



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

4th Session

11th Assembly

HANSARD  
Official Report  
Day 3

Friday, February 10, 1989

Pages 56 - 91

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

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

## Speaker

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

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

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

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

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

Butters, The Hon. Tom, M.L.A.  
 P.O. Box 1069  
 Inuvik, N.W.T.  
 XOE OT0  
 (403) 979-2373 (Office)  
 (403) 979-2373 (Home)  
 (Inuvik)  
 Minister of Government Services and  
 NWT Housing Corporation

Cournoyea, The Hon. Nellie, M.L.A.  
 P.O. Box 1184  
 Inuvik, N.W.T.  
 XOE OT0  
 (403) 873-7128 (Office)  
 (403) 977-2405 (Tuktoyaktuk)  
 (403) 979-2737 (Inuvik)  
 (Nunakput)  
 Minister of Health and Public  
 Works & Highways

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sibbeston, Mr. Nick, M.L.A.  
 P.O. Box 560  
 Fort Simpson, N.W.T.  
 XOE ON0  
 (403) 873-6215 (Home)  
 (Nahendeh)

Whitford, Mr. Tony, M.L.A.  
 P.O. Box 2772  
 Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
 X1A 2R1  
 (403) 920-8010 (Office)  
 (403) 873-5328 (Home)  
 (Yellowknife South)

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

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

## Officers

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

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

Law Clerk  
 Mr. Don Cooper, Q.C.  
 Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Editor of Hansard  
 Ms Marie J. Coe  
 Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Sergeant-at-Arms  
 Mr. Harry Finnis, B.E.M., C.D.  
 Fort Smith, N.W.T.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1989

	PAGE
Prayer	56
Ministers' Statements	56
- 3-89(1) Budget Address	56
Members' Statements	
- Mr. Arlooktoo on Wrestling Team, Cape Dorset	56
- Mr. Nerysoo on Manner in Which Tabled Documents and Petitions are Being Dealt With	56
- Mr. Gargan on Grazing Paths for Wood Bison	89
- Mr. Lewis on Resignation of Commissioner Parker	57
Oral Questions	57
Written Questions	75
Replies to Opening Address	
- Hon. Dennis Patterson's Reply	75
Tabling of Documents	81
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of:	
- Bill 2-89(1) Electoral District Boundaries Commission Act	82
Report of Committee of the Whole of:	
- Bill 2-89(1) Electoral District Boundaries Commission Act	89
Orders of the Day	90



YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1989

MEMBERS PRESENT

Hon. Titus Allooloo, Mr. Angottitauruq, 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

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Red Pedersen): Orders of the day for Friday, February 10, 1989. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Ballantyne.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Ministers' Statement 3-89(1): Budget Address

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to give notice to this House that on Monday, February 13th, 1989, I will deliver the Budget Address. Thank you.

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

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Wrestling Team, Cape Dorset

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize in the gallery today, Robert Walsh, a teacher/coach; Stephen Ejesiak, wrestler; Paul Suvega, wrestler; and Mark Itidloie, wrestler. This is a wrestling team from Cape Dorset who are students of Pitseolak School. They are the first ever to represent the Eastern Arctic in territorial wrestling championships. They are from Cape Dorset. Thank you.

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

Member's Statement On Manner In Which Tabled Documents And Petitions Are Being Dealt With

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to raise a concern on behalf of Members of ajauqtit. Members of ajauqtit have raised concern about the manner in which tabled documents and petitions are being dealt with. The purpose of these documents and petitions are to make Members of this Assembly and the Executive Council aware of issues and concerns of the communities. Members of ajauqtit feel that these documents are brought here by Members and are tabled with the purposes of receiving serious consideration, thought and response by the Executive Council.

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



MR. LEWIS: (Speaks in French, no translation)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Lewis, I am sorry to cut you off but we do not have the translation system functioning properly yet. It is not coming through in our ears through the earpieces. Mr. Clerk, could you...

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Well done!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Lewis, you have the floor again. Our apologies.

Member's Statement On Resignation Of Commissioner Parker

MR. LEWIS: (Translation) ...I speak French, although it is not my mother tongue. I speak like someone from France with a heavy accent. Mr. Speaker, there are many Francophones in downtown Yellowknife and it is for this reason that I am going to say a few words in French today.

Mr. Speaker, it was on Wednesday with the announcements from our Commissioner that I remember very well that he served for more than 20 years in our Territories. His resignation was certainly a surprise for me and for the Members of the Assembly. Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that it was a life dedicated to public service and it was a model for all the people working in our Territories. I very well remember that when Mr. Hodgson left, when he was in this hotel, there were many get-togethers, a lot of singing and dancing and I remember that Mr. Parker gave the keys for a new car to Mr. Hodgson at his departure from the Territories.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that when Mr. and Mrs. Parker leave us next July, we will have the chance to say goodbye to them in an appropriate manner; not like that, as when a king or an emperor leaves but in an appropriate way. There will not be any model after next summer for us as there has been in the past and this is a chance for us to say goodbye in a simpler manner for a great, simple and very honest man. Thank you very much.

MR. SPEAKER: Members' statements.

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

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question O38-89(1): Enforcement Of Legislation Re Sale Of Tobacco Products To Minors

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Justice. I have noticed recently that there have been court cases in some of the western provinces against a large drugstore chain for selling tobacco and cigarettes to minors and the federal criminal legislation involved in this has been used. I was wondering if the Minister is going to do something. I have asked him previously during the budget sessions if this is going to be enforced by the RCMP up here. I was wondering if he has now thought this through and whether he is going to enforce this legislation in the Northwest Territories to prevent minors from smoking.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ballantyne.

Return To Question O38-89(1): Enforcement Of Legislation Re Sale Of Tobacco Products To Minors

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for notice of this question. Since the last session we have looked into the whole idea of enforcing the legislation as far as selling cigarettes to minors. It presents a lot of problems as I think the Member is well



aware. What is happening in the South we are waiting to see with some interest, after it works its way through the court system. The RCMP have some difficulty with it. It is a difficult area to enforce. What I am looking at now is maybe a different approach, because our government is really committed to discouraging everybody, but especially minors, from smoking cigarettes. Right now what we are exploring is the possibility of a retail licensing system with a proper legislative component to it, and if somebody is found selling cigarettes to minors you could take away or suspend their wholesale cigarette licence. That is what we are looking at right now, and I hope that during the budget debate, with both the Department of Health and with my department where it is relevant, I would like to get the feeling, to hear from Members, as to the approach they would like to see, and if we have full support from this Assembly. We are definitely committed to use every mechanism that we have in our arsenal to try to deal with it, but I hope to have a little more information for you during the budget debate on Justice about this other approach, about licensing. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Supplementary, Mr. McLaughlin.

Supplementary To Question O38-89(1): Enforcement Of Legislation Resale Of Tobacco Products To Minors

**MR. McLAUGHLIN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Since there is a law existing, I cannot understand why the law is not being enforced. As a supplementary, I would like to ask the Minister what other laws of the Northwest Territories has he or the cabinet decided not to enforce, so that the general public can do some things we are probably not doing right now because we are afraid we might be breaking the law? Maybe there are more laws out there that we can break without getting into trouble.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Mr. Ballantyne.

Further Return To Question O38-89(1): Enforcement Of Legislation Re Sale Of Tobacco Products To Minors

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** I think there is a lesson to be learned for everybody because there are thousands of laws on the book. Legislative Assemblies often pass laws that do not have a practical application. I cannot give you, right now, examples, but I am sure there are examples of other laws that are probably not being enforced because it is practically impossible to enforce them. As I said, this one is a difficult one, not just here but in the South, to enforce the way it is written. What we want to do is to achieve an end and I think there is probably a better way to achieve that end. We are going to try to approach it that way. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Oral questions. Mr. Kilabuk.

Question O39-89(1): Funding For School Bus, Pangnirtung

**MR. KILABUK:** (Translation) Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Education concerning the school bus in our community. Last year, when we met in February, I put forward a question to the Minister, who is now presently Government Leader. Can funding be provided for the operation of this bus? The Baffin Divisional Board of Education would be responsible for this, and for that reason the hamlet of Pangnirtung has not received any funding, not even one dollar, even though he had stated that the funding would be provided. It has utilized already \$20,000. I realize that recently the Baffin Divisional Board of Education has contributed some funding, but this is still not enough. For that reason, the hamlet of Pangnirtung has suggested that they would not be responsible for the operation of the school bus. The education authority could be responsible for this, if the funding can be provided, so this bus could continue to operate in the community in picking up the kindergarten children. Will the Minister consider assisting with the funds, because the houses of these students are quite a distance away from the school. Would you be able to consider this? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk, for that good speech on school busing. Mr. Minister.



**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Mr. Speaker, I have not been to Pangnirtung and I do not know what the set-up of the community is. I do not know what the distance is for children to go to school, so I need to get some briefing. Perhaps I could talk to the Member over the next few days and prepare a proper answer for him. I will take it as notice. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Minister. The question is taken as notice. Supplementary.

**MR. KILABUK:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the Minister for suggesting having a meeting with me to get a briefing. If he could consider making arrangements with the residents of Pangnirtung, I would like to invite you sometime in the future to Pangnirtung. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Hardly a supplementary. There was no question but you got it through. Mr. Zoe.

