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Speaker: The Hon. Red Pedersen, M.L.A.

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1989

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

SPEAKER (Hon. Red Pedersen): O God, may Your Spirit and guidance be in us as we work for the benefit of all our people, for peace and justice in our land and for constant recognition of the dignity and aspirations of those whom we serve. Amen.

Orders of the day for Thursday, February 9th, 1989. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Government Leader.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Ministers' Statement 1-89(1): Public Service Act

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the statement I want to make concerns government personnel policy and practices. Shortly after our last session, cabinet approved a comprehensive review of the Public Service Act. It did not take long for us to realize that there would be problems with its application and administration regardless of who was Minister of the Department of Personnel.

These problems relate to the fact that the act was created at a time when the government was headed by a federally-appointed civil servant. Since then it has not been thoroughly reviewed, by either current or former Ministers, with a view to ensuring that it reflects our present system of government. As a result, Mr. Speaker, I want Members to know that the review of the act is under way and that it includes consideration of various options that might better suit our needs, including establishment of a public service commission.

I am aware of the difficulties and criticisms we have had concerning the staffing appeals process. I should point out however, that our record in accepting appeals committee recommendations is quite consistent. Since June of 1986 the committee has made 75 unanimous recommendations. Our Ministers of Personnel have agreed to all but three of them.

However, due to controversy over how several specific appeal cases were handled recently, the Union of Northern Workers has taken the position that it will no longer represent employees as a member of the appeals committee. Because of this, the Hon. Jeannie Marie-Jewell announced recently that she would be seeking changes to regulations governing the committee in order to ensure that appeals could proceed. She consulted cabinet on changing the regulations and after careful deliberation and legal advice decided it was not necessary to change the regulations.

Instead, it was agreed that any unanimous appeals committee recommendation the Minister of Personnel was not prepared to accept would be brought to cabinet for a decision. This practice will be followed until our review of the act and the staffing appeals committee process has been

completed. I would expect that we will be in a position to bring forward a report and draft legislative amendments for your consideration at our next session.

Mr. Speaker, we remain committed to doing our part to ensure the right of appeal is maintained in our recruitment practices. Our government is fully prepared to participate in and do its part to ensure that employees who feel aggrieved by a staffing decision are given their right to an appeal hearing. We will continue to be ready and willing to do our part to make the appeal process work. In this respect, we will continue to arrange appeals committee hearings and inform the union, each time, of their scheduled date along with our recommendation for the third member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

#### Member's Statement On Suicides In NWT

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to speak about some of the concerns I have regarding the suicides in the Northwest Territories. There are a lot of people in our constituencies, especially young people, who commit suicide for reasons that are unknown. I think it is about time that we, as Members of the Legislative Assembly, try to figure out why the suicide rate is high. The people we represent would like us to pursue this, especially the Inuit people in the Baffin Region because there is a high rate of suicide in Baffin Region. There are only 300 people in my community and there was a suicide on December 12th, 1988 and at the end of January, on January 30th, there was another suicide in Iqaluit at the student residence. I am quite concerned about the suicide problem. Perhaps I would like the Legislative Assembly to pursue this and I think it is about time we started teaching our fellow Inuit on how we can deal with this problem. At the present, Mr. Speaker...

MR. SPEAKER: The time is up for Members' statements. Members' statements. Mr. Nerysoo.

#### Member's Statement On Role Of Ajauqtit Committee

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, before we begin our debates or questions I wish to raise an issue that the Members of ajauqtit feel important to state.

Mr. Speaker, we wish to make all aware that our questioning of decisions, application of policy and directions taken by our government should not be seen as challenging an individual or a person. It should be taken as the fact that Members in this Assembly make our government accountable and responsible and that whenever decisions are made those decisions should be made in the public interest. We wanted to begin this session with the point that when we do raise those questions it is not a personal attack but rather a questioning of political decisions and making our government accountable. We wanted to state that before we began this session.

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

#### Member's Statement On Hiring Practices

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday we did intend to bring up the issue which the Minister so very adequately addressed in his Ministers' statement of today about the way in which our government is handling the personnel problems, especially as they relate to the hiring practices of our government. But today I would like to remind all Members, Mr. Speaker, that there can be nothing more important than the establishment of a strong, stable and efficient public service, and I promised during the last session that if some movement did not take place to improve things that I would, during this session and subsequent ones, begin tabling examples of obvious miscarriages of justice in the way we are handling the hiring of people into the public service.

I have found that over the last six months, Mr. Speaker, the file which I began collecting at that time has grown gradually thicker because it is very, very clear that although the government is looking at this as a major problem, the inequities continue. I get phone calls, not from Yellowknife Centre, Mr. Speaker, but from many parts of the Territories where people are not satisfied that we are doing a good job. Mr. Speaker, I find that as the critic for Personnel in our ajauqtit committee, people have gradually realized that I have taken an interest in that particular shadow responsibility, and I would welcome any contributions whatsoever to make my file even thicker than it is. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement On Compulsory Use Of Seat Belts

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I also feel good today too.

---Laughter

As Members of this Legislative Assembly are aware, I have been attempting for the past two years to change the legislation requiring the compulsory use of seat belts in municipalities and on certain designated roads. So I was pleased to note that the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench has ruled that the law requiring motorists to use seat belts puts them at risk of injury and is therefore unconstitutional. In presenting his ruling, the judge said, "An individual has the freedom to make fundamental decisions respecting his personal security and not be prosecuted for exercising that freedom."

Mr. Speaker, that is exactly the point I have been trying to make during the last session when I presented my Private Member's Bill. Unfortunately the bill was defeated. However, it looks, once again, like I may be a winner.

Seat belts do not make good drivers. Instead, we should make driver education programs more widely available to existing drivers, as well as young people in our communities. I do not wish to underemphasize the importance of seat belts, but the wearing of seat belts is only part of the problem of whether individuals live or die on the road. The use of seat belts should be a personal decision. We should not be required by law to use them. I suggest that our emphasis should be on defensive driving. Seat belts do not make good drivers. Instead, we should make driver education programs more widely available to the young people in our communities.

Mr. Speaker, the process of drafting our legislation is a long and careful process. I find it surprising that our legal draftsman did not catch this violation of the Canadian Constitution.

---Applause

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

Member's Statement On Jack Anawak, MP

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I, too, am feeling good today. During the third session of the 11th Assembly held here in Yellowknife, Tuesday, November 8th, 1988, I predicted at that time that Mr. Jack Anawak of Rankin Inlet would be elected as Member of Parliament for the Nunatsiak riding. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our new Member of Parliament from Nunatsiak and I would like to indicate to this House that he is very much willing to work very closely with us and I would like to indicate to this House that I am very much willing to work with him very closely.

At this time I would like to extend many congratulations to Mr. Anawak and I wish him every success in his new job. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ernerk. Members' statements. Mr. Whitford, I hope you are feeling good today, too.

Member's Statement On Appreciation To Commissioner Parker From Yellowknife South Constituents

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will just use my two minutes wisely here. Yes, I am feeling pretty good. Not in the fighting mood today but I would just like to say that, realizing that the Commissioner will not be leaving until the end of July, I want to take my first two minutes in this Assembly to extend from the constituents of Yellowknife South sincere appreciation for his contribution to the development of the NWT government through the two and a half plus decades that he has been involved with it. I have had a very personal connection to some of that for that period of time, but I feel that his influence will be missed directly but it will not be that far away if we ever need him. From the constituents of Yellowknife South, through the House, I wish to extend sincere appreciation for his involvement.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Whitford. Members' statements. The Chair would like to recognize in the gallery and welcome to the House Mme. Suurkask and her French immersion class from the JH Sissons School. Welcome.

---Applause

Members' statements. That would appear to conclude Item 3.

Item 4, returns to oral questions. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Arlooktoo.

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question O1-89(1): Cape Dorset Inmate In Southern Penitentiary

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Social Services, in regard to someone who is originally from Cape Dorset being held in a southern penitentiary. He called me on February 6th when I was just leaving Lake Harbour. He is down in a southern penitentiary. He requested to be moved to the YCC because he was having problems in the penitentiary. I have not heard from him since then. But at the time, on February 2nd, he was going on a hunger strike due to the fact that he did not like the surroundings around him.

Apparently he is still on a hunger strike and he will remain like that as long as they do not move him to Yellowknife. He was sent to the penitentiary this fall. I am asking the Minister of Social Services in regard to Sanganie Oshueetuk from Cape Dorset; I am asking the Minister if he can be sent to Yellowknife instead. He does not want to be in the penitentiary in the South as he has been threatened a few times. He requested to be transferred to either Yellowknife or Baffin Correctional Centre. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take that question under notice to be able to look at the details of it and get back to the Member.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. The question is being taken as notice. Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Arlooktoo? Oral questions.



Question O2-89(1): Moving Of Satellite Dish, Cape Dorset

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The other question is directed to Hon. Titus Allooloo, Minister of Culture and Communications. I have mentioned this before in the House. This is in regard to Cape Dorset satellite dish. The satellite is centered in the community and in some areas reception is very poor. I mentioned that they should remove this dish to a better area. I am asking the Minister if he will look into this matter in regard to the dish being removed from the area that it is in now. Thank you.

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

Return To Question O2-89(1): Moving Of Satellite Dish, Cape Dorset

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In a previous session the honourable Member asked me about this issue and I looked into the current situation. I have been informed by letter from CBC that the equipment in Cape Dorset will be updated this summer when the parts have arrived by sealift. With the new equipment installed, everyone in the community should be able to receive good reception for both TV and radio.

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

Supplementary To Question O2-89(1): Moving Of Satellite Dish, Cape Dorset

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What about the receiver that is in that satellite? Will they also repair that receiver in that satellite? As I understand it, it is not going too well either.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I will look into this further as to what is happening in the community concerning the radio station. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. That part of the question taken as notice. Oral questions. Mr. Kilabuk.

Question O3-89(1): CBC Legislative Assembly News In Eastern Arctic Dialects

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am also going to ask a question on the area of CBC. We do not have any CBC reports coming from this Legislative Assembly in our constituency and in our area there is a majority of Inuit people and I am sure they would like to listen to CBC news in regard to the Legislative Assembly. I wonder why they do not air Inuktitut translations or news into Eastern Arctic dialects, because this is a very important issue. I wonder if we could try and preserve this more in the future. When those organizations such as ITC, ICC and other organizations get together, they often have media around who can air Inuktitut meetings. I wonder why they do not come into this House to air some Inuktitut news from this Legislative Assembly.

MR. SPEAKER: I did not catch to which Minister you directed that question. Could you indicate which Minister that was to?

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I guess this one was directed to the Government Leader. Perhaps he can answer that question. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. Allooloo has been directed to answer.

Return To Question O3-89(1): CBC Legislative Assembly News In Eastern Arctic Dialects

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Every session there is usually an Inuk reported present from Nunavut. At this time I am not aware whether we have an Inuk reporter from CBC covering the Legislative Assembly, but I will look into that matter. Thank you.

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

Question O4-89(1): Tabling Review Of HAP Program

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Housing. Mr. Minister, during this session, approximately what date will you be tabling in this House the review of the HAP program so that people on lower incomes could become eligible for this program, as well as people that are above the threshold, so that they could apply for this program? I have been asking for this now for two sessions. I was promised by the past Minister that this would be tabled in the House in the fall session, and it was not. I am just wondering if you are going to be tabling that at this session. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question O4-89(1): Tabling Review Of HAP Program

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, Mr. Speaker, it is my intention to table the amended document. I am shooting for March 15th, but if it can be done sooner it will be tabled sooner.

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

Question O5-89(1): Decentralization Of Fort Smith Region

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, a question to the Government Leader. The Member will know that the previous government had undertaken a process of decentralization of the Fort Smith Region and had embarked on a plan to set up area centres in Fort Simpson, Rae and Fort Smith. Is this government still committed to decentralization and what are the Government Leader's plans with regard to consultation with Members who would be so affected?

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

Return To Question O5-89(1): Decentralization Of Fort Smith Region

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, the government is committed to the principle of decentralization, but we believe it should be carried out in a careful and responsible fashion which examines factors such as costs, impact on communities and the effectiveness of service delivery. In principle, yes, we are open to opportunities of that kind.

