1), 130-88(1); Ministers' Statement 13-88(1); Ministers' Statement 43-88(1)
18. Report of Committee of the Whole
19. Third Reading of Bills
20. Assent to Bills
21. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The House stands adjourned until Friday, April 15th, at 10:00 a.m.

---ADJOURNMENT

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