Question O40-89(1): Rumours Concerning Neptune Resources

**MR. ZOE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I will be directing my question to the Minister responsible for Energy, Mines and Resources. Mr. Speaker, there have been a number of rumours in the city of Yellowknife in regard to Neptune Resources trying to acquire a loan guarantee from the federal government. I would like to ask the Minister if she is aware and if there is any truth in the rumours that are around the community. My understanding is that the mining industry at the territorial and federal level have lobbied the federal government not to proceed to help out with Neptune's request. I understand that they have been very successful, as the Minister knows, and that its decision came down yesterday. Could she inform the House if the rumours have any truth? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Ms Cournoyea.

Return To Question O40-89(1): Rumours Concerning Neptune Resources

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, I am afraid there are numerous rumours that are circulating with the announcement on Neptune Resources yesterday. I cannot answer that question at this time. I was telephoned last night on two or three occasions on rumours about the socio-economic arrangement with the Rae band and the fact that these rumours are stating that companies did not want to see a precedent set. However, I cannot confirm those at this time.

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

Question O41-89(1): Meetings With Mining Industry Re Neptune

**MR. NERYSOO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to the question asked by Mr. Zoe. Would the Minister try to confirm whether or not there have been meetings of the mining industry with the previous Minister and the new Minister with a view to trying to assure that the decision in the negative was given by the federal government with regard to the loan guarantee?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Madam Minister.

Return To Question O41-89(1): Meetings With Mining Industry Re Neptune

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, the question has been put to me. However, I cannot confirm that at this time.

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

Supplementary To Question O41-89(1): Meetings With Mining Industry Re Neptune

**MR. NERYSOO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I could ask the Minister whether or not she could try to ensure or at least seek the appropriate evidence that such meetings did take place, or please



try to confirm that these meetings took place, either through discussions in Ottawa or through our own offices in Ottawa, to ensure that at least it either confirms or opposes the rumours that have been on the streets in Yellowknife and generally throughout, I think, the Northwest Territories at this particular time.

MR. SPEAKER: Ms Cournoyea.

Further Return To Question O41-89(1): Meetings With Mining Industry Re Neptune

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Pollard.

Question O42-89(1): Guarantee Of Entire Loan By Territorial Government

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary on the same subject. Mr. Speaker, it can be to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources or the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. Obviously, Mr. Speaker, the government thought that this was a good plan because they were prepared to bring forth a bill worth three million dollars. Is this venture good enough for this government to consider bringing forth a bill whereby we would guarantee the whole of the \$18 million, Mr. Speaker?

MR. SPEAKER: Ministers.

Return To Question O42-89(1): Guarantee Of Entire Loan By Territorial Government

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, as the announcement on Neptune was just made yesterday, we have not looked at alternatives and we have not been able to take the necessary time to explore what the options are.

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

Question O43-89(1): Hiring Of Architect To Design Schools

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to ask a question of the Minister of Public Works. Where did the Minister hire an architect for designing the schools in the Northwest Territories? A simple question, thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.

Return To Question O43-89(1): Hiring Of Architect To Design Schools

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, the process for hiring architects, when a project is being identified and money allocated, is that tenders are put out for the projects with stipulations on how and what type of building is required. These are advertised and architects come forward and put their bids in and it is determined at that level. There are architects in Yellowknife and we attempt to make sure that the northern architects get the work. So, these are all tendered out and whoever submits the most preferable bid is the one that is hired.

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

Supplementary To Question O43-89(1): Hiring Of Architect To Design Schools

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the Minister tell me how much do we spend for one school, for instance Arctic Bay in 1986? Mahsi cho.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Ms Cournoyea.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: I do not have it in my back pocket, Mr. Speaker, but I will provide that information.

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

Question O44-89(1): Time Frame For Review

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister responsible for Energy, Mines and Resources. She indicated earlier that they will be exploring alternatives. Could I ask the Minister what time frame we are looking at? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.

Return To Question O44-89(1): Time Frame For Review

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I do not have the time frame on that. I know for the last 24 hours we have been on the phone with Ottawa trying to keep on top of what was happening. The request for a loan from the federal government Department of Indian Affairs had had previous rough going, as the Member knows. We did contact the new Minister to ask if he would personally review that particular issue himself, which he did yesterday, and as a result he did not feel that it was necessary for the government to provide the funds to that project. Until the information on the whys and hows are brought forward, I cannot give a time frame, but we are dealing with that today and in the next while. But I cannot give a time frame at this time.

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

Supplementary To Question O44-89(1): Time Frame For Review

MR. ZOE: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Could the Minister undertake to inform the House as soon as she finds out exactly how they will be proceeding with this particular issue? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Ms Cournoyea.

Further Return To Question O44-89(1): Time Frame For Review

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question O45-89(1): Moving Arctic College Headquarters

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Education. In the fall session, this House passed a motion recommending you to look at the feasibility of moving Arctic College headquarters from Yellowknife to Fort Smith. Did you take that recommendation? Are you doing a feasibility study? If so, when will you table that in this House? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Minister.

Return To Question O45-89(1): Moving Arctic College Headquarters

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, the motion that was made here last fall was technically, in my opinion, a motion that was not very well worded; perhaps it was too hastily prepared. It is a bit vague in some cases. In any case, I took what I felt it directed me to do, and I have asked my department to put together the necessary information to help me prepare a decision paper for cabinet to consider. The decision, I hope, will be made in the near future. I am not certain exactly when a decision would be made.



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

Supplementary To Question O45-89(1): Moving Arctic College Headquarters

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When you say that a decision would be made in the near future, could you possibly narrow that down to whether it would be in this session or not?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question O45-89(1): Moving Arctic College Headquarters

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: There is, aside from the Member's urgency in finding out what the decision is going to be, also some concern about the anxiety level in the community of Fort Smith, particularly, and the staff of Arctic College as well. As soon as I can have cabinet deal with it, it will be done, and it will be done during the course of this session.

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

Question O46-89(1): Appointment Of Regional Director, Fort Smith

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, a question to the Government Leader. The Government Leader made an appointment this fall appointing a good man, superintendent of Local Government, Mr. Don Ellis, to the position of regional director in Fort Smith. I indicated my concern to Mr. Patterson and to Mr. Ellis in Fort Simpson when they visited there a number of weeks ago, and my position was not that Mr. Ellis was not a good man, but simply that he was young, energetic and vigorous; and in taking on the job of regional director I was afraid that he would make a life-long career of it and would be the start of re-entrenching the Fort Smith Region as we know it. With the movement in the Fort Smith Region towards decentralization, with the idea that Fort Smith, Fort Simpson and Rae would eventually become autonomous area centres, would the Government Leader admit, in hindsight, that he made a mistake in appointing such a young man and, secondly, if not, would he consider moving Mr. Ellis to Yellowknife where he can properly administer the three autonomous areas, or help administer the three areas?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Return To Question O46-89(1): Appointment Of Regional Director, Fort Smith

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I am a bit querulous that I should be accounting for the mistake of appointing a young, energetic and vigorous person to a senior management post in this government. If that is the only problem with our hiring and recruitment policies, then I think we have a nice problem.

--Laughter

Mr. Speaker, with the greatest of respect to the Member, I will not be willing to admit that that appointment was a mistake. However, to the second part of his question, I will say that, first of all, the MLA from Nahendeh and some of the fine public servants that I had the chance to speak to who work in that area office in Fort Simpson while I was there recently, have made a very good case that the issue of co-ordination between the three areas that we have now established in the Fort Smith Region should take place out of Yellowknife. Having said that, Mr. Speaker, I am sure the honourable Member appreciates that enlarging our presence in Yellowknife in even the smallest way can provoke some controversy and even criticism in some quarters.

However, Mr. Speaker, I will assure the honourable Member that the option of having co-ordination of the operations of various departments of the government take place from headquarters is certainly an option that I will be considering and discussing with MLAs who are concerned, over



the next number of weeks and it is certainly an option that I would expect would be presented to cabinet.

As I say, Mr. Speaker, the honourable Member makes a very good case for that approach but we will have to consider other ways of handling it. His views are very clear and very strong and they will certainly be taken into account by me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question O47-89(1): Lack Of Consistency In Endangered Species Regulations

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I had an opportunity to look through the wildlife regulations during the past few months and I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Renewable Resources. I would like to ask the Minister, as far as the endangered species and the important species, what are the regulations governing those different species of animals as far as classification goes? Also, are they governed the same throughout the NWT or not? For example, is the polar bear in the High Arctic treated the same in the West as far as endangered species goes? Does the same thing apply to the bison herd, like in Fort Providence as opposed to Fort Smith? Because there is not a consistency within that act itself. I would like to ask whether or not he intends to change those regulations so that we have some kind of consistency and fairness with regard to this wildlife regulation that has been applied half-heartedly across the North.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Alloo. . .

Return To Question O47-89(1): Lack Of Consistency In Endangered Species Regulations

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Member should be more specific on his question as to what sort of consistencies he is talking about. When the government is determining what categories the species should be under in the endangered species list, there are different categories that the species fall under. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan.