Mr. Speaker, with respect to the Fort Smith decentralization, I have been asked by certain Members of this Legislature to review the effect of that decentralization, in previous sessions of this Assembly, and I have begun to do so in consultation with staff affected, in consultation with MLAs affected, and I can tell the honourable Member that I have been made more familiar with the situation through some visits to Fort Smith and Fort Simpson. I hope in the next few days, as well, to be able to visit Rae and see with my own eyes what we have in place there and talk to some of the people involved.

This review, Mr. Speaker, should not be a cause for great alarm to Members. The basic principle of the initiative will not be changed, but I consider that, now it has started to settle, we have to review how things are working and perhaps make some adjustments, but they would be adjustments of a relatively minor character, I believe, in order to ensure that programs are operating effectively and the bugs are ironed out of the new system. Once I have made those

visits I will be recommending some changes. I will discuss them with the MLAs affected and then get cabinet direction if it is required. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Supplementary, Mr. Sibbeston.

Supplementary To Question O5-89(1): Decentralization Of Fort Smith Region

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, just a little bit more specific. I want to, firstly, thank the Government Leader for coming to Fort Simpson and meeting with the area staff there and having a meeting as he did. I appreciate that he is beginning to understand the deep historical feelings that people in the Fort Simpson area have about the Fort Smith Region.

At the conclusion of the meeting that we had in Simpson, the Government Leader indicated the possibility of meeting in a closed room with all the MLAs affected and working things out. I am aware, too, that there is a draft paper that is being prepared for the Priorities and Planning Secretariat and I have had a chance to look at those recommendations and generally do not agree with any of them. In considering the situation, I am just wondering if the Government Leader would confirm the promise or the approach that he indicated to me that eventually, after all things are considered, he and the MLAs affected would basically sit down in a room and come to a conclusion with respect to the decentralization and establishment, perhaps, of a headquarters in Yellowknife. Would the Member indicate if that is still possible?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Further Return To Question O5-89(1): Decentralization Of Fort Smith Region

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I would like to thank the honourable Member, Mr. Speaker, for the reception I was given in Fort Simpson by himself and the area staff there. I found the trip enlightening and I can assure the honourable Member that any discussion paper he might have seen was only a draft and has already been revised as a result of further input and information that has been gathered recently. I will confirm, Mr. Speaker, that I think it would be a good idea for me to sit down and consult with all the MLAs affected by the changes in this particular region and I will undertake such a meeting before making any final recommendations to cabinet. I think that is a good approach.

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

Question O6-89(1): Cost Of Refurbishing Arctic Suite In Highrise

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of DPW. Madam Minister, could you supply me with the cost of furnishings and renovations to the Arctic Suite in the Fraser Tower highrise please?

MR. SPEAKER: Ms Cournoyea.

Return To Question O6-89(1): Cost Of Refurbishing Arctic Suite In Highrise

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Yes, I will do that.

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

Question O7-89(1): Result Of Consultation With Federal Government Re Whaling

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In 1988, the winter session, the Minister of Renewable Resources, I questioned him concerning the narwhal whaling up north that was directed for the people of the NWT and he had given me an answer to my question that the federal government would have to be consulted first before anything was begun. I would like to ask the Minister if he has done this. I would like to find out today what has been done about it.

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

Return To Question O7-89(1): Result Of Consultation With Federal Government Re Whaling

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have not spoken to Tom Siddon yet since our last meeting but to date, you are aware that narwhaling is prohibited in the NWT but if the federal government should give us the okay to hunt for the narwhals, then it will be a good time to get a narwhal for the NWT. But this issue is the jurisdiction of the federal government so therefore we do not have anything to allow us to go ahead and hunt narwhals in the NWT. I am not quite sure how we are going to deal with this narwhal hunting in the NWT to date. We have not met formally with the federal government yet but we have spoken informally in the past concerning bowhead whaling. We have not made any conditions to discuss it at this time formally. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Ernerk.

Supplementary To Question O7-89(1): Result Of Consultation With Federal Government Re Whaling

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to my question. I am aware, Mr. Speaker, the Inupiat people in Alaska and the people of Greenland have an agreement concerning bowhead whaling and I know that they have an agreement concerning international whaling commission and more, that they are able to hunt bowheads. Concerning that, I would like to ask the Minister of Renewable Resources if he could push the federal government to enable us to hunt bowhead whales in the NWT, if the Minister could ask them to do a survey; maybe perhaps do a comprehensive study on bowhead whaling in the NWT. The Inuvialuit Inuit and Inuinnat people in the past have hunted bowhead whales and I wonder if the Minister of Renewable Resources could contact the federal government, maybe, to ask them to do a survey on bowhead whaling in the NWT. Thank you.

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

Further Return To Question O7-89(1): Result Of Consultation With Federal Government Re Whaling

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To date the federal government is not a member of the International Whaling Commission. Their reasons are that the federal government has done a survey on the comprehensive study on bowhead whaling in the communities, especially Baffin Island. They have done a little bit of study on some of the communities in the Northwest Territories and they have been studying the increase of the bowhead whales, but I would ask the federal government if they will be doing a survey in the near future. Thank you.

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

Question O8-89(1): Pull-Out By Neptune Resources

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last fall we passed a bill in this House regarding Neptune Resources. It was a three million dollar loan guarantee bill, so we have expressed an interest in that particular project, Mr. Speaker. I was informed shortly before noon that there is a pull-out under way at the present time at Neptune; that planes are bringing people out; that there is an Electra charter to take people to Edmonton and I was wondering, Mr. Speaker, if the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources had some information to give to the House. If she does not, Mr. Speaker, would she check into the situation? Thank you.

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

Return To Question O8-89(1): Pull-Out By Neptune Resources

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I am aware that the management of Neptune Resources has made a decision to pull out a number of employees from Neptune, pending a decision by the federal government. I am not aware of all the details. This information has just been received and has not been confirmed at this time. However, I have the department contacting Neptune Resources to see the extent of the issue and the pull-out that they are facing right now.

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

Question O9-89(1): Federal Funding And Loan Guarantee To Neptune Resources

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary, to the Minister of Finance. The bill that went through the House, the loan guarantee, this three million dollars, Mr. Speaker, as I recall there was nothing in the bill that said that loan guarantee was tied to the \$15 million expected from the federal government. So if there are any NWT residents, companies, who are owed money by Neptune and they pull out and the thing falls down, what will be the situation with regard to our three million dollars, Mr. Speaker? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ballantyne.

Return To Question O9-89(1): Federal Funding And Loan Guarantee To Neptune Resources

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the Members are aware that mining is a federal responsibility. It is not a territorial responsibility. In the normal course of events, it would have been the responsibility of the federal government to make any form of loan guarantee necessary for a successful project. Because of the, we thought, unusual aspects of this particular project, the participation of the Dogrib people in the area, the support by the communities, and because in our loan guarantee we were able to put in some pretty strict employment penalty clauses, that if the company did not live up to them, there would be a pretty hefty financial penalty, we undertook to commit up to a maximum of three million dollars of loan guarantees. The utilization of our loan guarantee is obviously dependent on the federal government making the remaining \$15 million, which is necessary for this project to go ahead, available. So our position was then, and is now, that it was a federal responsibility. I think we have gone far beyond our normal mandate to try to support this project and if the federal government backs off from its responsibility, then the three million dollar loan guarantee of our government will not become operative. Thank you.

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

Question O10-89(1): Contamination Of Marine Mammals

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question I have is for the Minister of Health. About a month ago we heard that the Inuit country food had been contaminated, especially the white whales and the seals, and also the Inuit have been tested to see whether they have had any contamination from those mammals, like the Baffin people and the Ungava Bay people. The Inuit that were tested were proven to have contamination, especially the mothers that are breast feeding their infants. We have heard that this is a threat to the health of the individual and we have heard conflicting reports about the danger to the individual. We have heard it talked about over the radio and over the news media and I would like to hear from the Minister of Health whether this contamination to the individuals from the food is really dangerous or whether it is not dangerous. Thank you.

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

Return To Question O10-89(1): Contamination Of Marine Mammals

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I am aware of the concern that has been raised regarding the recent publications and discussions on contamination of food. At this time the findings are not conclusive and we cannot tell people that they should not continue to eat country food. However, if the Member would be patient enough, we plan to make a statement in the House outlining a plan of action on what this government is intending to do. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. The Chair would like to recognize in the gallery, Jack Anawak, the Member of Parliament for Nunatsiaq. Welcome.

--Applause

Oral questions. Mr. Morin.

Question O11-89(1): Direction By Minister To Departmental Officials

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Renewable Resources. Toward the end of the last session I was questioning you on the ad in the News North and the Native Press advertising bison hunting and I asked you if you would rephrase that ad to include general hunting licence holders. At that time you passed me a note in the House saying you would do that. I followed it up after the session was over with your department and they continually refused to do it. My question to you is, when you give your department direction, if you do, how come they do not follow it?

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

Return To Question O11-89(1): Direction By Minister To Departmental Officials

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, at the time when he brought the problem to me, on the spur of the moment I thought there was some misleading information but, in fact, the advertisement said the resident hunters will be allowed to put their names in the draw to be eligible to hunt buffalo. If I recall correctly, the Member's concern was about the part that said "resident hunters", and he was referring to non-aboriginal people who are resident hunters in the Northwest Territories. In fact, the general hunting licence holders are resident hunters of the Northwest Territories as well. After that, everyone was covered, the general hunting licence holders as well as the non-general hunting licence holders. I was satisfied, Mr. Speaker, that everyone who held a proper licence was able to put their names forward to be eligible for buffalo hunting. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O11-89(1): Direction By Minister To Departmental Officials

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Minister, I was not questioning the legality of that; I was questioning how the wording was. When you do these ads, you should make it as simple as possible so people can understand it. I still do not understand how come the ad was not changed to simplify it in order for all residents in the NWT to understand it better. Like I say, I was not questioning the legality of it. What I do not understand, and what I do not agree with, is how come your department cannot change the few words it took in that ad to make it simple.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question O11-89(1): Direction By Minister To Departmental Officials

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will take the Member's advice in future advertisements, that the proper wording will be put on the ads so everyone could understand. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. The Chair would like to recognize in the gallery the mayor of Iqaluit, Yvon Blanchette. Welcome.

---Applause

Oral questions. Mr. Nerysoo.

Question O12-89(1): Recruitment Practices At Neptune Mines

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism whether or not he could look into the recruitment practices of Neptune Mines and its subcontractors and report back to the House.

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

Return To Question O12-89(1): Recruitment Practices At Neptune Mines

HON. GORDON WRAY: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Morin.

Question O13-89(1): Number Of Northern Residents Employed

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to Mr. Nerysoo's question. Mr. Minister, could you also report back on how many of those employees have northern residence?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question O13-89(1): Number Of Northern Residents Employed

HON. GORDON WRAY: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I will do that.

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

Question O14-89(1): Future Of Appeals Process

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, I have carefully read this very well constructed document. I congratulate the Government Leader on having a hand in doing it, no doubt, but my question to him is, how is this appeals process really going to work? I realize that he cannot tell us what legal advice the Executive Council was given. All that is secret. But they have decided they do not need to change anything, so my question to the Government Leader is that since we will not have a full complement on this committee, and therefore you would not really have a committee, how could you really call that an appeals committee since a member, a party to it, has withdrawn? That is my first question.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, perhaps this is a question I should refer to the Minister of Personnel. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.

Return To Question O14-89(1): Future Of Appeals Process

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With regard to the Member's question on how the appeals process will work, as he had indicated, we would hope to continue on with the normal process of business as we had always done before, with the appeals process. It indicates in the Public Service Act that the committee contains three parties to the appeals process. It would, I believe, indicate to our employees the will of the government to continue on with the process. I certainly believe that it would show to the union and to the Members that we want to follow out with the process that we put in place. How it will work will remain to be seen once we start inviting them to future appeals. I can advise the Member as to the results of the process when they come up in future.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. Mr. Lewis, is that a supplementary?