Supplementary To Question O47-89(1): Lack Of Consistency In Endangered Species Regulations

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, polar bears, for example, are an endangered species. The caribou is an endangered species; the bison is an endangered species. Those animals are being protected based on quotas limiting the number of kill. These quotas are not universal. In other words, depending on the herd and the community and the location, different quotas have been established differently.

Now as far as the quota system for the bison, for example, it is done on a draw system. The quota system for the polar bear is given to the communities for them to allocate. So there is not that type of consistency and this is what I am talking about to the Minister. I would like to ask the Minister whether or not he intends to change the wildlife regulations so that people do not feel that they are being left out or else some other communities, I am sure, would not mind getting extra tags or anything like that, but there is not that type of consistency.

Just like any kind of government policy or regulations or acts, this is one area where I have difficulty because there is not that type of consistency as opposed to maybe the Settlement Act and Hamlets Act, for example.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question O47-89(1): Lack Of Consistency In Endangered Species Regulations

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, the tag allocation of polar bears is determined by the overall quota for the NWT. This quota is distributed among the communities depending on where they are and also the historic kill of the communities.

For instance, in one community, depending on where the location is, the community might have a lot more quota for polar bears than other communities. But for this particular herd of bison, the majority of the quota has been allocated to communities rather than the whole NWT. The department is allowing 12 tags to be distributed across the North. At this moment, Mr. Speaker, I have no intention of changing the tag allocation without the Denendeh Conservation Board's recommendation. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O47-89(1): Lack Of Consistency In Endangered Species Regulations

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, again to the Minister of Renewable Resources, I asked the question of whether or not the Minister intends to change the wildlife regulation so that there are some kinds of consistencies across the North. This time he has only indicated that he is not willing to allocate more tags on that. What I am telling the Minister is that there should be some kind of consistency with regard to the allocation of tags and who gets them.

He did give us an example of polar bears in allotting them to different communities but the hunters and trappers are the ones that have control over them. As far as the bison herd, in Fort Smith for example, there are no tags allotted to Fort Smith or Fort Resolution, but they are allowed to shoot buffalo in these areas. So what I am asking the Minister is whether or not there are any intentions by this government to change the regulations so that there is not some unfair practice implemented in certain areas and in other areas they are not. It is quite evident that the regulation as it is now is unfair to certain communities.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question O47-89(1): Lack Of Consistency In Endangered Species Regulations

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like I said before, I have no plans to, nor would I like to change the regulations without the Denendeh Conservation Board's recommendation to me for the Denendeh area. I feel that this board is representative of the people who are living in Denendeh and I would feel the same way if it was in the Nunavut area. In order to change the regulations or the act, I would solicit input from the respective board that I feel is representing the people in a particular area. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O47-89(1): Lack Of Consistency In Endangered Species Regulations

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, as far as the Denendeh Conservation Board goes, they are advisers to the Minister but as far as legislation acts go, we do these in this House here. It is usually done on the basis of the Minister's recommendation that these acts should be changed and once these acts are passed in this House, they reflect the regulations that are being passed in this House.

So it is really not up to the Denendeh. I thought the Minister only said he gets recommendations from them on tag allocations but now they are into the regulations, changing regulations. Where does this government play a role? Do we have any more roles or are we depending on some other people to tell us what our roles are?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.



Further Return To Question O47-89(1): Lack Of Consistency In Endangered Species Regulations

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is the responsibility of this government to make sure that the acts are reflective of the people of this area. I feel, again, Mr. Speaker, that the best people who could tell me or give me the best advice are the people who are living in the Northwest Territories. At this point these two bodies, I feel, are the best people to advise me what sort of changes are necessary in our regulations or in our acts. Thank you.

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

Question O48-89(1): Denendeh Conservation Board Input

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Renewable Resources. Has the Denendeh Conservation Board recommended to you to cut trails for these buffalo in the Providence area to make it easier for them to get from one prairie to the other?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question O48-89(1): Denendeh Conservation Board Input

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, not to my knowledge.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Pudluk.

Question O49-89(1): Radio-Collared Polar Bears

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wonder why the taller people are given the choice to speak first? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

This is a question to the Minister of Renewable Resources. In the Northwest Territories the polar bears are being studied right now by putting radio collars on them to locate them. There are three questions that I have for the Minister and they are related.

The polar bears that have radio collars, are they not supposed to be killed and do they know where those polar bears are located, the ones with the radio collars? Also, how many polar bears have been radio-collared so far? Last year a hunter found a radio-collared polar bear near Arctic Bay and he did not kill the animal because he figured he was not supposed to kill it. All the radio-collared polar bears are being studied by the wildlife officers when they are close to the communities. Maybe the communities could be informed if there are any polar bears roaming around near the communities with radio collars because the hunters know where those polar bears are that are collared. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Return To Question O49-89(1): Radio-Collared Polar Bears

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all I would like to inform the Member that the location of the radio-collared polar bears is known by the wildlife officers. I will be giving a further reply to the question of the honourable Member for the High Arctic in the near future. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O49-89(1): Radio-Collared Polar Bears

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, a supplementary. I will await your reply to that but I would like to know how long a polar bear can retain that radio collar transmitter around his neck?



MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. That part taken as notice. Mr. Pollard was next.

Question O50-89(1): Changes By Government, Fort Smith

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am a little concerned about the exchange between the Government Leader and Mr. Sibbeston regarding Fort Smith again. I cannot stand idly by, even though it is not my constituency, Mr. Speaker, without asking the Government Leader, has not this government or the previous government hurt Fort Smith enough already? Will the Government Leader make a definitive statement indicating to Fort Smith that it is not going to get worked over again, because as soon as a town hears this kind of talk in the Legislative Assembly people start to lose confidence in that particular community? I would like the Government Leader to say something on that subject please, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Return To Question O50-89(1): Changes By Government, Fort Smith

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I believe I indicated in my response to the MLA from Nahendeh that there are sides to the question. There are other aspects that have to be carefully considered and I will consider those other aspects in consultation with the MLA for the South Slave and community representatives, as well as senior managers who work in that community. I have met with them as well, in recent weeks and received the strong indication of concern from the mayor and the existing civil service that they are concerned that there be no further drastic changes which might undermine confidence in the economy of the community.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to assure the honourable Member that I am well aware of those concerns and this government certainly will not be part of any radical surgery on the community of Fort Smith. Having said that, I do believe that now that the decentralization has been given some time to set, we should be looking at how it is working, particularly with a view to the effectiveness of government programs and services and there may be some fine tuning required.

However, Mr. Speaker, I would like to assure this House that such adjustments would not be major and would not cause significant lack of confidence or adverse effects on any community in the Fort Smith Region.

I think one of the problems that the Member from Nahendeh has hit on is that in considering the decentralization, the previous government did not, in my opinion, adequately address the question of co-ordination between the various area offices and the various decentralized programs of this government in the Fort Smith Region, so it is the issue of co-ordination that has to be addressed and how it can be best handled within that region. I can assure the Member that I will bear those sensitivities in mind as well, very carefully, in making recommendations to cabinet on possible minor adjustments in the decentralization as it has been carried out to date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Pollard.

Supplementary To Question O50-89(1): Changes By Government, Fort Smith

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, Mr. Speaker, I must say that I do not call talking about moving positions from Fort Smith to Yellowknife decentralization, Mr. Speaker. That is centralization as far as I am concerned. I think the Government Leader is off base there. Secondly, Mr. Speaker, the first part of the question was, I asked the Government Leader for a yes or no answer. Have we not already hurt Fort Smith enough? I would like an answer to that question please, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Further Return To Question O50-89(1): Changes By Government, Fort Smith

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to make it very clear to the honourable Member that relocating the regional director is an option only at this point, and I have not completed my consultations and I have not prepared options for cabinet, and it has not been given cabinet consideration. No decisions have been taken, and they will not be taken lightly. To the Member's question, has the town of Fort Smith been worked over enough, I would agree that there is no further need for any major discombobulation with respect to Fort Smith. I will accept the Member's sentiments, and I can assure the Member that this government is committed to the growth and prosperity of that community, and many other communities in the Territories outside the capital. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Government Leader. I would be interested in seeing how the translation of that one was done.

--Laughter

Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: Mr. Speaker, it is a new question, if that is all right, sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pollard, if it is a new question, we go to Mr. Zoe, and then Mr. Ernerk.

Question Period Extended

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I ask my question, may I seek unanimous consent to extend question period?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Zoe, you certainly can. Mr. Zoe has requested unanimous consent to extend question period. Are there any nays? Point of order, Ms Cournoyea.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I will not nay this, but I have about a 20 minute meeting at 11:00 a.m. I will not nay this, if you will allow me to go for about 20 minutes.

--Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister, that is not a point of order. That is your choice. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Question period will be extended. Mr. Zoe.

Question O51-89(1): Arctic Airports

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Government Leader. As the Government Leader is aware, I have been pursuing since the life of this Assembly the question of arctic airports. As the Government Leader is aware of the comments that the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs made yesterday, I would like to ask the Minister what priority is this government placing on the arctic airports issue?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Return To Question O51-89(1): Arctic Airports

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, of the devolution issues that we are dealing with currently, we place the highest priority on the resolution of that airports issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.



MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Government Leader. Supplementary, Mr. Zoe.

Supplementary To Question O51-89(1): Arctic Airports

MR. ZOE: Mr. Speaker, if it is that high a priority, then why is it taking this government so long to resolve this issue? I recall the 10th Assembly trying to resolve this issue, and it is still continuing to this day. When is the government going to get to the point where they resolve this whole issue?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Further Return To Question O51-89(1): Arctic Airports

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, if it were up to this government alone we would have had it resolved long ago. Unfortunately, it takes two to tango, and we have to deal with the federal government. Mr. Wray and I have been working extremely closely and hard on this issue for years, and I agree it has been years and we are as frustrated as anybody else. We flew to Iqaluit when Mr. Crosbie was Minister of Transport, especially to meet with him, with the hope of resolving the issue. We have been bombarding the federal Ministers, including the Prime Minister, with our concern about resolving this issue. I would explain to the Member that it is not quite as simple as our government alone dealing with it. We have to deal with the federal government. In times of federal restraint, it is not an easy problem to solve, but I think Mr. Wray, in his extensive comments yesterday, indicated the work he is doing and the work we plan to do, even within the next few weeks. Perhaps there will be some positive announcements to make, finally, within the course of this Legislature. I know Mr. Wray will be keeping the House informed as developments occur. Thank you.

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

Question O52-89(1): State Of Negotiations With Ottawa

MR. ZOE: Mr. Speaker, when I was in Ottawa about three weeks ago I had the opportunity to talk to some high ranking officials. My information at that time was that the negotiations were coming closer, but according to Mr. Wray's comments yesterday to my question, he indicated that they are not presently negotiating with Ottawa. I would like to know who is correct here, is our government not pursuing negotiations or is it Ottawa that is stalling? It appears to me that our government is the one that is not taking the initiative to pursue this in a vigorous manner. I will direct that to either Mr. Wray or to the Government Leader.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wray.

Return To Question O52-89(1): State Of Negotiations With Ottawa

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you. I do not know what the Member expects. Does he want us to go and hold guns to their heads? We meet with them, we write letters, we telephone them, we threaten, we cajole them. I did not say yesterday that we are not negotiating. I said that the recent letter we received from the federal government is still delinquent on two accounts. They will not talk to us about funding the B and C airports. I made it a stipulation of the devolution that unless the federal government are willing to fund the B and C airports, we will not take responsibility for those runways. Why would we take a program when we do not have any money to run it? That is the problem. It has nothing to do with us. We are contractors right now. All we do is maintain the airstrips on behalf of the federal government. They have the legislative responsibility, they have the financial responsibility, and they have the political responsibility for those runways; not us. If they do not give us the resources to run those airports, then why would we want to take them? The Member is totally incorrect in saying that we are not pursuing it. It has been nothing but a headache for me for the last two years. It is the number one agenda item every time we meet with the federal officials, but if they are unwilling to transfer the resources, what does the Member want us to do? He is totally incorrect in his statements. In fact, I resent



his statements because he knows damn well how hard we have been working on trying to get those airports transferred. So trying to score political points by making statements like that does not advance the cause at all.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Ernerk.

Question O53-89(1): Clarification Of Bowhead Issue

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a clarification with regard to my question yesterday to the Minister of Renewable Resources, Question O7-89(1), when I asked him with regard to the issue of bowhead. I did not ask him anything to do with regard to the narwhaling issue. As a matter of fact, I used the word "arviit", not "tuugaalik" as indicated in the translation of the question. Secondly, Mr. Speaker, could the Minister clarify for this House if, in fact, he meant bowhead and not narwhaling as being prohibited in the NWT?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question O53-89(1): Clarification Of Bowhead Issue

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Yes, Mr. Speaker, that is what I was talking about when I was referring to whales. I was referring to bowheads. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Ernerk.

Supplementary To Question O53-89(1): Clarification Of Bowhead Issue

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday the Minister of Renewable Resources indicated in a further return to Question O7-89(1), that a comprehensive study on bowhead whaling in the communities has been undertaken by the Government of Canada. Could he table this comprehensive report for us to see before we debate the Department of Renewable Resources budget?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question O53-89(1): Clarification Of Bowhead Issue

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, it was mentioned a few minutes ago that there may have been some misinterpretation on the questioning to me and my answer to him yesterday. I spoke in my mother tongue; I did not say there was comprehensive study. There have been studies done on bowhead whales by the federal government and the wildlife services have been involved, and other interested groups. What I can do, Mr. Speaker, is table some of the completed bowhead whale studies that are available to us, done by the Government of Canada and the industry. Thank you.

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

Question O54-89(1): Jurisdiction Of Islands In Hudson Bay

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Government Leader. The islands in Hudson Bay which are under our jurisdiction are currently being worked on. The people from the mainland want to take over those islands. What has happened to date? Have you been told by anyone about the islands and whose jurisdiction they are supposed to be under? Also, how many islands are we going to retain and how many islands are we going to give to the Province of Quebec? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Return To Question O54-89(1): Jurisdiction Of Islands In Hudson Bay

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to assure the honourable Member that no consideration whatsoever is being given to ceding our jurisdiction over the islands in Hudson Bay which are part of the NWT, to Quebec or any other province. It is out of the question and not being considered at all. Mr. Speaker, having said that, I would point out that there have been negotiations going on between the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut and the James Bay Cree and the Inuit of Nouveau Quebec about the sharing of jurisdiction respecting land claims matters, such as how the wildlife management regimes will integrate.

I believe that there have been tentative agreements reached between TFN and Makivik similar to the sorts of discussions that are going on between the Dene/Metis and the TFN with regard to the western side of the TFN land claims boundary. Otherwise, Mr. Speaker, there is no consideration being given to any adjustments of jurisdiction that I am aware of. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Government Leader. Mr. Lewis was next.

Question O55-89(1): Implementation Of Native Employment Policy

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Government Leader. Yesterday we were given a document, the Public Service Act, and by his own admission the Government Leader has indicated that there are problems and that it would not matter who was Minister of the Department of Personnel, it would be so difficult as to be almost impossible. Given that background, Mr. Speaker, is the Government Leader satisfied with the implementation of the native employment policy that really is done within the confines of this act? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Return To Question O55-89(1): Implementation Of Native Employment Policy

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, while I think we have made great goals, made great progress toward achieving the goals of the native employment policy, I would say no, that we are not completely satisfied with the progress to date. There is always room for more improvement. I would point out, Mr. Speaker, that the native employment policy is not enshrined or expressed in the Public Service Act. In fact it is a policy of the government which does not depend on the Public Service Act for its existence.

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

Supplementary To Question O55-89(1): Implementation Of Native Employment Policy

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, since this is a personnel issue and all issues relating to personnel must be consistent with our Public Service Act, then surely any Personnel policy must come under that act.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Lewis, that is not a point of order. That was a supplementary question, I think. Mr. Government Leader.

Further Return To Question O55-89(1): Implementation Of Native Employment Policy

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I agree that the policy is related to the act and must be consistent with the act but I would respectfully disagree with the Member's statement that it is to be delivered through the act. Mr. Speaker, there are improvements that can be made in our affirmative action program and the Minister of Personnel has been reviewing the policy and looking at ways in which it can be strengthened and enhanced so as to meet its most worthwhile goals. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Lewis.



Supplementary To Question O55-89(1): Implementation Of Native Employment Policy

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, I was not satisfied with any of the answers that I got yesterday so I intend to pursue two more of them again in a supplementary form. First of all, again to the Government Leader, Mr. Speaker. How is the government going to be able to carry on an appeals process when in fact the party that has to be nominated by the UNW will not be part of that process? I understand from the statement made yesterday that there will be no change to the regulations and as a result, whatever we do is going to be inconsistent with those regulations. So I am asking the Government Leader, how can the process continue if, in fact, we do not have a committee that is formed under those regulations?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Further Return To Question O55-89(1): Implementation Of Native Employment Policy

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, if we do not have a committee properly formed under those regulations, it is not by virtue of any actions taken or not taken by this government. It is by a unilateral decision of the Union of Northern Workers to opt out of a process which is set up to protect their workers and, Mr. Speaker, there is no provision in the regulations to permit the opting out by the employees' representative of the appeal process. This is an action they have taken unto themselves and I do not think it is at all fair to blame the government for not doing our part to make this appeal process work if in fact a party has for reasons of their own unilaterally decided to opt out.

Further, Mr. Speaker, I would like to point out that the Union of Northern Workers has expressed a concern, which I do not agree with, but they have nonetheless expressed a concern that the Minister of Personnel has not been discharging her duties properly in how she has handled certain appeals recently. So what we said to the Union of Northern Workers through this statement yesterday is we are willing to provide additional safeguards of full cabinet review so that you will have confidence that the process will be fairly and fully considered by all eight Members of cabinet. I sincerely hope, Mr. Speaker, that in the interests of the full access of members to their full rights under the Public Service Act, including the right to appeal a competition, that the Union of Northern Workers will reconsider their stand and start participating in a process which is fundamentally designed to advance and protect the rights of their members. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Lewis.