Question O15-89(1): Appeals Referred To Executive Council

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, I realize that the Government Leader has the right to divert his questions to any one of his Executive Council Members, but I would like to pursue again with the Government Leader, since it was this document that he read at the beginning of the day, to set the record straight on how all our personnel problems will be resolved. Would the Government Leader not agree that by making a provision that while all this mess is being sorted out, by making a requirement that unanimous appeals, or committee decisions that are unanimous on appeals which are not accepted by the Minister of Personnel, be referred to the Executive Council, would confirm in the mind of any sane citizen that the Government Leader has no confidence in his Minister to do the job that she has been appointed to do? I would like him to answer that question straight, because he has not answered the first question that I asked him, so that we could understand fully the intent of this document.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question O15-89(1): Appeals Referred To Executive Council

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, as I tried to explain in my carefully crafted statement that the Member has referred to, there are some basic structural problems with the Public Service Act. The problem with the act, Mr. Speaker, is that it was designed for a time when the Minister responsible for making sensitive decisions on such matters as appeals was a federal public servant; in effect, the Commissioner. Since that time, we have transferred this responsibility to an elected person, a politician, namely, the Minister of Personnel. As I have said, Mr. Speaker, that fact has led to the charge, and the suggestion, that there is now a political involvement in these appeals.

Mr. Speaker, as a result of those concerns which are flowing from the structure of the act, and the fact that it is outdated, I have considered that in order to provide assurances to the public that there is the fullest and fairest consideration of all the factors in every one of these sensitive appeal matters where a Minister may not recommend accepting the advice of the appeals committee, then it is appropriate that it go to the full cabinet. Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, an analogy might be the situation where one has a contract awarded to a particular individual or a company without tendering. Those kinds of sensitive and exceptional decisions have to be reviewed by the full cabinet. So, Mr. Speaker, it has nothing to do whatsoever with confidence in the Minister. It has to do with the fact that there have been serious allegations of, in effect, political interference.

My belief is that the best way of dealing with those allegations is by providing that there would be a review by eight Members of the cabinet rather than simply one particular Minister. I think that should provide some assurances to those who are concerned about the fairness of the



process, that the full cabinet can make the fairest and most just resolution of these issues that is possible for any group of human beings to make. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Further supplementary, Mr. Lewis.

Supplementary To Question O15-89(1): Appeals Referred To Executive Council

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, I have been watching the clock and I know we only have an hour for question period. My final supplementary, then, to the Government Leader, Mr. Speaker. Would you not agree, Mr. Government Leader, that by making it a requirement that where the Minister does not accept the unanimous decision of a committee and would have to take it to the cabinet, that would force the Minister to check with all the cabinet people first before making a decision, which is really making a decision not hers but one of the cabinet's before the fact, and would that not constitute taking away the responsibility of that Minister and just simply elaborating the political process from one person to eight and, in fact, indicating a lack of confidence in what we have got in place as workable?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Further Return To Question O15-89(1): Appeals Referred To Executive Council

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, under the system of a cabinet government that has evolved in the NWT, no Minister can take initiatives that have financial or policy or major program implications without the consent of cabinet. It is a cabinet government. Ministers regularly have to achieve the agreement of cabinet colleagues before acting in many aspects of their authority. So I do not think this in any way indicates a lack of confidence. I simply think it indicates that the cabinet system is alive and well and being applied in this particular situation. Ministers do it all the time, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Oral questions. I have Mr. Ernerk, Mr. Sibbeston, Mr. Nerysoo, in that order. Mr. Ernerk.

Question O16-89(1): Possibility Of Change In Migratory Birds Convention Act

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct this question to the Minister of Renewable Resources. Last year, on February 12th, 1988, I asked the Minister responsible for Renewable Resources concerning the bird sanctuaries so that the aboriginals can start hunting the birds when they come in during the spring, not when they are migrating back but when they are coming back up north. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, I am not too clear as to what the question was. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, maybe I forgot to ask the question.

--Laughter

The Minister indicated on February 11th, 1988, that he would be working on changing the laws of the Migratory Birds Convention Act with the Government of Canada. Obviously that would include with the Government of the United States as well as the Government of Mexico. Mr. Speaker, this is not the first time this question has been asked to the Government of the NWT. I would like to indicate to the Minister firstly, how far are you with regard to pushing the Government of Canada to change the law so that native aboriginal people of the NWT hunt geese in the spring when the birds are here and not in the fall as the law indicates now? Because by

the time the hunting season opens, as the Minister knows, the birds are all gone back to southern Canada. Do you understand me now?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question O16-89(1): Possibility Of Change In Migratory Birds Convention Act

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, in our last Ministers' Conference in Canada, which was held in Saskatoon last spring, I put a recommendation on behalf of the NWT to other provincial governments and the Canadian government concerning wildlife in Canada. I put forward a recommendation that the Migratory Birds Convention Act should be changed to allow some of the NWT people to be able to harvest some of these migratory birds. I had the full support of the other provincial Ministers except Quebec. Quebec was not there. He was not there to put in his vote. Now it is up to the federal government to talk to the US government to see how they could change this act.

We have asked the federal government and the provincial Ministers to get back to us on their progress in our next meeting. We have not set a date for that meeting to occur. I have the full support, the majority support of the provincial governments for this act to be changed. Thank you.

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

Question O17-89(1): Upholding Native Employment Policy

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the Minister of Personnel for her bold decision to make the decision as she did with respect to overturning the appeal committee in what could be called the "Cahill case". I believe that the facts and circumstances really warranted the Minister to take the position that she did in support of native employment in the North. I appreciate, too, that there has been some adverse reaction, the union in particular, and some unfair criticism by the status quo press and other people in the North.

I want to ask the Minister if she is prepared to continue in her bold stands in the future with respect to upholding the native employment policy and doing everything that she can to make sure that the affirmative action in the North really comes into reality. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.

Return To Question O17-89(1): Upholding Native Employment Policy

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess I should thank the Members for their comments. However, it is a policy that I believe as a Minister that I am responsible to adhere to and as long as the policy is in place I intend to fulfil my responsibilities. Thank you.

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

Question O18-89(1): Public Service Commission

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I could ask a question of the Government Leader. The statement with regard to the Public Service Act and the comprehensive review. Is the issue of the public service commission under consideration and is the government prepared to consider this option if it is not a matter of government policy at this particular time?

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

Return To Question O18-89(1): Public Service Commission

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I believe the question was directed to me. Mr. Speaker, yes, I can assure the honourable Member that, particularly out of respect for the motion provided by the Legislature directing that this public service commission option be investigated by the cabinet, that option is a major part of the Public Service Act review and will be given careful consideration. There are, of course, other matters under review in a review of such comprehensive legislation, but that is definitely a key element and we are taking that recommendation of the Legislature very seriously. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question O19-89(1): Terms Of Reference For Study Of YCC Problems

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Social Services. YCC is in my riding. Last fall we had some problems in YCC, enough so that people were picketing outside the Legislative Assembly. At the time, there was a study being commissioned to look at the perceived problems in YCC and during the last session and in this House I asked the Minister for a copy of the terms of reference for this study so that I could get on with my work as well, in seeing what is going to be looked at. I asked the Minister for a copy of it. She indicated at the time, in political language, that she would consider it and I ask at this time, has the Minister considered my request for a copy and if she has, when will I be getting this copy?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo, did you have a point of order?

Point Of Order

MR. NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I do not want to raise a point of order every day, but I think that we should warn and remind Members in this House about the decorum of this Assembly, that notes are not to be passed over the ropes during formal sittings and that there are Pages at the front and the gate through which those messages should be passed.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. You are absolutely correct. That is a valid point of order and all Members will be asked to abide by the rules and the decorum of this House. Mrs. Marie-Jewell, the question from Mr. Whitford was directed to you.

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: If I recall him asking for a copy of the terms of reference, is that correct? If I may just ask for clarification, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford, the Minister is asking for clarification.

MR. WHITFORD: There was a study being undertaken at YCC. The person that was going to be doing the study was directed in a letter or on a page as to what to look at, which I consider to be terms of reference. The Minister knows quite well what I am talking about. She indicated at the time, after reading Hansard, that she would consider it. I wonder if the Minister has considered it and secondly, when will I be getting a copy of this, so I can get on with my work?

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.

Return To Question O19-89(1): Terms Of Reference For Study Of YCC Problems

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, if the Member is speaking in regard to a copy of the terms of reference, I have no problem giving the terms of reference to the Member; however, if I recall correctly, I believe the Member wanted a copy of the report, the internal investigating report that I had asked my department to complete. Mr. Speaker, I will advise the Member that I do have problems in giving a copy of the report, mainly for the purpose that it was required for the internal operations of the department. It was a review that was basically for the benefit of the

department and I have to indicate to the Member that I cannot or I am very reluctant to release a copy of this operational review that was conducted. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O19-89(1): Terms Of Reference For Study Of YCC Problems

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Speaker, I fully appreciate that she may not be able to release or does not want to release a copy of the report. That is not what I asked for. I wanted a copy of the terms of reference as I sort of got the message that there was only one copy but surely we have copy machines and we can make another one. I think it is of importance to the public that we know what is going on in an institution like that. I do not think these things can be kept internally. I would like to start looking at it. I would like to see the terms of reference as to which direction this study was going so that it would assist me in continuing or dropping the matter, whichever the case may be. But if I cannot get it, I will keep asking questions. So I am wondering if the Minister will consider, in order to shut me up, getting me a copy of the terms of reference, so I can see what was asked. That is all I am asking.

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.

Further Return To Question O19-89(1): Terms Of Reference For Study Of YCC Problems

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, I have no problem in discussing and giving a copy of the terms of reference to the Member. I was under the impression that he wanted the report. There was a misunderstanding but I will get a copy of the terms of reference to the Member.

MR. SPEAKER: Further supplementary, Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Yes, I have always asked only for a copy of the terms of reference. I will not say I do not want a copy of the report yet, but if it leads to that, then at a later time I will request that. But let us just get the first request dealt with and then we will see where we go from there. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister did assure that. The Chair would like to recognize in the gallery, Mr. Peter Kritiqiluk, speaker of the Keewatin Regional Council. Welcome, sir.

---Applause

Also, Mr. Charlie Lyall, deputy speaker of the Kitikmeot Regional Council.

---Applause

Mr. Pudluk is next on my list.

Question O20-89(1): Housing Subsidies For Hamlet Employees

MR. PUDLUK: I was going to introduce myself. (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of MACA. Most government employees have housing assistance when they are employees of the government. Hamlet employees do not get subsidies at all and they have requested HAP housing but as yet they do not seem to be as interested as they used to be because they do not get enough assistance from the government. Perhaps in the near future could they probably get assistance? Thank you.

Extension Of Question Period

MR. SPEAKER: According to Rule 55 of this House, time allocation for question period is now over. Mr. Gargan, do you have a point of order?

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to get unanimous consent to extend question period.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Mr. Gargan is requesting unanimous consent to waive the rules. Are there any nays? Order, please. The Chair does not hear any nays. Question period will be extended. Mr. Pudluk, you have the floor.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, all over again? (Translation) I wanted to ask the Minister of MACA, if, in the near future, they will get more assistance in regard to staff housing. I just wanted to ask that question of the Minister. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wray.

Return To Question O20-89(1): Housing Subsidies For Hamlet Employees

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A really haphazard way of funding this has developed over a number of years. The fact is that there are quite a number of hamlets that do give housing benefits. When a hamlet is initially created, the positions that are transferred to the hamlet, that were formerly government positions, are transferred with all the benefits, including the housing allowances. For example, in a community where the government would transfer the settlement manager position, the mechanic position, the area clerk position, then with that funding also went funding for housing benefits. So some communities got funding for housing benefits.

In other communities what has developed is that hamlets themselves have decided to utilize their own funds. Because there is a certain portion of the hamlet grants which is unconditional, some hamlets have decided to give their employees housing benefits, utilizing their existing funds. So that does take place some places. It is really a question of the hamlet council and how it allocates its budget.