Supplementary To Question O55-89(1): Implementation Of Native Employment Policy

MR. LEWIS: I am assuming then, Mr. Speaker, that there is a new policy now, that this document represents a policy statement of the government. My final supplementary to the Government Leader is this, Mr. Speaker, and this is the most Machiavellian clause of all in this document, that if the Minister cannot accept the unanimous decision of this committee, which will be incomplete anyway, that it will go to the cabinet for a final decision. My question is, is it the intention of this clause to force the Minister of Personnel to take that unanimous decision as final, or is it an attempt to undermine that Minister by bringing her own decision to a cabinet of which she is a part and, as such, she has to share in a decision to overrule her own decision?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: You do not have to yell either.

--Laughter



Further Return To Question O55-89(1): Implementation Of Native Employment Policy

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: The sound system is quite adequate, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Member is trying to get me to agree that somehow the Minister of Personnel has been put into a difficult situation of having to make a difficult choice. I agree it is a difficult job and on personnel matters there will always be some controversy. You cannot ever hire all the people that apply for a job. I wish we could. Then no one would be unhappy.

However, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Personnel will review the circumstances of each case which is brought on appeal, with advice from her department, and she will have the option of accepting the unanimous recommendations which, I indicated yesterday, has happened 72 out of the 75 times that this issue has come up since 1986. That is the usual case, that is the routine case, and if for some reason -- and it is within her power and authority under the Public Service Act -- the Minister decides that there has been something overlooked by the appeal committee, then she will have the option to recommend the overturning of that recommendation even if it is a unanimous recommendation. I do not think she is put in a difficult position having to take that to cabinet. It happens all the time. Ministers take sole service contracts occasionally to cabinet; Ministers review tenders with a view to awarding to other than the lowest bid, which is often a controversial decision. The difficult decisions are left to cabinet, Mr. Speaker. The easy ones are dealt with in the field. So I do not think it is at all unusual or distressing or surprising that the Minister should have a difficult decision and that from time to time the cabinet should have a difficult decision. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Government Leader. Next on the list is Mr. Nerysoo.

Question O56-89(1): Policy On Decentralization

MR. NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I cannot resist the opportunity to ask a question. This is a question directed to the Government Leader. In reviewing the issue of decentralization, are the Government Leader and the Executive Council considering developing a clear policy on decentralization, because to date there is no clear policy? There was an Executive decision within the last three years but there is no policy. I would ask if, in terms of applying a decentralization process to other regions, we will be able to judge for ourselves whether or not there are certain rules that will be applied and whether or not such rules will be applicable to every region.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question O56-89(1): Policy On Decentralization

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, in previous sessions of this Legislature, when asked about this issue, I have explained that the government policy on government organization does touch on the issue of decentralization and it contains some direction for cabinet to consider with respect to government organization which touches on the issue of decentralization and community-based delivery.

However, Mr. Speaker, I did state that and make a commitment to the Legislature that the government organization policy should be refined to provide a more complete set of guidelines on which decentralization decisions can be based and evaluated.

I also agreed that I would provide information on any new policies or approaches to decentralization which were developed by cabinet and as Members may know, and I hope I am not re-covering too much background, we discussed the issue of decentralization at the Brabant strategy session this past summer and concluded that major changes to the system cannot be made as far as government organization is concerned until key decisions have been made about the evolution of public government in the NWT. I hope we will have some of those discussions in the context of our political and constitutional development paper this session.



In the meantime, cabinet has determined there are certain steps which could be taken at once. Growth at headquarters has been limited. A carefully measured approach to the placement of government operations has been adopted. I can inform the Member, to get to your question, that we have reviewed and amended the government organization policy to provide a comprehensive basis for the decentralized delivery of GNWT programs and services and a consistent approach for initiating future decentralization actions as they arise. I am prepared to table the amended policy. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Morin is next.

Question O57-89(1): Hanging Ice Bison Ranch, Fort Smith

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am going to take a chance and ask the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism a question.

--Laughter

What is the status of the Hanging Ice Bison Ranch in Fort Smith?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wray.

Return To Question O57-89(1): Hanging Ice Bison Ranch, Fort Smith

HON. GORDON WRAY: The matter of the Hanging Ice Bison Ranch will be going to cabinet within the next week or the week after for a cabinet decision.

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

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was going to ask a question of the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, sir, but having seen his response to Mr. Zoe I just hope he is going to be as feisty with the federal government as he was with Mr. Zoe.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. POLLARD: So new topic, new Minister, the Minister of Social Services, Mr. Speaker, if I might. This is concerning day-care. I wonder if the Minister could advise the House when she intends to bring forward the policy or a hopeful policy on day-care...

MR. NERYSOO: Point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Point Of Order

MR. NERYSOO: I will do this until we clarify this issue of passing messages again and I will do it to rectify the situation of making sure that messages are not passed over the ropes. There is a gate here which we are supposed to be using. I would ask that you ensure that that is carried out.

Speaker's Ruling

MR. SPEAKER: The rule on the passing of notes according to our rule book is quite clear. The Rules state that all notes must be passed through a Page. It does not state anything about where the Page has to take them, through the gate or wherever. The note must be passed through a Page and the Chair will ask all Members to observe that. Mr. Pollard, you had the floor.

Question O58-89(1): Policy On Day-Care

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was asking the Minister of Social Services when she intends to bring to the House the policy on day-care, the guidelines and so on and so forth, that everybody in the NWT is hoping is going to address their concerns. I am not asking for any monetary issues here, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.

Return To Question O58-89(1): Policy On Day-Care

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will try to answer the question without yelling. Mr. Speaker, I do intend to bring forth the guidelines and announce the guidelines and the program we will have in place. I will be happy to advise the Member that the guidelines will be announced on February 14th, Valentine's Day, immediately after the Budget Address is given in the House. So I ask the Member to bear with me for a couple more days and at the same time welcome the public to be able to take advantage of that particular date to listen to the guidelines of our day-care program. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. Oral questions. That concludes Item 5 for today. The House will recess for coffee.

---SHORT RECESS



DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Gargan): We are on Item 6, written questions. Mr. Nerysoo.

ITEM 6: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question W1-89(1): WCB Employee Layoffs

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a written question to the Minister responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board. Would the Minister look into the recent layoffs that have been carried out by the WCB and report her findings to this House including reasons why these layoffs have taken place and why particular positions were identified for layoff? And further, would the Minister table the audit report conducted on the WCB within the last three years, during this session?

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

Question W2-89(1): Denendeh Conservation Board

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a written question to the Minister of Renewable Resources. Would the Minister provide an outline of the terms of reference and responsibilities of the Denendeh Conservation Board? Would the Minister include a clarification of the relationship of the Denendeh Conservation Board to the hunters and trappers associations and the band councils, the process of appointment, tenure of appointment and the names of board members?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Item 6, written questions. Are there any further written questions?

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

ITEM 8: REPLIES TO OPENING ADDRESS

Mr. Patterson's Reply

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It gives me great pleasure to have this opportunity to make a reply to the Commissioner's Opening Address on behalf of my constituents in Iqaluit.

Mr. Speaker, Iqaluit is a very rapidly growing community. Although the census population from the 1986 census lists the population as 2947, I believe there are many more people in Iqaluit than that. There were over 144 ratepayers who voted in the last plebiscite. Last year alone there were 42 residential building permits issued and 11 residential additions; this in addition to the 17 Housing Corporation units built. There are now a total of 30.5 kilometres of primary and secondary roads in Iqaluit and would you believe, for an island community without any highways, would you believe there are an astonishing 908 vehicles registered in the community of Iqaluit including taxis, trucks and cars.

Mr. Speaker, this phenomenal growth indicates to me that our population has gone well over 3000 and I would not be very surprised if in fact, the population was closer to 3500 or even more at this particular date.

Mr. Speaker, Iqaluit is a multicultural community and it is a multicultural community which lives in harmony. There are three working languages used, French, English and of course, Inuktitut. The new council of Iqaluit includes five Inuit and four non-Inuit members. It includes young and older counsellors, women and men, and it includes people who speak all of the three official languages of Iqaluit. I would like to pledge my support to the new council, elected just this past year, to work together with them on the problems of our very fast-growing, multicultural community.



### Co-operation In Community

I think we should be proud of our multicultural character. Our school teaches students in three first languages and we have a sense of co-operation and a spirit of good will in our community which I think we should celebrate. An example of this spirit of good will, Mr. Speaker, is that the Royal Canadian Legion has built an air cadet hall for the air cadet squadron in Iqaluit and they have also committed substantial sums of money to an elders centre, completely voluntarily financed, which will be opening later this month. There are also a number of very active service clubs and other volunteers in Iqaluit.

We also live in a very beautiful and rich part of Baffin Island with shrimp, other fish resources, caribou, seal, whales, good soapstone for carving and in fact, good carvers. I would like to mention particularly, Mr. Speaker, the work of the Francophone Cultural Association of Iqaluit. They have put enormous effort into completely refurbishing the interior of a former Butler building in which they propose to celebrate and share the multicultural richness of our community. They hope to use this refurbished building as a day-care centre during the day.

The project of refurbishing this building and creating a cultural centre out of it was made possible by the kind assistance of the Secretary of State, the Hon. Lucien Bouchard and his predecessor, the Hon. David Crombie. I may say, it was also assisted a lot in many ways, by the Bell Canada strike. That was one positive aspect of the Bell Canada strike although I know it wreaked hardships on the striking employees. The cultural centre project acquired a lot of free labour at that time for the price of materials. And you should see the wiring and the lighting and the phone system in that place. I look forward to seeing it open in the coming year.