What we are doing, though, is: There has developed a problem with the fact that there are some hamlets whose housing is in very poor condition, or their employees would like to apply for home-ownership units, but unlike government employees, they would not be entitled to the \$450 a month, or whatever the hamlet decides, if they utilize private residences. But again, some hamlets have decided to do that and in fact there are some communities where hamlet employees residing in HAP units do get housing benefits from the municipality. Right now, within the department, we are working with the regions and some hamlet councils to see if we can develop a clearer policy, a more comprehensive policy. To be released next week is a public discussion paper on municipal financing and that will be part of the discussion over the next year in terms of how the government funds a municipality, what it funds it for, and should we tie our funding to specific programs or should we increase the unconditional amount of funding to municipalities to allow them to make that decision? So it is something that is being worked on and there are different rules in different communities, but we do recognize that in some communities it is a problem and we are trying to address that.

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

Question O21-89(1): Draw For Hunting Bison, Fort Providence

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Renewable Resources. Hunting season has started on the bison herd in Fort Providence. There was a draw made regarding the 12 people who were going to be getting these bison. I would like to ask the Minister if he could provide me with a list of the people who wanted those tags and the right to hunt those bison. I would also like to ask the Minister how he has gone about the process in the drawing. Was it done in a public forum or was it an internal thing?

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

Return To Question O21-89(1): Draw For Hunting Bison, Fort Providence

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, yes, to your first question. For your second question, the draw was done in public. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O21-89(1): Draw For Hunting Bison, Fort Providence

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, during this fall and winter the community of Fort Providence has sponsored two guiding level courses. They had to pay the students to take part in this training. They have come up with level one and level two guide training. I would like to ask the Minister what the purpose is of having wildlife officers accompany these people who are hunting the bison. Does it apply only to the people who win in these draws or does it also apply to the allocations that are given to Fort Providence and Fort Rae? As far as renewable resources officers go, they apply regulations governing the wildlife. So when you are hunting, having a wildlife officer walking, crouching or crawling behind you must have an effect on the hunter himself.

---Laughter

I would like to ask the Minister, too, with regard to the lucky 12 who got the tags, how many misses did they have before they actually shot a buffalo because of the nervousness of having these people behind them?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question O21-89(1): Draw For Hunting Bison, Fort Providence

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, in all of the hunts that have occurred so far, our renewable resources officers have been accompanying the hunters, including those that were done from Fort Rae, as far as I know. In all the hunts from the 12 tags that were drawn, renewable resources officers will be accompanying the hunters.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O21-89(1): Draw For Hunting Bison, Fort Providence

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, the point I was trying to make is: Why is it required that people be accompanied by wildlife officers? This does not apply anywhere else. This only applies within my own constituency. Are there that many careless hunters that you require them right behind you and sort of hovering over you? No, you do not. I do not know how many rules there are to break as far as hunting a buffalo or bear or moose goes. What is the rationale behind having these wildlife officers accompany you? I could understand if it was within the sanctuary, but what about hunting outside the sanctuary? Also, are the wildlife officers being paid overtime? Are they available on weekdays only, or are they available on weekends too?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question O21-89(1): Draw For Hunting Bison, Fort Providence

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, this herd of buffalo in the reserve is a very special species to that part of the Territory. First of all, our department put them there to have animals in that area and we have got to the point now that we could do some harvest to some degree from that herd. Secondly, the animals in question are an endangered species, as far as the other parts of the country are concerned. Also we are only allowing males to be taken from this particular herd. If the Member is not satisfied, I will get back to the Member with the reasons we are accompanying the hunters.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan, final supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O21-89(1): Draw For Hunting Bison, Fort Providence

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I am not satisfied yet. I come from Providence myself and the allocation to Providence is 12 tags. The Minister is aware that the community of Fort Providence has not gone ahead in utilizing those tags yet. I have been trying to find out myself in my own community what has been happening with them and I have not really gotten any kind of answer from the renewable resources officer or the local hunters and trappers association or, for that matter, the band council.

Who presently is in control? In Fort Rae, I do not know what the situation is but who is presently in control of the tags when they are allotted to, for example, Fort Rae or Fort Providence? Who gets the tags? Is it the band? The renewable resources officer? I am not clear on that. I just wanted to maybe ask the Minister as to whether or not he might be able to clarify.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question O21-89(1): Draw For Hunting Bison, Fort Providence

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As far as I know, the band is in control of the tags and the allocation of tags. When the band wants to go hunting they contact our officers before they go. That has been working very well in Fort Rae so far. Thank you.

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

Question O22-89(1): Buffalo Draw, Fort Providence

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Renewable Resources also, concerning the herd of buffalo in Fort Providence. Last fall when your department carried out the draw to give these so-called 12 lucky people the buffalo, there were quite a few names that were not entered into that draw because your department could not administer that draw properly. They could not oversee it. They could not even get the names in from the communities to headquarters in time to be entered into the draw. At that time, myself as well as other Members expressed concern that approximately 40 people's names were not in the draw and we met with you and asked you to intervene and do something about it so that these 35 to 40 people could possibly be entered into another draw where you could take maybe one or two more buffalo and then have a draw so that they could be awarded a buffalo. Why did you not do that, Mr. Minister?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question O22-89(1): Buffalo Draw, Fort Providence

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, first of all, in a draw like this it is the individual's responsibility to make sure their names are in the draw. If they wanted to go hunting or to be eligible to be drawn for that particular draw, it is their responsibility to get their names to the proper place. In this case, we have accommodated a lot more in these types of draws than occur anywhere else.

Secondly, the draw, when it did happen, was public. The names were announced and it was very difficult for me to intervene due to public process. I could only say that for those 35 or 40 people that were unfortunate not to get their names to the draw, it is the individual's responsibility to make sure their names are in the hat. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Supplementary To Question O22-89(1): Buffalo Draw, Fort Providence

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just forgot to mention that my name, as well as my wife's name, was not in that draw and we are not interested in becoming part of that draw if it ever is to happen in the future. But I would like to point out to the Minister that it was not the responsibility of the individual to make sure that their name got into the draw. It was the responsibility of the individual to make sure he submitted his name to the game warden in the community. That was as far as it was to go and then it was your department's responsibility to make sure those names got into the draw, which they could not do.

They did not properly administer it. The names got lost in the mail; they did not mail the names from the communities. It was just a complete farce, I guess, the way this was handled and then your department not wanting to admit they made a mistake. What I hear Mr. Wooley say is that in the future, even us, the Department of Renewable Resources with a multi-million dollar budget, we cannot administer a simple buffalo draw, we will put the responsibility back into the hands of the people and supply them with a staff to make sure they get their name in.

Mr. Minister, when will you reconsider your decision on this case and consider whether or not it is too late to have a draw for those people whose names did not get in? Will you at least reconsider this?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, I will get back to the Member as soon as I can. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: That supplementary was taken as notice. Further supplementary, Mr. Morin.

Supplementary To Question O22-89(1): Buffalo Draw, Fort Providence

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Minister, will you consider at all turning the responsibility of that buffalo herd over to the Fort Providence and Fort Rae bands to manage, due to the fact that your department cannot even manage a buffalo draw properly and it cannot manage a hunt properly? Maybe then at least our own people can manage that herd properly. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question O22-89(1): Buffalo Draw, Fort Providence

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this point, without proper negotiations with the proper organizations, I am not prepared to turn over the responsibility of this government governing wildlife or managing wildlife. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O22-89(1): Buffalo Draw, Fort Providence

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Minister, with the proper consultation and the proper negotiations set up, will you be then willing to turn the management of this herd over to the two bands in question, Fort Providence and Fort Rae?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question O22-89(1): Buffalo Draw, Fort Providence

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, we have two boards in the NWT being established to deal with wildlife management in the NWT, in Denendeh and Nunavut. If the two groups come to evolve and represent their respective organizations we will be turning over some responsibility



to them in the future. But at this point, without the proper negotiations, I am not prepared to turn over the responsibilities to any group. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Lewis next, then Mr. Sibbeston, then Mr. Ernerk.

Question O23-89(1): Tests For AIDS

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Health. About a month ago I got a phone call from a constituent who pointed out that the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada have spent a tremendous amount of money in advertising and publicizing the fact that AIDS is a very dangerous disease. This member of this constituency asked me if I would bring this up in the House because after being bombarded by announcements and pamphlets, he had decided to go to his physician to ask to be tested for AIDS, and he was turned down. He said that he could not get a test for AIDS. My question to the Minister would be, since so much money is being spent throughout the system on advertising and publicizing this killer disease, is this disease no different from any other, then, that a patient would go to a doctor about, and is there no policy which decides or determines the circumstances under which someone could be tested for this dreadful disease?

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.

Return To Question O23-89(1): Tests For AIDS

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, to my knowledge when an individual goes and asks for a test, the medical services generally provide that service. I would like to have the circumstances looked at according to that particular case.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. Oral questions. Mr. Sibbeston was next.

Question O24-89(1): Establishment Of College

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister of Education. Since the demise of Grandin College I think there is a general acknowledgement in the North that there is a void in the public school system that is simply not creating and putting out the calibre of students that Grandin College had done in the past. I am wondering if the Minister is doing anything to establish such a Grandin College, a private school type of an institution in the North, so that young native and northern leaders can once again be created or put through and made available to the public of the North.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question O24-89(1): Establishment Of College

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: We are doing some work to try to address this apparent need.

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

Supplementary To Question O24-89(1): Establishment Of College

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I think the Minister owes it to the Assembly to give us a little bit more information than simply saying that the matter is being considered and looked into. I think if the Minister is aware of anything being done, any specific initiative being done, he owes it to this House to tell us. That is what I want. Simply an indication of what exactly is being done.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return To Question O24-89(1): Establishment Of College

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, part of the reason I do not want to talk about it at great length is because I am not quite sure what to call it. It is not going to be Grandin. It could be called a school for an elite, it could be called a leadership school, it could be called affirmative school. It could be called many things. I have no particular labels for this initiative at this time. I can say that what Grandin provided, in the opinion of some people, is an exclusive setting for selected students from all the different communities in the Mackenzie Valley; that is Dene students, Metis students, Inuit, Inuvialuit and non-native students. It was largely a highly regimented and disciplined residence run by the Catholic Church. It was felt it produced a number of students who have grown up to take positions in politics, in government, over the years. In fact, it is felt, I guess, that it had a substantial impact on the development and direction that the North has taken in the last 15 years.

What I have asked the department to do is to look at how we can perhaps get away from just providing government residences to students who have to move away from home. To look at the type of residences that we might be able to offer to students whose parents cannot provide the home environment and the parenting support that they would like. If there is some way to try to take groups of students from throughout the North to enhance their chances of becoming very productive members of the North, and if there is some way that we could use the facilities of the government that are available now to do that, and to take into consideration the fact that we already have a place like Grollier Hall that has recently been renovated at great expense. We have Akaitcho which has been a good stand-by for many students and many of the people who work for government today. I do not know if this is what I owe you, but that is the extent to which the work is being done. We want to do something; we are fishing. Once some rough drafts of the idea start to come out, then I think there will be some attempt made to look at consulting individuals or groups about the direction we should take.

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

Supplementary To Question O24-89(1): Establishment Of College

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased and happy with the report. That is the type of information that I was hoping for, and I commend the Minister for being concerned and doing the work that he has done. I wonder if the Minister could indicate at the outset the timing that he has in mind to establish the school, recognizing that the term of government is raging on; there are less than three years to go. If the Minister wants to institute such a place, or have such an institution or school in place during his time, what are the Minister's plans with respect to the earliest time that such a school could be set up?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question O24-89(1): Establishment Of College

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, I think, just on a personal note, that I know our terms run out in three years, and probably my political interests would suggest that I should get something under way before the term expires.

---Laughter

But not being too conventional perhaps, I suppose I am more obsessed with trying to make sure -- particularly if I am going to be associated with it -- that it is not something that is going to flop or is poorly planned or ill conceived, and if it could be done within our term, that it be well planned and something that is widely supported and properly executed. If that can be done within this term, then we will attempt to do that; otherwise we will leave it to the next government to undertake.

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

Question O25-89(1): Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Renewable Resources. Is the territorial government in support of a Nunavut wildlife management board being a reality?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question O25-89(1): Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are in support of the Nunavut wildlife management board. Our assistant deputy minister was their chairman at the last meeting in the Keewatin.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ernerk.

Supplementary To Question O25-89(1): Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

MR. ERNERK: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Once the Nunavut wildlife management board is established, would the Minister consider transferring the management of both the Beverly and Kaminuriak herds to the Nunavut wildlife management board?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question O25-89(1): Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, I feel it is very premature to say what the wildlife management board will be willing to take over. I would hope that in the future when the wildlife management board is established, that they will take over the responsibilities on behalf of their constituents.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan.

Question O26-89(1): Schedule For EARP

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Could you provide information with regard to when the Environmental Assessment Review Panel -- regarding uranium mining -- is going to be visiting the communities and on what dates, for the interest of the public?

MR. SPEAKER: Ms Cournoyea.

Return To Question O26-89(1): Schedule For EARP

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I do not know if they have concluded their scheduling, but it was my intention to bring forward a motion to this Assembly to have the co-chairmen appear to discuss the process with the Assembly during this sitting.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Nerysoo.

Question O27-89(1): Policy Regarding AIDS Testing

MR. NERYSOO: Supplementary, with regard to the question asked by Mr. Lewis to the Minister of Health. I have received some comments from the medical practitioners that even their suggestions about a testing program are rejected by the Department of Health. So I would ask if the Minister could provide this Assembly with its policy with regard to a testing program on AIDS.

MR. SPEAKER: Ms Cournoyea.

Return To Question O27-89(1): Policy Regarding AIDS Testing

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, yes.

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

Question O28-89(1): Bison Tags To Staff Of Renewable Resources

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to Mr. Morin's question to the Minister of Renewable Resources concerning the bison tags. We have already established that there were 40 people left out of the draw from various communities south of the lake. I think the fact was not brought out that those applications for licences were residents, with the department in those particular communities. So it was the department that fouled up and did not get them into the draw. Having established that -- at least I think so -- I would like to ask the Minister, of the 12 successful applicants, were any of those people on the staff of Renewable Resources?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: I will take the question under advisement.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is taken as notice. Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: (Translation) ...the paper is under examination in regard to the HAP houses in Fort Simpson that have not been completed. I wonder if the Minister could report back to us in regard to what they have come up with regarding HAP houses in Fort Simpson.

MR. SPEAKER: Translation was not available in the beginning, did you get enough of it to answer the question?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, no, I missed the end of the translation. I got the beginning of it.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sibbeston, I am sorry for the mix-up, but could you repeat please.

Question O29-89(1): Inquiry Into Non-Completed HAP Houses, Fort Simpson

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, recently in Fort Simpson the Housing Corporation employees were inquiring about the HAP houses that were not finished. In the inquiry that was done, has the Minister got the paper that they came up with in regard to this? I would like the Minister to report back to me.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question O29-89(1): Inquiry Into Non-Completed HAP Houses, Fort Simpson

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the honourable Member for notice of his question. As the honourable Member well knows having served this House and the government as Minister responsible for Housing, there has been a problem in the non-completion of HAP units. I think that the existing non-completion ratio is about 56 per cent, so it is a large enough percentage to give us a concern. Not only am I new to this responsibility but so is the president of the corporation and I know that Mr. Heron, some months ago, eight weeks or so ago, instructed his staff to not only examine the reasons for the non-completion situation in Fort Simpson, but right across the Territories. That report is in the process of being compiled. I do not have it in my hands yet, nor do I believe it is available to Mr. Heron, but I will provide the Member with the information that he requires when I receive it. And other Members as well, because I will be

depending considerably on the advice and support of the Members in dealing with this problem. The HAP program is an excellent program. It has a few warts and scabs associated with it, which I think we can correct by making some changes, but it is a good program and it is one that we wish to see retained and maintained in the Territories. And I know the honourable Members on both sides of the House feel the same way about that.

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

Question O30-89(1): Eligibility Of Renewable Resources Staff For Bison Tag Draw

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just to pursue the line of questioning that Mr. Pollard had with the Minister of Renewable Resources, I am aware that there were three Renewable Resources personnel who were drawn to hunt buffalo. Does your department have any rules to apply to your employees that they cannot enter into these draws that are being administered from your department? Similar to something like CBC where the employees are not eligible for any of the contests that they have. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question O30-89(1): Eligibility Of Renewable Resources Staff For Bison Tag Draw

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, I said I will get back to Mr. Pollard's question as soon as possible but to your later question regarding whether we have a rule within our department to not allow our wildlife renewable resources officers to put in their names to the draw, there were some legal problems with that. The only thing that we could have done was to discourage our officers, the people who are working in the department, from putting their names forward but if they really wanted to there was no way that we could have stopped them. First of all, they are under the same rule applied to our government employees. Unless we stopped all government employees from putting their names forward to the draw we could not have isolated our departmental employees from the draw. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O30-89(1): Eligibility Of Renewable Resources Staff For Bison Tag Draw

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to the Minister of Renewable Resources. Mr. Minister, was it beneficial to those people that had their names in the draw that the 35 names just did not happen to make it there? Was it that beneficial to them that it would increase their chances of getting their names drawn?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question O30-89(1): Eligibility Of Renewable Resources Staff For Bison Tag Draw

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, by the law of averages I suppose that the less names you have the better chance you have. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Question O31-89(1): Review Of Cabinet Privilege

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During the last session, Mr. Speaker, I asked a question of the Government Leader as to whether or not he is going to review certain judgments that were made with regard to Executive privileges. I would ask now if a review has been done and whether or not the Government Leader is going to report back to this House his findings and to clarify

what are to be considered as cabinet documents and cabinet secrecy and cabinet privilege of our government.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to take that question as notice and report back to the House this session. Thank you.

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

Question O32-89(1): Government Action To Prevent Contamination Of Animals

MR. CROW: Mr. Speaker, thank you very much for allowing this. I realize we are overtime on our question period but therefore I am going to try to hit two birds with one stone.

The Minister responsible for the environment and also the Minister responsible for Renewable Resources, the question is in reference to what my colleague for Baffin South asked to the Minister of Health regarding country food that might be contaminated with chemicals. What we have been hearing in the East has been alarming to us, especially the Inuit, my constituents who have to live on the animals that live in the sea in Hudson Bay. What is this government or what is the Minister doing to protect the environment and especially the animals from contaminants that might be dumped into the sea? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Crow. That was directed to the Minister of Renewable Resources.

Return To Question O32-89(1): Government Action To Prevent Contamination Of Animals

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, to a large degree the responsibility for the sea mammals and sea has been the responsibility of the federal government but as far as the contaminants, we have been, on behalf of our government, the GNWT, my department has been taking part in studies to find out what contaminants are present in the sea mammal products.

Since 1985 we have been working with the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the Department of the Environment. My colleague, the Minister for Health for the NWT, has mentioned that there are going to be more comprehensive reports by her and by me in the very near future to let this House know what we are doing and what we are hoping to do. Thank you.

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

Question O33-89(1): Update On Arctic Airports Negotiations

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister responsible for Municipal and Community Affairs. Could the Minister give us an update as to how the negotiations are going with the arctic airports? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question O33-89(1): Update On Arctic Airports Negotiations

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The simple answer is, they are not. Because of the federal election and the change in cabinet, things went on hold there for a little while. However, the same Minister has that portfolio but there has been a change in the senior bureaucracy of the department. The latest offer which we received last week was not much different than what they had been offering us before.

There are two significant elements missing to the negotiations. One is, they continue to refuse to look at providing funds to complete the 11 B and C airports that were not completed, and they have now added a new element inasmuch as the PYs and the money which was originally in Transport Canada, that did the planning and construction of these airports, has been transferred to Public Works Canada in the meantime. They are now saying that they do not have any money for that function any more; therefore they are not offering any money in that area. My officials have written back to Transport Canada and said that obviously Transport Canada has not been serious in its negotiations. We have warned them that we are extremely concerned about the safety of the travelling public, particularly into those communities that do not have the completed airports. There already have been fatalities, and it is conceivable that unless something is done that there could be continuing problems in the future. It seems to have no effect on moving the bureaucracy within Transport Canada. I have told my officials to have one more try and then I will seek a meeting with the Minister of Transport, Mr. Bouchard, myself sometime, hopefully within the next few weeks, to try and resolve the matter for once and for all. The negotiations are not going well and it is all stemming from the refusal of Transport Canada to meet its statutory obligations. Thank you.

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

Question O34-89(1): Traditional Practices Under Review

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Social Services. There is going to be a review done again on the family law. They are going to be reviewing the traditional practices in the next two years, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister whether or not this means that the customary practice is going to again be put on hold for the next two years until the review is concluded. What is the status on that?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ballantyne.

Return To Question O34-89(1): Traditional Practices Under Review

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The question is, is it going to be put on hold for two years? No. Actually the various groups and representatives are on a committee, and in this year's budget there will be provision made for it. They will be starting their work full tilt in this next fiscal year.

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

Question O35-89(1): Participation Of GNWT In Firearms Safety Workshops

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Justice. It is with regard to firearms safety programs in the NWT. I am aware, Mr. Speaker, that according to the statistics there have been four accidental shootings in 1988. I think that is very high. I am also aware that the Keewatin Inuit Association is planning to conduct firearms safety workshops in Rankin Inlet very shortly. I am wondering, Mr. Speaker, if the Government of the Northwest Territories is planning to participate in these upcoming firearms safety workshops, and will they help to fund them?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question O35-89(1): Participation Of GNWT In Firearms Safety Workshops

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Every year we have approximately 400 students taking these courses, and all the courses are put on by our government. We are looking to see how we could improve the courses, working with Arctic College, and we are also looking into provincial programs that are taken in the provinces. We are now developing specific standards for instructor certification and instructors manuals, to update, to improve the teaching format. So far, our government has been very involved, or the one that is giving out these courses. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O35-89(1): Participation Of GNWT In Firearms Safety Workshops

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I originally asked the question to the Minister of Justice, but I thank the Minister of Renewable Resources for answering part of the question. The Keewatin Inuit Association is planning to hold workshops fairly shortly with regard to the issue of firearms safety programs. Will the government participate in these important workshops, and will they help to fund these workshops?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question O35-89(1): Participation Of GNWT In Firearms Safety Workshops

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: In some conversations with the Member, we had some discussion on this subject, and as far as my responsibility to do with the RCMP -- we do not have the prime responsibility for education. That is the Department of Renewable Resources. The RCMP are more than prepared to be the resource to those regional meetings. As far as a formal application for funding, I think that would go to the Department of Renewable Resources. To my knowledge, I do not think they have received an application to this point.

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

Question O36-89(1): Intent Of Initiatives For New Form Of Government

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I just have a concern that I would like to direct to the Minister. During the Commissioner's speech yesterday, there was a lot of talk about a new form of government in the NWT, with sensitivity to northern interests as well as traditional values. Mr. Ballantyne did indicate something about the justice system and trying to get the traditional values into the existing justice system. The same applies to Mr. Kakfwi's culturally based education system. Again, we are bringing us up to an existing institution. I would like to ask the Government Leader what the intent of all these new initiatives is. Is it to eliminate what we native people consider our own language, our own culture, our own system of government, our own system of justice? Is this the purpose of the direction the government has been taking with statements that keep continuing to be coming out, that I believe has total disregard for the native values?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question O36-89(1): Intent Of Initiatives For New Form Of Government

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to suggest to the honourable Member that this Legislature with its full representation of the aboriginal majority in the NWT, with a cabinet which reflects that, and a civil service which is increasingly successful in reflecting that, is in fact a government that is sensitive to northern traditional values.

We may well have a long way to go, Mr. Speaker, but the point of the reference in the Commissioner's Opening Address to the evolution of public government and the potential for public government as a base for self-government in the North is simply that we do not need to throw away what is in place in order to achieve greater levels of respect for and reflection of aboriginal rights and aboriginal traditions in our government system. Mr. Speaker, I want to assure the Member that there is absolutely no intention whatsoever on the part of this government to, as the Member has suggested, eliminate traditional values. Rather, I think it is our determination to enhance and respect aboriginal rights and traditional values in all the actions of our government.



What we are saying, however, is that as we design reform and new approaches to government in the NWT, let us build on what is in place. There are combined community councils that are working effectively in the NWT. There are initiatives under way in justice, in law reform, in culture that are designed to enhance these traditional values. The point is, Mr. Speaker, give our government a chance to succeed in these areas before calling on a complete rejection of what has gone on in the past and replacement by something new from the ground up. We are already well along the way, is the point, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Nerysoo.