Mr. Speaker, the town of Iqaluit is very interested in and concerned about recreation. There are 11 amateur hockey teams in Iqaluit with over 140 players. There are another five teams including one called "hoser hockey", which involve a total of around 300 people. All this takes place in an arena which is undersized in terms of ice surface and which is unheated. Mr. Speaker, there is a tremendous need for new recreation facilities and additional recreation facilities in our growing community.

I asked Mr. Claude McDonald, the president of the Iqaluit curling club, to give me a little bit of a history of curling in Iqaluit. With your leave I would like to outline this history because it indicates the struggles and the challenges that face us in developing recreation facilities in our community. Curling started in 1961 in Iqaluit with a group of curlers like most others in Canada, Mr. McDonald says, people who enjoy one of the greatest, grandest sports in the western world. But curlers in Iqaluit have hung onto their game through some most unusual and unkind conditions. In 1974 the Frobisher Bay curling club was struck by fire. The curlers banded together and rebuilt enough of the building to keep going. They curled on natural ice in temperatures that were often well below the minus 30s and 40s outside. Inside, through most of the season, you had to keep your parka on in the lounge. Curlers also, perhaps symbolically, shared their facility with the dog pound. Many nights, when you threw a rock down the ice, it would set off the most awful howl from the inmates of the pound. There was only a false wall between the playing area and the dog cages. There was no insulation on the walls. The wind blew a drift in the side door, and when the sun started coming back with warmth in early March the roof leaked rows and rows of little humps that required a whole new strategy in curling. Yet each season, Mr. Speaker, at least 50 brave souls came out night after night for regular league play, and on weekends for bonspiels. And if that was not enough, Mr. Speaker, as Mr. McDonald says, two years ago the town of Iqaluit closed the curling rink, which was built in an old Butler building, and then tore it down with promises that a new facility would be started the following year. Unfortunately, no new facility has been built. Nothing has even been started, and yet curling has not folded in Iqaluit. Last year's curlers waited until the hockey season was over before laying in two sheets in the arena. They curled for a month and a half before good weather ended the season. In the fall of 1988 curlers once again came out, 14 teams, to play their sport.



### Curling Facility Required

Mr. McDonald points out that curling is a game which can be enjoyed by everyone from teenagers to elders. You can enjoy the competitive side of the sport, or you can be a social curler and come out for the exercise and the camaraderie. Competitive curling requires a great deal of skill, concentration and physical exactitude, but curling can also be just a great way to spend an evening with friends. Curling does not require size or weight. The game does demand that you respect other people. Curling can be played in Inuktitut, French and English and sometimes all three at once. There are no referees or penalties in curling. The game depends on the honesty of its participants. Curling is, relatively speaking, an inexpensive sport in which to participate. The ice and the rocks are already there. All the curler requires is warm clothing, a clean pair of shoes and a broom. More people would play the sport if there was a proper facility. Students at the high school could form an intramural league. Young people from Iqaluit could work towards challenging in the Arctic Winter Games, and people from other communities on Baffin Island -- and some of them now have curling rinks, fortunately -- could come together to compete in bonspiels, whether in Iqaluit or one of the other several communities that has a proper facility. Curlers from other parts of the country could also come north for a bonspiel.

Building a proper facility and maintaining it will not be cheap. It will require the commitment of the community, and most importantly the commitment of the curlers. A proper facility should have artificial ice, possible given that the basic equipment exists for the arena; and both the lounge and the playing area, ideally, should be heated. Correct maintenance of the ice surface is also critical to the game.

Mr. Speaker, it would not be impossible to have a good curling facility in Iqaluit. The benefits of having one are excellent and long-term. Mr. McDonald, on behalf of the Iqaluit curling club, tells me that they feel it is a real shame that a community as large as Iqaluit does not have a curling rink. To be fair, he says, curlers may be in part responsible. They have not lobbied well with local and territorial politicians. There have not been any curling aficionados elected to council. Most of the lobbying and hard organizational work has been done by people involved in hockey. More power to them. But the time has also come to bring a curling facility back to Iqaluit. If we can give curlers a home, we will see more happy people involved each year and a happier and healthier community.

Mr. Speaker, things are happening. A private developer has made a proposal, in fact, just last week to build a curling rink in Iqaluit, but the new town council is also reviewing the plans for the proposed recreation centre with a view to reducing costs. Mr. Wray has promised to organize workshops for ratepayers to explain, among other things, that the burden for new recreation facilities is not entirely on ratepayers. It would also be shared with governments which pay grants in lieu of taxes. Some explaining will be needed to provide assurance to the ratepayers of Iqaluit, Mr. Speaker. They are not against recreation, I am sure, but they were very worried last fall when told that if they voted for a debenture toward the recreation complex, their taxes could go up by between 20 to 40 per cent. So phase one of the proposed recreation complex was defeated 113 to 19, and phase two was defeated 126 to 18.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that these problems can be resolved and I would like to express my appreciation to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, who recently committed to the town of Iqaluit that notwithstanding these setbacks recently, he would be committed to carrying over the GNWT contribution of approximately \$1.5 million toward the recreation facilities in the community. I am also grateful that Municipal and Community Affairs has offered assistance to the town to scrutinize the design with a view to reducing costs, and I would like to thank the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs for taking the time to visit Iqaluit in January and meet with the town council to discuss their most important recreation plans.

### Assistance For Hunters And Trappers

Mr. Speaker, there are other needs in my constituency I would like to mention. We have a very large group of hunters in Iqaluit who depend on the waters of the bay, particularly for food for



their families, and sometimes the hunters think that a lot of things are done for the people who live in town but not enough is done for the hunters. The hunters of Iqaluit are particularly concerned about improving access to the beach. With our extremely high tides and very long foreshore, this is a major problem that I have spoken about before in this Legislature. I would like to acknowledge my delight with the completion in 1987, of phase one of a project to dig a trench to improve the low tide access to the beach. This project was a great success and provided a lot of assistance to people, particularly those using small boats who come in at odd hours or in the wrong time as far as the tide is concerned, so that they can arrive or leave the community several hours in advance of the tide and also have a safer place in which to land their vessels.

The first phase of the trench was a success but we would now like to see phase two worked on. The hunters and trappers association of Iqaluit would like to see a breakwater developed. They would like to see the trench improved. They would like to see proper road access. I would like to see some of the costs shared with the small crafts harbours program of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, which as far as I know has never spent any money in the Northwest Territories.

So, Mr. Speaker, in addition to what can be accessed through the community docks program of this government, I would hope that we can persuade the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans to apply the small crafts harbours program in my constituency but also in other communities in the Northwest Territories who have needs for improving docks and docking facilities and harbour facilities in their communities. I think we should all work on seeing this national program also applied to the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Speaker, day-care is a concern in the community of Iqaluit. There are only three small facilities, two of which are home care type of facilities, in this rapidly growing community. The Iqaluit Child Care Association and the Iqaluit multicultural day-care proposal are in hand and have been developed to provide additional day-care facilities in the community. Those constituent organizations are very interested in obtaining some assistance in addition to what they can do locally through the new policy of the honourable Minister of Social Services so that they can get these much-needed facilities going as soon as possible.

#### Need For Housing

Mr. Speaker, housing has also been raised as a very strong concern in my constituency. I had a constituency meeting just before this session began and I would say that housing was one of the strongest concerns raised at that meeting and I promised to mention it in the Legislature. In fact, Mr. Speaker, there are three families living outside in shacks on the beach of Iqaluit even today, as I speak, where the temperature is 40 degrees below, Celsius, in that community.

Mr. Speaker, with a rapidly growing community, I know there are no easy solutions and I told my constituents there are going to be no quick solutions to the problem of housing in our community and in many other rapidly growing communities in the Eastern Arctic. We need to review the eligibility for the HAP program because there are people who want to build houses who have been discouraged by the guidelines and wish more flexibility and I know the Minister of Housing is aware of this demand from many other quarters. I think we also need to consider providing some extra assistance to people to build their own homes where they have the income, where they are willing, but they cannot get CMHC or bank financing. In my constituency, even though there is a bank there, there are sometimes barriers to people building their own homes through the conservative lending policies of that particular financial institution. Perhaps there is room for some kind of assistance or some kind of loan or mortgage program on the part of our government to pick up the slack where banks cannot quite go far enough.

I am also very encouraged that senior citizen housing is planned. It will help the housing situation somewhat and I would like to express my gratitude to the Minister of Social Services for the support being given to the elders association of Iqaluit and their president, Mr. Akeeshook Joamie, to participate in careful planning for this facility. I am grateful that Mr. Joamie and other



members of the executive of the elders association have had the opportunity to travel to some other locations in the Northwest Territories and even in Canada to look at how elders housing is built with a view to providing the very best design for the particular needs of the elders in Iqaluit.