Question O37-89(1): Government Policy Recognition Of Traditional Structures

MR. NERYSOO: I could not, Mr. Speaker, resist a supplementary question because the statement made by Mr. Patterson, our Government Leader, is really an indication of what Mr. Chretien said in 1969 in his White Paper that was tabled in the House of Commons which was that; keep those things that are in place, add what is the traditional perspective rather than changing what is in place and recognizing the traditional systems that are there. So I would ask the Government Leader in reflecting on his comments, whether or not he is prepared to make changes in government policy that reflect the traditional structures of government that exist in the communities where those traditional structures are requested on a community basis or a regional basis.

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

Return To Question O37-89(1): Government Policy Recognition Of Traditional Structures

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, first of all let me say that it is this government's intention to reintroduce the paper on political constitutional development which was tabled in the last session in order that we might have a full discussion of the very issues that Mr. Nerysoo and Mr. Gargan have raised. I think it is timely now that everyone is talking about aboriginal self-government that we have such a discussion and that we address these issues at what I consider to be a turning point in the history of the evolution of public government in the NWT.

However, to answer Mr. Nerysoo's specific question, yes, the government is open to amending policies and delivering programs at the community and the regional level which are reflective of traditional values and traditional structures. I would like to think that the Charter Communities Act, which in fact which was a response to initiatives from communities like Fort Good Hope and Fort Resolution who said the municipal model does not fit us, we want something that will allow band government to have public government powers and to participate in the government process, I like to think that act was a very large step forward toward that very end of giving communities that sort of flexibility that the Member refers to. The short answer to that question, Mr. Speaker, is yes. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. That concludes this item. The House will recess for coffee.

---SHORT RECESS

**DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Gargan):** The House will come back to order. We are on Item 6, written questions.

Item 6, 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. Item 11, tabling of documents. Mr. Ernerk, tabling of documents.

**ITEM 11: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS**

**MR. ERNERK:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 2-89(1), a letter addressed to myself concerning uranium in the Keewatin Region from Brende Sandy from Rankin Inlet.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Ernerk. Tabling of documents. Mr. Kilabuk.

**MR. KILABUK:** (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 3-89(1), a letter which I received from the hamlet of Pangnirtung. They have written a letter in regard to sewage trucks and water trucks. I will be tabling these documents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Tabling of documents. Mr. Ernerk.

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table several letters from the Keewatin Region concerning airline inadequacy, from the communities. Mr. Speaker, they are all from the different hamlets and some individuals -- do I have to indicate as to who they are coming from?

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Mr. Ernerk, yes, go ahead and indicate where all these documents are coming from.

**MR. ERNERK:** I would like to table the following tabled documents:

Tabled Document 4-89(1), a letter from the Keewatin Regional Health Board, concerning airline scheduling services in the Keewatin Region. Tabled Document 5-89(1), a letter from the hamlet council of Eskimo Point, with regard to the quality of flight services in the Northwest Territories, from Mark Kalluak, mayor, hamlet of Eskimo Point. For technical purposes I should say Arviat. Tabled Document 6-89(1), a letter from the hamlet of Whale Cove from Paul Sabourin, senior administrative officer, regarding use of aboriginal languages on airlines, as well as adoption of safety procedure cards and brochures and employment of Inuit at the terminal buildings. Tabled Document 7-89(1), a letter from Chesterfield Inlet concerning lack of airline scheduling services in the communities. It is coming from Mr. Roy Mullins, senior administrative officer, hamlet of Chesterfield Inlet. Tabled Document 8-89(1), a letter from the municipality of Baker Lake concerning the same issue on Inuktitut language being used in airlines in the NWT, from Mike Mullen, municipal manager. Tabled Document 9-89(1), a letter to myself from Mr. F. Mac Proctor of Rankin Inlet, concerning bumping off from an aircraft and being rescheduled to another airline.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you. Item 11, tabling of documents. Mr. Nerysoo.

**MR. NERYSOO:** I wish to table Tabled Document 10-89(1), a letter to Linda Hughes, editor in chief, Edmonton Journal, from Dr. Terry Fellows of Inuvik, regarding a front page story on January 27, 1989, section A-1, with regard to sexual abuse of children.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you. Tabling of documents. Mr. Kilabuk.

**MR. KILABUK:** (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I would like to table Tabled Document 11-89(1), a letter from the Pangnirtung Education Council saying the school is too small for the students. A lot of them are not attending school because of lack of teachers in the school in Pangnirtung.

I would also like to table Tabled Document 12-89(1), a letter addressed to me concerning a day-care centre in Pangnirtung that will be open soon. Our economic development officer in our community has studied this day-care and the parents have been using it. The money spent on it was \$21,000 to open it. This letter concerns the day-care facilities in Pangnirtung.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Item 11, tabling of documents. In accordance with section 23(1) of the Northwest Territories Act, I wish to table Tabled Document 13-89(1), Report to the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories, Other Matters for the Year Ended March 31, 1988, by the Auditor General of Canada. Mr. Ernerk, tabling of documents.

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 14-89(1), a letter to myself from the mayor of Repulse Bay, dated December 7, 1988. It indicates that a court party came into Repulse on November 18th and held their court sessions at the airport terminal, using garbage cans for tables instead of respecting the arrangements that were made by the hamlet council of Repulse Bay.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you. Tabling of documents.

Item 12, notices of motion.

Item 14, motions. Ms Cournoyea.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, I request unanimous consent to go back to Ministers' statements to make an emergency statement regarding the Neptune project.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Unanimous consent is being requested. Are there any nays? You have the floor, Ms Cournoyea.

## REVERT TO ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

### Ministers' Statement 2-89(1): Neptune Loan Guarantee

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, it is with considerable regret that I rise to inform the Assembly of the federal government's decision not to provide Neptune Resources Corporation with a \$15 million loan guarantee for the development of the Colomac gold property near Indin Lake.

Members will remember that in November the territorial government agreed to provide a three million dollar guarantee, conditional on Neptune finalizing a socio-economic agreement and the federal government providing the remaining \$15 million. The \$18 million working capital loan guarantee was required by the company to borrow funds to purchase fuel and other supplies in the first three years of the mine's operation.

While the Colomac property had been examined by several companies over the past 30 years, Neptune was the first sponsor to believe that it could be a viable operation. Because of the important economic spin-offs of the project -- such as 40 jobs at the construction phase, and 70 during production, \$11.5 million in direct purchases per year, and access to a winter road for communities in the region -- the territorial government was prepared to provide assistance at the start-up period.

It is unfortunate that Ottawa failed to recognize these benefits, particularly since it is they who collect most of the direct tax benefits such as royalties and corporate income tax from mines currently operating in the Northwest Territories. While the decision is clearly a setback, I can

assure the Assembly that I, and a number of my other cabinet colleagues, will explore every option which might permit the development of the Colomac property. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms Cournoyea. Ministers' statements. Item 15, first reading of bills. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I would like unanimous consent for the first reading of Bill 6-89(1), An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicles Act.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We are on Item 13 -- I am sorry, it is my mistake. Notices of motion for first reading of bills. Mr. Ballantyne.

ITEM 13: NOTICES OF MOTION FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 1-89(1): Appropriation Act, 1989-90

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, February 13, 1989, I shall move that Bill 1-89(1), Appropriation Act, 1989-90, be read for the first time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Notices of motion for first reading of bills.

Item 14, motions. Item 15, first reading of bills. Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to seek unanimous consent to proceed to first reading. Pardon me, Mr. Speaker, I would like to seek unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 2-89(1), the Electoral District Boundaries Commission Act. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. The Minister has requested unanimous consent to give first reading to Bill 2-89(1). Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Patterson.

ITEM 15: FIRST READING OF BILLS

First Reading Of Bill 2-89(1): Electoral District Boundaries Commission Act

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, that Bill 2-89(1), Electoral District Boundaries Commission Act, be read for the first time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Patterson, your motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed? This motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 2-89(1) has had first reading. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to seek unanimous consent to move Bill 5-89(1), An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister has requested unanimous consent to give first reading to Bill 5-89(1). Are there any nays? Proceed, Madam Minister.

First Reading Of Bill 5-89(1): Legislative Assembly And Executive Council Act

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 5-89(1), An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, be read for the first time.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you, Madam Minister. Your motion is in order. Question is being called. Those in favour? Those opposed?

---Carried

Bill 5-89(1) has had first reading. First reading of bills. Mr. Butters.

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, may I have unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 6-89(1), An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicles Act?

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** The Minister has requested unanimous consent. Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Butters, you have unanimous consent.

First Reading Of Bill 6-89(1): Motor Vehicles Act

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Slave River, that Bill 6-89(1), An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicles Act, be read for the first time.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Mr. Butters, your motion is in order. To the motion. Question is being called. All those in favour? All those opposed?

---Carried

Bill 6-89(1) has had first reading. Item 16, second reading of bills. Mr. Patterson.

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Mr. Speaker, again I would seek the indulgence of the House to give unanimous consent to give second reading to Bill 2-89(1), the Electoral District Boundaries Commission Act.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Patterson. The Minister has requested unanimous consent to give second reading to Bill 2-89(1). Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Patterson.

ITEM 16: SECOND READING OF BILLS

Second Reading Of Bill 2-89(1): Electoral District Boundaries Commission Act

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, that Bill 2-89(1), Electoral District Boundaries Commission Act, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to establish an Electoral District Boundaries Commission to review the area, boundaries, name and representation of all existing electoral districts, or those existing electoral districts specified by the Legislative Assembly; to hold public hearings; and to prepare a report to the Speaker in respect of the establishment of electoral districts in the Territories and the area, boundaries, name and representation of those electoral districts. Thank you.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Your motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question is being called. All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 2-89(1) has had second reading. Item 16, second reading of bills. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

**HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL:** Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent from the Members to give second reading to Bill 5-89(1), An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. The Minister has requested unanimous consent to give second reading to Bill 5-89(1) today. Are there any nays? Proceed, Madam Minister.

Second Reading Of Bill 5-89(1): Legislative Assembly And Executive Council Act

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 5-89(1), An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act to provide that a Member must file a written claim for a living allowance for constituency work; to provide that the maximum allowable annual expenses set out in Schedule B should apply to the cost of return air fare and other reasonable expenses, but not to the living allowance for constituency work; to provide that indemnities, allowances and expenses shall be increased or decreased in accordance with the increase or decrease in the consumer price index. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. Your motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question is being called. All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 5-89(1) has had second reading. Item 16, second reading of bills. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, may I seek from the House unanimous consent to give second reading to Bill 6-89(1), An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicles Act?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister has requested unanimous consent to give second reading to Bill 6-89(1). Are there any nays? Mr. Minister, you may proceed.

Second Reading Of Bill 6-89(1): Motor Vehicles Act

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Slave River, that Bill 6-89(1), An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicles Act, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to allow a person whose driver's licence has expired or otherwise ceased to have effect for a period of one year or less to obtain a driver's licence without having to take a driver's examination.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. Your motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question is being called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 6-89(1) has had second reading. Mr. Clerk, Bills 2-89(1), 5-89(1) and 6-89(1) are ordered into committee of the whole for today. Item 16, second reading of bills. Item 17, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Bills 2-89(1), 5-89(1) and 6-89(1), 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 2-89(1), ELECTORAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES COMMISSION ACT; BILL 5-89(1), LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ACT; BILL 6-89(1), MOTOR VEHICLES ACT

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Could I ask the government House Leader which bills we should proceed with in the committee of the whole?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The government is prepared to deal with Motor Vehicles Act first, Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act second. My

understanding, Mr. Chairman, is that for that particular act the Speaker and Clerk will be in the committee of the whole. For the Electoral District Boundaries Commission Act, my understanding, Mr. Chairman, is that the Clerk and legislative counsel will be in the chamber. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Does the committee agree we follow that order?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 6-89(1): Motor Vehicles Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. It is in your binders, Bill 6-89(1), An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicles Act. Mr. Minister.

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the purpose of the bill to amend the Motor Vehicles Act is to set the length of time a driver's licence may be expired before a driver is required to be retested.

The current act now sets this period at 90 days and it is rather an impractical time given the remoteness of many residents and the limited testing facilities in the smaller communities of the Territories. It is proposed that the allowable period prior to a retest be changed to one year. This is the time period previously established under the old act which was replaced a couple of years ago.

I would like to point out, Mr. Chairman, that since the proclamation of the new Motor Vehicles Act, the issue of the expired drivers' licences has been identified as an ongoing problem. My department is continuing to work on effective methods to address this situation. Regular radio and newspaper advertising is now being done and we are also developing system modifications that will allow us to mail automatic renewal notices to the driving public. I expect these procedures will be in place by April 1.

The act itself consists of eight references where the words "90 days" are struck from the existing piece of legislation and the two words "one year" are substituted. So that concludes my opening remarks. I did appear before the standing committee on legislation and made known this intent to the chairman of that committee.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Member for Aivilik, as chairman for the standing committee on legislation, any comments?

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister responsible for this act, Mr. Butters, explained to the standing committee on legislation on January 18, 1989 that the purpose of the bill was to allow a person whose licence to drive has expired or otherwise ceased to have effect for a period of one year or less, to obtain a licence to drive without having to take a driver's examination. A motion was moved, Mr. Chairman, by Mr. McLaughlin to approve clause one to eight. The committee unanimously agreed. Thank you.

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

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, I may be ruled out of order here but when I look at amending the Motor Vehicles Act and particularly with reference to renewing licences, I have in front of me my licence and it looks kind of flimsy. It gets all ratty every year and I have to renew it.

We seem to have a problem in the Territories with people forgetting to renew their licence on their particular birthdays and although it has been extended for a period of time, I wonder if there are any provisions made or are going to be made to make these things a more permanent and useful document, such as in the provinces with a picture. It is plastic and it stands up better so we do not have to renew these things every year. We will not have to worry about people forgetting to renew their licences on their birthday one year or two years after. Maybe make it for a period of four or five years but make it so that it is well protected and it will not be destroyed in the laundry every time you forget your wallet.

I wondered if when considering changing the vehicles act that the Minister look at making this document that is quite important -- wherever you travel people seem to use drivers' licences as very important documents and I find it kind of awkward. I wanted to mention this because I think last time I was here they looked at changing the format around on it. I wondered if this was the proper place to address them?

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I heard two specific points made which I will address. The first is, as I indicated in my opening remarks, there is a realization by the department that people tend to forget that their licence renewal is required at the end of the month in which their birthdate falls. The department is looking at automatically sending reminders to drivers that their licence is up for renewal.

On the other comments made by the honourable Member: Two years ago we had an extended debate in this House on that very subject, on the type of licence that was current, the need to possibly individualize it to a greater extent than was currently the case. As a result of that discussion a year and a half ago, the department is looking at developing a different type of licence format. It was also suggested at that time that the licence possibly could include a picture of the driver.

Yes, that improvement is being looked at and the new Minister responsible for that department I guess, will be addressing that issue but there is a movement in the department to realize the objectives that the Member has indicated would be valuable.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. General comments.

MR. NERYSOO: I just wanted to ask a question of whether or not the Minister is aware of any situations where the 90 days was not taken advantage of? I just wanted to ask whether or not the Minister is aware of any situation where the 90 day waiting period had consequences to individuals here.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: As long as there are no embarrassing supplementary questions, I will say, yes, I am.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): General comments, Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if the Minister could tell us if there were more than one, sir?

--Laughter

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Regrettably there were 800 or more so it became a bit of a problem as I mentioned in my opening remarks.



**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Member for Hay River.

**MR. POLLARD:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Were there any close to home, Mr. Minister, like in the vicinity of this House?

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

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** I think the question should be ruled out of order.

---Laughter

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** General comments. Are there any further general comments? If not, does the committee agree to go clause by clause? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Okay, Bill 6-89(1), An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicles Act. Clause 1. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 2. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 3. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 4. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 5. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 6. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Clause 7. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Clause 8. Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I know this is not the proper place, possibly, but I would like to say while there were some humorous instances of people having to rewrite their examinations, we do recognize that in the remote communities there was much inconvenience that was not funny. In some cases unilingual people, people who are not literate, were caught by this provision. So what I have advised the department is that any person caught in that type of a bind would have their licence grandfathered without having to go through the hoops of writing a test. We recognized that for some people it was very upsetting and we have tried to reduce that inconvenience as much as possible through flexibility in addressing the problem.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Clause 8. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Does the committee agree that Bill 6-89(1), An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicles Act, is now ready for third reading? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Bill 5-89(1): Legislative Assembly And Executive Council Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. We will now be dealing with Bill 5-89(1), An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act. Mr. Speaker.

Speaker's Opening Remarks

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The amendment to the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act before the committee today will permit Members to claim up to an accumulated maximum of in-town and out-of-town living allowances connected to constituency work of 90 days in each fiscal year. The amendment will also require that Members must file their written claim for a living allowance for constituency work stating the date and location that the work was undertaken. In addition, Mr. Chairman, the bill provides that indemnities, allowances and expenses shall be increased or decreased in accordance with the increase or decrease in the consumer price index for Canada. Mr. Chairman, I do not have any further opening remarks to the bill, but I will be pleased to answer any questions.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Mr. Pollard, as chairman of the standing committee on finance, do you have any comments?

Comments From Standing Committee On Finance

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This bill, Mr. Chairman, has not been before the standing committee on finance, although it has financial implications. On behalf of the standing committee on finance, Mr. Chairman, I would ask the Speaker if he might elaborate as to, first of all, the potential financial impact upon this government and, secondly, are those funds in the budget that the Minister of Finance will announce on Monday? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To answer the last question first, no, the money for any cost increases as a result of the amendment to this bill are not in the budget. They cannot be yet because we can only budget according to what the legislation allows us. If this amendment is passed, then the funding required for this will have to be sought in a supplementary estimate. To answer the second question, the consumer price index this year is 4.1 per cent, and if this bill is passed the living allowances, salaries, etc., will be increased on April 1, 1989, by that 4.1 per cent which, on the amounts that we now know, would be a total of \$46,000 for all Members involved. The costs associated with the living allowances for constituency expenses, we cannot at this stage predict, but we can give a minimum and a maximum. It depends to some extent on how many days in-town living allowance a Member will be claiming as a result of constituency work done, or how many days out-of-town living allowance. In our legislation, I think we all know that the in-town living allowance is \$46 a day and the out-of-town living allowance, because of the hotel portion calculated in there, is \$161 a day. The low amount would be \$150,000, the high amount would be about \$340,000. We expect that the actual amount will be in the \$200,000 range.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. General comments. Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, I do not think the standing committee on finance has any problems. I am taking the liberty of speaking on their behalf. I may be proven wrong. The tying of salaries to an index, I think is a good move because it is always embarrassing for Members of the Legislative Assembly to discuss large increases in their salaries when they might not have had one for three or four years depending on when the election is.

I am a little concerned about the \$150,000 to \$340,000 impact of the living allowances and I would like to ask the Speaker, Mr. Chairman, why is it deemed necessary right now to raise that particular living allowance? What is driving that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Both the amendments contained in this bill have been advanced by the Management and Services Board as a result of input from Members of this House. The factors driving the living allowance being removed from the constituency allowances, the constituency allowances as they are now set in legislation have been at the same amount for quite a number of years now. All costs associated with carrying out Members' work in the constituencies have increased. The formula that the constituency allowances were based on, the funding formula, is no longer an adequate formula. The demands on an MLA's time from his constituents has greatly increased and if a Member, for instance, in constituencies such as Mr. Sibbeston's or Mr. Zoe's or my own, that have multiple communities within the constituencies, if you do a lot of travelling away from your home and claim your living allowance at \$161 from within the constituency allowance budget, the average of some \$20,000 for constituency allowances, you can clearly see, is virtually eaten up in living allowances.

As I said, the allowances that we have now were set a number of years ago before my time in the Assembly and they reflected costs that existed then and have totally no bearing on the costs that we incur today. They also reflected the lesser demand on Members of this Legislature that existed then and not the demands that in fact exist today.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. General comments. Any further general comments? If not, does everyone agree we go clause by clause? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Bill 5-89(1), An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act. Clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Clause 2, maximum indemnity. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Clause 3. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Clause 4, written claim. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Clause 5, amount of expenses. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Clause 6, definitions. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. The bill as a whole? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Does the committee agree that Bill 5-89(1), An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, is now ready for third reading? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 2-89(1): Electoral District Boundaries Commission Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. The committee will now deal with Bill 2-89(1), Electoral District Boundaries Commission Act. Mr. Minister. Mr. Patterson.

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the bill before the committee of the whole was called for by a Motion 18-88(2) of this House on October 25, 1988, and it was drafted on the instructions of the Clerk of the Legislature. It is entitled "The Electoral District Boundaries Commission Act". Mr. Chairman, this act falls into the same category as the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act and the Elections Act, I believe. This is an act that all Members may wish to participate in discussing and because of its nature, Ministers will be free to discuss and vote on this bill as ordinary MLAs.

Mr. Chairman, I would suggest that an appropriate process for review of this bill would be to invite the Clerk, Mr. Hamilton, and legal counsel to the Department of Justice, Ms Bentivegna, who drafted the bill, to assist the committee at the witness table with questions of a drafting or administrative nature. Then Members are free to go through this bill as you see fit, Mr. Chairman. So I would propose that Mr. Hamilton and Ms Bentivegna assist the committee as witnesses. Thank you.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Mr. Ernerk, does the standing committee on legislation have any comment in respect to this act?

Comments From Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The standing committee on legislation reviewed the bill with the Minister, Mr. Ballantyne, on January 18, 1989. The purpose of the bill is to establish a commission which will allow existing electoral districts to hold public hearings and prepare a report to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly concerning the establishment of electoral districts in the NWT. The proposed bill, the Electoral District Boundaries Commission Act, will replace the existing act to establish an electoral district boundaries commission, which was assented to May 11, 1978.

According to the Rules of the Legislative Assembly, the bill has to be sponsored by a Minister. The Minister noted that the bill was called for by Motion 18-88(2) of the House on October 25, 1988, and drafted on instructions of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly. The final bill will reflect the collective decision of the Members of the House. Mr. Chairman, the Law Clerk has noted that the present NWT Act allows for a maximum of 25 seats. There are 24 Members presently of this 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. Bill 2-89(1), Electoral District Boundaries Commission Act. Clause 1, definitions. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Clause 2, Electoral District Boundaries Commission. Agreed? Mr. Ernerk.

Respected Elder As Chairperson Of Commission

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, during the standing committee meeting of January 18, 1989, as chairperson of the committee, I requested the Minister to consider having a respected elder included as a possible chairperson of this commission.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, on Mr. Ballantyne's behalf, the government has considered this recommendation and recommends that the bill stand as presented. Mr. Chairman, I would point out that there is room for respected elders in the two persons appointed by the Commissioner on the recommendation of the Legislative Assembly. The chairperson it is recommended, would be a judge of the Supreme Court of the NWT or the Court of Appeal of the NWT. I would point out, Mr. Chairman, that this would give us quite a pool of people to choose from since the Court of Appeal of the NWT includes up to 15 judges, including judges in Alberta and Mr. Justice Tallis of the Court of Appeal of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Chairman, I guess the feeling of the government in reviewing that recommendation was that there is a desire, I am sure, on the part of all Members to have the most objective, fair, impartial consideration of what could be controversial matters before this boundaries commission act. It was felt that a judge who is independent from influence by anyone, and is paid to be independent, could provide that impartiality that we would seek in a chairperson. Mr. Chairman, for those reasons the view of the government was that we would not recommend a change to the bill as presented.

Having said that, Mr. Chairman, I would point out that this is not really a government bill as such. It is a matter for the Legislature so this point would be open to consideration here but we felt the bill should go forward as drafted. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess when I originally raised this issue with the Members of the standing committee on legislation it was with the idea that it would seem to me that we have to consider the wise elders of the NWT as well. The government is often very proud of themselves about the fact that they have used the elders and they will continue to use the elders in the years to come.