#### Youth Problems

Mr. Speaker, at the constituency meeting I held just this past weekend, there was a lot of concern expressed about the Ukkivik Residence and about the problems of young people in general. Mr. Arlooktoo mentioned this earlier in this session and I would like to say that my constituents, too, are profoundly concerned about some young people who are so desperate in our communities. I think it is time that we tried to deal seriously with problems like substance abuse and I know that counselling and mental health are the strong priority of the Baffin Regional Health Board. Support of that kind is viewed as critical in my constituency and throughout the Baffin Region to try to avert the social tragedies that occur when young people feel that there is no more support for them in their community.

Mr. Speaker, while I mention the Ukkivik Residence, I would like to thank Mr. Kakfwi for having come over to Iqaluit in connection with the opening of the new administration building for Nunatta Campus in Iqaluit last fall. I would like to particularly thank him for acting so fast after his visit to the Ukkivik Residence with me and some other students and staff last fall. When we were there students asked for changes so that they would not have to share floors with older college students and also for new furniture. When I was there just last week, Mr. Speaker, I was very pleased to see that prompt action has been taken, that new walls are already in place and new furniture is on the way. I think while there are other needs that our young people have, needs for perhaps additional counselling support, I think that these changes that have been made in the physical aspects of the facilities are appreciated and show the young people that we do care about the circumstances in which they live while attending school.

Mr. Speaker, there is a concern about alcohol and alcohol control and as well, about the abuse of drugs and substances in my constituency. I would like to inform the Legislature that there was a major plebiscite held in December of 1988 on the question of liquor licensing. The question was asked, in so many words, are you in favour of additional liquor licences being granted in Iqaluit. Mr. Speaker, the answer was quite a decisive "No." Some 476 people voted "no" and only 232 people voted "yes". Mr. Speaker, I believe that these decisive results reflect a concern in our community over the control and regulation of licensed premises in Iqaluit.

There is an ongoing concern about issues like overserving in licensed premises in Iqaluit. Now, Mr. Speaker, the walk-throughs by the RCMP, which I believe have been encouraged and initiated as a result of recommendations by our Minister of Justice, Mr. Ballantyne, those walk-throughs in the licensed premises are helping somewhat. But many constituents are concerned that part-time liquor inspectors are not the answer for the proper independent scrutiny that is required to make sure licensed premises are living up to their responsibilities. That is an issue that my constituents would like to see addressed.

It has been a long-standing issue and I know there are major cost implications, Mr. Speaker, but I am advised that this is a concern that will have to be resolved before anyone will consider expanding the licensed premises in our community. I think that is why many people voted against additional licences. It is not that they do not accept the principle that it would be nice to have perhaps a discotheque for young people or some of the other opportunities that may be presented through licensed premises but I think people are saying until there are proper full-time, independent inspectors rather than the part-time inspectors that we are relying on, who are hard to find; until there are proper inspection services, people are just not confident enough to say we can stand the pressure of more licensed premises in the community.

#### Alcohol And Drug Rehabilitation Centre

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to briefly mention an important project which is under way. It is really for the Baffin Region although it will be located in Iqaluit and that is the Tuvvik plan to build



an alcohol and drug rehabilitation centre to serve people of the Eastern Arctic communities who need special help with alcohol or drug abuse problems. The Tuvvik group in Iqaluit in conjunction with the Baffin Regional Alcohol and Drug Information Committee, Mr. Speaker, are working very hard toward this project. They are raising money locally and I would like to -- I have said some harsh words about the Frobisher Inn over the years but in my comments at this particular opportunity in replies to the Commissioner's Opening Address, I would like to commend the Frobisher Inn, Mr. Speaker, for having committed to providing five cents for every can of beer sold in their premises in the Frobisher Inn in Iqaluit toward the new Tuvvik alcohol and drug centre. I would like to report to you that at five cents a can the formula is earning the Tuvvik alcohol and drug centre up to \$2500 to \$3000 per month. That is how much beer is drunk in the Frobisher Inn in Iqaluit but I am happy that it is being put toward a good cause and that this will be the community's contribution through the Frobisher Inn to the total cost of some three million dollars which is required to build this alcohol and drug rehabilitation centre. I would like to thank the Minister of Social Services for her commitment to this project and some credit as well should go to the National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program which has contributed substantial capital funds toward this being realized. I think it will be an important asset to us as we tackle some of the profound social problems that are besetting my constituency and other communities in the region.

#### Appreciation Of Commissioner's Dedicated Service

Mr. Speaker, I would like to close these brief remarks by saying a few words following the announcement from Commissioner Parker that he would be leaving his office after some 22 years of dedicated public service in the NWT.

I have had the privilege now of working very closely with Mr. Parker since I joined the Executive Council of this government some nine years ago and I have gotten to know him both as a public servant and as a participant in decision-making at the executive level, but also as a friend and recently as a neighbour. He is a prudent and thrifty man who is known for his fairness. He has got a very good sense of humour. He is a very good gardener. He is not a bad fisherman.

--Laughter

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Oh, that is not fair. What do you mean?

AN HON. MEMBER: He does not catch any.

--Laughter

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Well perhaps, Mr. Speaker, I am a bit jealous of Mr. Parker's fishing ability. He has been known to catch some decent fish. He knows the land from having walked and flown and worked on a lot of it. I believe he is a very wise man. He has been very, very supportive of the growth in power of elected representatives and I think he has taught those of us who have been privileged to work with him an enormous amount about the art of good government. He has very quietly been making an enormous contribution in steering the path for surrendering the reins of power to the elected representatives of the people. I think when the recent chapters in our constitutional history are written, this will be the era when the shackles were finally sprung and northern self-government was born.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Parker will be remembered as a great man in the political and constitutional history of the NWT.

Mr. Speaker, on a more personal note, I wanted to say that I have had the pleasure in the last year or so, since my family and I have moved to Yellowknife, of having had John and Helen Parker as neighbours. I can tell you that they are great neighbours. This is the kind of neighbour who stakes and ties your tomato plants for you when you are out of town. Helen is the kind of



neighbour who has a hot casserole delivered by John from across the lane on the first night you move in with a tired and hungry family. I guess only John Parker knows how many times I have gone across that lane and had tea with him on a Saturday afternoon to get some sage, sound and free advice on some of the problems that have arisen and the challenges that have arisen in this last fairly tumultuous year in terms of political change and development in the NWT. I want to say that if our government has made accomplishments and weathered some storms, it has been with the enormous help and support of John Parker. He has taught me a lot about stewardship, about discharging the enormous responsibility of trying to manage public funds for the best good of all the people, and in the process I have developed a real good friend as well.

So Mr. Speaker, I would like to concur with the remarks of Mr. Lewis today, and other remarks in this vein I know will be provided by other honourable Members in what I guess will be the last session that John Parker will be delivering the Commissioner's Opening Address. I would like to say that he is a great man and a good friend and that I agree, we should look for a proper way to celebrate his departure and give recognition to such a good friend and such a beloved couple of the people of the NWT. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. At this time the Chair would like to recognize in the gallery, the Hon. Peter Lougheed.

---Applause

I understand that Mr. Lougheed will be here after the session to meet with Members, so he will be available. Item 8, replies to Opening Address.

Item 9, petitions.

Item 10, reports of standing and special committees.

MR. SPEAKER: We are on Item 10, reports of standing and special committees. Item 11, tabling of documents. Mr. Gargan.

#### ITEM 11: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to table Tabled Document 15-89(1), a document on the news release on the wood bison tags available. And Tabled Document 16-89(1), a document on Motion 7-88-4 which was passed by the Denendeh Conservation Board on July 11, 1988. The reason for tabling these documents, Mr. Speaker, is that in my opinion the Minister misled this House on thinking that he has been following what recommendations have been given by this particular board.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Tabling of documents. Mr. Arlooktoo.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 17-89(1), a document on the shortage of housing for school teachers in Cape Dorset. This is entitled, "Housing Needs for Teachers in Cape Dorset". And Tabled Document 18-89(1), a document coming from the education council in Lake Harbour and it is also dealing with the same subject, housing needs for school teachers in the communities. I wish to table a third tabled document, Tabled Document 19-89(1), a document on the development of an Inuit school curriculum and the lack of funding. Only \$75 per child is allocated and they want that to be increased to \$200. Thank you.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table three documents addressed to myself as the MLA for Aivilik: from Mr. Ron Brown, Tabled Document 20-89(1), comparing

unemployment insurance benefits between the Province of Newfoundland and the Northwest Territories. I think the basic question here, Mr. Speaker, is why do we not get the same unemployment insurance benefits as those of Newfoundland and the Maritime people, especially in the Eastern Arctic? I am pleased to table two other letters addressed to myself, one dated February 8, 1988, and I apologize for tabling them late, exactly one year, but I think it is not too late. Tabled Document 21-89(1) is from Nanasee Onalik, aged 10, in grade five then, who is very concerned about the cruise missile testing in the NWT and she would like to see it stopped. Tabled Document 22-89(1) is from Jimi Onalik of Rankin Inlet, whose concern is for the environment, as well as F-18s that will probably be flying around Rankin Inlet once the airstrip in Rankin Inlet is extended. He is very concerned about the possible damage to the environment and the noise that will be caused by these very loud airplanes. Thank you.

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

Item 12, notices of motion.

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

Item 14, motions.

Item 15, first reading of bills.