I have no disrespect for the judges. As indicated by the Government Leader, they are independent people. But at the same time, it would seem to me that we could find a number of elders from the NWT who could contribute a lot to this society. The way I feel about it is, it is important that the older members of this society in the NWT be called upon sometimes to contribute their wise judgments on important matters such as this particular issue. I guess, Mr. Chairman, I wanted to just point out to the other Members that I also feel that appointing an elder as the chairperson of the commission would be a step in the right direction.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pollard): Thank you, Mr. Ernerk. Mr. Minister, did you wish to respond? Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Well, Mr. Chairman, of course it is up to this committee and I certainly would not want to enter into an argument with a Member. I would just like to make it clear that there certainly should be room for elders on this commission. In fact, there are two seats of the three, at least, that we would likely see being filled by such respected persons on the recommendation of this Legislature. So I think the only issue is whether the third member would be in that category or whether we recommend a judge chair the commission. I am certainly not against elders being appointed to the other two seats.

Work Of Commission Could Be Technical

Mr. Chairman, the thinking of the Members of cabinet that reviewed this was that whether we like it or not, this could become a rather technical exercise when one compares population changes, when one looks at factors such as growth and groupings of interests within the NWT, and that it might be appropriate to the sort of experience that a judge has in their day-to-day work. We felt that a judge would be very appropriate. This is not to say somebody else could not do the job but our feeling was that the chairperson is a special job and appointing a judge need not prejudice having some elders involved in the other two seats. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pollard): Thank you, Mr. Government Leader. We are on Bill 2-89(1), clause 2. Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I am very supportive of putting in our legislation recognition of elders and appointing an elder to be chairman of the boundaries commission. I appreciate the rationale for having Supreme Court judges involved as chairmen, partly because they are deemed to be smart and educated and experienced. Supreme Court judges, too, are to be unbiased, and to date they have not been involved in the political process of voting but this is changing so they can take part in elections.

I think the past experience indicates to me that just the fact that a Supreme Court judge is appointed does not in itself guarantee that a good person is appointed to the task. In all frankness, the past chairman of the boundaries commission, who was a Supreme Court judge from the South, was known to be a bit of a drinker and northern society generally scorns and looks down on people who drink.

So having a Supreme Court judge appointed in itself does not guarantee that the person appointed will be respected and, in my view now, with a former MLA appointed to the Supreme Court of the NWT, does not in itself guarantee that the person, a Supreme Court judge, will be unbiased because of the judge's past existence and his views being well-known as to what the Yellowknife situation should be with respect to more seats. So just the fact that a Supreme Court judge is named does not, in itself, to me guarantee sobriety, having a respected person and also having someone without any political past action and political views with respect to this subject. It just seems to me that it is time that we in the North paid recognition, real formal recognition, to elders. Everybody talks about it, all the native organizations, and I think amongst the non-native people elders who survive the Arctic and who survive in the North all these years are generally respected. I think it is timely to put in our legislation reference to an elder. The provision as it stands, to me, is not satisfactory.

As a compromise, I would go along with an amendment which would provide as follows: "The commission shall consist of a chairperson and two persons appointed by the Commissioner on the recommendation of the Legislative Assembly." As it stands, there is provision for the government -- really when you talk about the Commissioner it is the government that would appoint the chairman -- and I think it would be fair and better to have all of the three members appointed by the Legislative Assembly. As a compromise, if people are scared or leery of having an elder in there, I would go along with simply the changes I suggested, of having three persons to be appointed by the Legislative Assembly. In that way we can determine who the membership is, and we would just delete the present subsection (3), which refers to the chairman being a Supreme Court judge. This, to me, would go some distance to achieving what we want.

Motion To Amend Clause 2, Bill 2-89(1)

On that basis, I would move, Mr. Chairman, that we delete in the present clause 2 the words, "appointed by the Commissioner" and instead have the wording, "a chairperson and two persons appointed by the Commissioner on the recommendation of the Legislative Assembly" and the present subsection (3) be deleted.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pollard): Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. We have a motion on the floor. Mr. Sibbeston, could you provide the Chair with a written copy of that motion and we will get it translated as well? In the meantime, we will break for coffee. Thank you.

---SHORT RECESS

I will call the committee back to order. We are dealing with Bill 2-89(1), Electoral District Boundaries Commission Act. We are dealing with clause 2. Mr. Sibbeston had put forward a motion. Mr. Sibbeston, for the record, sir, would you read your motion into the record?

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I move that section 2 of the Electoral District Boundaries Commission Act be amended by deleting paragraphs (2)(a) and (b) and inserting after the word "of" the following: "a chairperson and two persons appointed by the Commissioner on the recommendation of the Legislative Assembly". I further move that there be an amendment by deleting subsection (3).

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pollard): Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to point out one clause in the bill which would permit us to include elders in a way other than with the pressures that would be put on a chairperson of the commission. I would just like to point out that section 6(1) of the proposed bill says: "The commission may engage such advisors...as the commission may require to assist the commission in the exercise of its powers and the performance of its duties under this act."

It would seem to me, Mr. Chairman, that where you wish to have opinions on such things as the proper language and cultural groupings of a constituency, who are the Netsilingmiut, the kinship relations between Sanikiluaq and Coral Harbour, those kinds of cultural, language type of considerations, that would be a very appropriate place for the sort of respected elder that Mr. Sibbeston wants to involve in this process to be included.

I would suggest we consider using section 6 as a vehicle for involving elders rather than amending to exclude the judge as a chairperson because, Mr. Chairman, thinking on it a bit more, I recall that the debates we had in the Legislature of the Ninth Assembly were pretty well the most tense and difficult and confrontational debates that I recall in the four years. There were pretty strong emotions developed about these issues of seats and communities and political representation, and I wonder if we are doing a respected elder a favour by putting them in such a high-pressure situation.

Position Of Chairman Subject To Pressure

I recall that on the last electoral boundaries commission, and I am certainly not in any way praising the work of Judge Potts, but in that last report the chairman gave a minority report which was loudly condemned by a number of people, including myself, as having been a very poor job. I just wonder, do we need that sort of pressure on the people that we respect most in this society? I think there are very good places for elders to be recognized and to participate, but do we want them sitting on staffing appeals committees? Do we want them in highly political pressure positions which, I believe, the chairperson of such a commission would be? So I would just respectfully point out to Members, Mr. Chairman, that clause 6 would allow us to hire elders to get their advice and wisdom without necessarily putting the sort of pressures on them that



being a chairman would entail. Those are my comments to the motion, Mr. Chairman, and for myself I think for those reasons I would be voting against the amendment. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Mr. Pudluk, to the motion.

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am in favour of the amendment to the motion. The Government Leader's comment, I think, can be rectified properly and it is obvious that there are elders that are judges also. Aboriginal people also have judges. They have judges. It would be appropriate to have three people appointed to the commission and they will be travelling to the different communities in the North. When we were Members in the last Legislative Assembly there was also a commission formed. At the time there were only 15 MLAs in the Legislative Assembly, and we were trying to make changes for 24 Members of the Legislative Assembly and because of the commission we are able to have 24 Members today. I think it would be best to have three members to the commission. It may be better to have more than three people in the commission itself, as members, because the responsibility will be quite a lot for them to handle.

Motion To Amend Motion To Amend Clause 2, Bill 2-89(1)

Somebody mentioned earlier, too, that there should be elders from the NWT to be involved as members of the commission. For this reason, I think we can rectify the problem very easily concerning the amendment to the clause. I would also make a motion. It states here in (b), a chairperson and two members for the commission are -- maybe we should take out the "two persons" to be members of the commission, to delete it and make it four people instead. And this will be my amendment to the motion. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Your amendment is in order. The motion to amend is to delete on the second paragraph, the word "two" and replacing it with "four" persons. So your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Pudluk, do you have a seconder for your amendment? Do I need one? Okay, go ahead.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman, I believe myself in this amendment and second it also. I spoke to this amendment already. I think it is going to be a result of our Government Leader's concern about clause 6. I do not really know what is in that clause 6 but the amendment is a chairperson and four persons appointed. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Mr. Wray, to the motion.

HON. GORDON WRAY: I guess I can agree with half the amendment, you know, it should be a chairperson and two persons appointed by the Commissioner. The problem I have with the motion is deleting subsection (3) which is a requirement for the chairperson to be a judge. Even if we up it to five, we still have the problem of who is going to be the chairperson. Reading over the debates from the Ninth Assembly, it does not matter what we do, if it is not seen to be somebody who is impartial and above reproach then it is going to be the argument of the chairperson from the West and that is going to give them three seats on there and two from the East or the chairperson from the East and that is going to give them three people and the West only two. Even if it is only three, if the chairperson is not a judge it is still going to be the same argument. You are either going to have two from the West and one from the East or two from the East and one from the West. So we are going to get embroiled in the argument all over again.

The easiest way out, to avoid that, is to appoint a judge as the chairperson and then that way the impartiality cannot be questioned. So upping it to five does not really solve the problem right now. The problem is with the chairperson and who it is going to be and whether it is a committee of seven with three, three and one or five with two, two and one, or three with one, one and one, the problem still remains the chairperson. That is the problem I have with Mr. Sibbeston's amendment, deleting the requirement that it be a judge. I must admit I have some great difficulty with that. Even though I did not particularly agree with Judge Potts the last time, it is still better than what we could end up with, I think.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Wray. Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I gave this old bill a lot of thought since we got it yesterday morning. I really did. I pondered this thing and I too, was wondering concerning the clause about the chairperson being a judge from the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories. We know them by name and by number, and the Appeal Court of the Northwest Territories, which broadens it a bit, so we have a good selection of Supreme Court justices or judges.

However, I am still of the opinion that maybe the NWT -- and as I said during the coffee break to some of my colleagues -- this may be one of the last times that we, in the NWT, will have an opportunity to debate or to look at redistribution or a realignment of political boundaries in the whole of the Northwest Territories before division. I was scoffed at because I said this has been said before, but let us take a good look at the history here. We have had, God bless them, the Carrothers Commission way back in the 1960s which consisted -- with the exception of one member, Mr. Parker is still here. But where are the other guys? Maybe it is time that we make decisions that are going to affect the North by northerners. Bite the bullet. Let us find somebody in the NWT here who can exercise sound judgment and impartiality that a Supreme Court justice will. I know that we are going to have trouble. I foresee the problem of looking for a person from the East or from the West, and stuff like that.

I would have liked to have seen the numbers increase, instead of having two members and a chairman; have four members and a chairman. I would have liked to have seen that. But it went to motion before I had a chance to speak on it. I would like to see we in the Northwest Territories make a decision, for good or for bad, that we make ourselves; somebody that has lived and been raised in the NWT, an elder or a middle-aged person, like myself, that is from here making a decision for the NWT, for good or for bad. Good heavens, we cannot do any worse than what was done the last time. You guys did not agree with them the last time. Maybe we will not agree with them this time. I have to support the motion in part. I only wish that it would be a chairperson plus four persons. I realize that it will cost a little bit more, but that is not important. It is certainly important to Yellowknife South. The motion says, "a chairperson and two persons".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Whitford, there was a motion to make amendments and the amendment is for a chairperson and four persons. So, speak to the amendment.

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, are we talking about a chairperson and four members? Okay. I support that kind of a motion. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Whitford. Mr. Pollard, to the amendment.

MR. POLLARD: I would like a copy of Mr. Pudluk's amendment to the motion, please, and I would like it translated, Mr. Chairman, because obviously it confused Mr. Whitford and I certainly do not want to get confused on this issue. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): We will redraft this motion. Because of the time and everything else, I think I will recognize the clock and report progress.

---Applause

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

**ITEM 18: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILL 2-89(1), ELECTORAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES COMMISSION ACT; BILL 5-89(1), LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ACT; BILL 6-89(1), MOTOR VEHICLES ACT**

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bills 2-89(1), 5-89(1) and 6-89(1) and wishes to report that Bills 5-89(1) and 6-89(1) are ready for third reading.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Gargan. The House has heard the report of the chairman of the committee of the whole. Are you agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The House is agreed.

Item 19, third reading of bills. Item 20, Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Announcements, Mr. Speaker. A meeting of the *ajauqtit* committee at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning.

**ITEM 20: ORDERS OF THE DAY**

Orders of the day for Friday, February 10th.

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: Bill 2-89(1)

18. Report of Committee of the Whole

19. Third Reading of Bills

20. Orders of the Day

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

---ADJOURNMENT

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