Item 16, second reading of bills. Item 17, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Bill 2-89(1), Electoral District Boundaries Commission Act, with Mr. Angottitauruq in the chair.

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

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 2-89(1), ELECTORAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES COMMISSION ACT

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): The committee will now come to order. We left off yesterday with Bill 2-89(1), and we are dealing with an amendment to the committee motion. Does the committee agree that the Minister bring in his witnesses?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): We will deal with Mr. Pudluk's motion to amend a motion when the witnesses come into the committee. Mr. Minister, would you like to introduce your witnesses for the record?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Chairman, the committee is dealing with this particular bill in a slightly different fashion. I think it was agreed that the Minister would take the bill through the formal part of first, second and third readings in the House. Then there would just be the witnesses, and I will name the witnesses. Mr. Hamilton is the Clerk and Ms Bentivegna is legal counsel, and they will be here to answer questions of a legal nature for any of the Members. We will deal with this as an Assembly, rather than as a government bill. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Pudluk, would you like to read your amendment?

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This one was my amendment to the amendment. I move that the committee motion be amended by deleting the word "two" in line four and substituting it with the word "four". I hope my colleague from Hay River understands it now. That is my amendment to the amendment. Thank you.



CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Pudluk, your amendment is in order. To the amendment. Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Could we have that amendment written down? Is this new? The same one? Okay. Then we are talking about the amendment that deals with the two to four. I have a couple of comments I would like to make on that. I think I understand the feeling why the extra two members are being proposed. I can sympathize with that feeling, but I am a little bit worried about some of the problems that it might cause us when we actually have to choose these people. When we get to the other part of the amendment about who the chairman should be, I have some comments to make on that too.

### Three Member Board

On this one, I think this Assembly is going to have a very tough time even agreeing on two, and I think that if we open it up to four, we could sit in this Assembly probably for weeks trying to decide among ourselves who those four people should be. To me, I would like to keep this as simple as possible, on one side for the choosing part of the equation, but on the other side, the deliberation side, I think that for something like this a three member board is more manageable and more efficient going around to the communities. I think they could come up with a better report, so reluctantly I am going to vote against this amendment. I think that a three person board is enough to be able to do the job. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): To the amendment. Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, I have a question about the vote on the amendment to the amendment dealing with the number of persons to be increased on the committee from two to four. If this second amendment is made and passed, will it, in fact -- if the vote is a negative vote to deletion of the word "judge" -- if that is killed, will the request for the four members to the committee be dead as well? After consultation and a lot of thought, I originally was in favour of a larger number of people on this committee because I feel it is important. It is particularly important to Yellowknife South. I realize that we have a very large population that I am representing, and we need to have a decision made that will deal with the question of division of Yellowknife South, and an additional fourth seat. I feel that if we have more people on this board we will give a better representation for the North. The North can make this decision. I am scared, though, that we will lose this opportunity to increase the committee numbers because of the first portion of the amendment which, in fact, will change it from a judge to a non -- just removing the word "judge". That was my question, and I think maybe I have answered it myself.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Does anyone have an answer? Mr. Hamilton.

### Effect Of Defeating Amendment To Motion To Amend

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Excuse me, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Whitford's question was, if this amendment was defeated, would it have an effect on the main motion, which is to amend? No, it would have no effect. The main motion would still stand as is, with two persons and a chairperson. Even if this motion is defeated, the main motion would remain as is.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That explains that part of it now. I guess I had another question that would try to resolve this issue. Can we introduce then, if in fact the first motion is defeated, reintroduce an amendment to the section that says the committee will consist of two members? Can we introduce another motion, by itself, that would increase the number to four?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Yes.



MR. WHITFORD: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): To the amendment. Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the amendment to the main motion on the floor, I will be in support of it, basically in increasing the membership from three to five, but I have reservations as to support of the main motion; but for this amendment to the main motion I will be in support. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): To the amendment. Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to remind Members that the last electoral boundaries commission was composed of three people. There was a person from the West, Jim Antoine, a person from the East, David Alagalak and a judge who was chairman. It was easy for them to travel; it was easy for them to make decisions. They held hearings and had their own transportation with relative ease. They had hearings in all communities of the NWT who wished them to attend, in a relatively short space of time. One of the reasons they were able to do such a lot of work in such a short time was it was simple. There were only three members of the commission and a small core staff.

#### Enlarging Commission Complicates Work

I think, Mr. Chairman, if we are going to complicate things by enlarging the commission to five, we are going to complicate the work, lengthen the time it takes them to do the report and probably complicate the recommendations that are given to our Legislature. I think we should remember, Mr. Chairman, that once we get the report, of course, we can revise it or deal with it as we see fit. But I think that investing in the best people and in the simple process in this commission could save the Legislative Assembly an awful lot of work. I think they can do important analysis of the population trends. They can do an important job in community consultation and I do not think that enlarging the number of commission members is going to encourage them to do any better a job in listening to the people of your community or mine in getting their views taken down and in consideration of those views. In fact, I think a smaller commission can do a better job in that respect in many ways than a larger commission.

As far as the recommendations are concerned, Mr. Chairman, I think if you have four or five people involved in a decision it is going to become more complicated. You are going to have the distinct possibility of dissenting recommendations and all those complications which come when you enlarge the size of the committee. Mr. Chairman, I am strongly in favour of keeping it very simple. I think we should have one person from the East, one person from the West -- and I would hope that they could be respected elders -- and a chairman. I think the simpler it is, the easier it is going to be for them to do a fast and good job and the easier it is going to be for the Legislature to consider the report and do their work. Small is beautiful, they say, so let us keep it small, let us keep it simple and let us keep it -- and I am not trying to flatter Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Chairman, or Mr. Ernerk.

---Laughter

Small can be ugly too, Mr. Chairman. At any rate I just lost those votes I gained a minute ago.

---Laughter

Mr. Chairman, in closing I would say the "kiss" principle should apply here. Keep it simple, stupid as they say, keep it small and efficient, one from the East, one from the West and a chairman and then we can deal with it as an Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): To the amendment. Mr. Wray.



HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am going to try something here that was done, if I remember correctly, several years ago and ask that the motion be split. I do not know how I do it, through a point of order or if I have to make a motion, but the motion and the amendment deal with two separate issues within the legislation. It deals with the membership of the committee through subsection (2), and subsection (3) which deals with the chairperson. So there are two separate issues. I would ask that the motion be split so that we can deal with both of the issues separately. I am not quite sure how we go about doing that. I know that we can split motions, but I do not know how to do it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Hamilton. Okay. I guess you have to vote to the amendment first before any other things are done here. So I think we will take it a step at a time. To the amendment. Mr. Pudluk.

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

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I withdraw my amendment to the amendment. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Mr. Pudluk withdraws his amendment and now we are back to the main motion. Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Point of order, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, you have already ruled that the main motion and also the amendment to the main motion are in order. Now I realize what Mr. Wray is getting at but I feel that it has got to proceed in a manner that we already ruled on because it is dealing with section 2, which comprises the two components, so that your ruling earlier has to be followed. I do not think it is appropriate for the mover to withdraw his amendment. We should proceed. We are already debating the motion, so we should carry it through. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): Well, I guess the way the Chair recognizes it is that Mr. Pudluk made the motion, he withdrew it and he has every right to do what he pleases with it. It is his decision. For your information, Mr. Zoe, Mr. Pudluk just withdrew his amendment to the motion and he has the right. He moved it, he did it, so we are dealing with the motion now, the main motion. Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you. Now that the amendment has been withdrawn, Mr. Chairman, then I formally ask that the Chair divide the motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Angottitauruq): We will take a five minute break to prepare your request, Mr. Wray.

---SHORT RECESS

Chairman's Ruling To Divide Motion To Amend Clause 2, Bill 2-89(1)

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): The committee will come back to order. In response to Mr. Wray's request to have the committee motion divided, I have reviewed the motion and found that the motion contains two distinct propositions. The Chair has discretionary power to decide whether or not the motion shall be divided, so that the sense of the House may be taken on each proposition separately.

I rule that the motion be divided as follows: The first motion will now read: 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".

The second motion will read: I move that section 2 of the Electoral District Boundaries Commission Act be amended by deleting subsection (3).

I have two motions on the floor and we will deal with the first motion. The Chair will have this typed into two separate motions and we will take a five minute break.

--SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Members have the split divisions in front of them now. We will be dealing with the first one. I will be reading it for the Members' benefit: 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". Motion on the floor. To the motion. Member for Hay River.

MR. POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, is Mr. Sibbeston the mover of both motions?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Yes. Mr. Sibbeston is the mover of both motions. To the motion. Member for Hay River.

MR. POLLARD: Can this be done without Mr. Sibbeston's okay, Mr. Chairman?

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Honourable Member for Hay River, it is at the discretion of the Chair and I rule it this way. To the motion. I have a motion on the floor. To the motion. Question is being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

--Carried

Now dealing with the second motion, and I will read it again: I move that section 2 of the Electoral District Boundaries Commission Act be amended by deleting subsection (3). To the motion. Mr. Sibbeston.

Reason For Not Appointing Supreme Court Judge

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, if I could just make a case very quickly as to the rationale and reason why I want this clause omitted which would, in effect, not bind us to appoint a Supreme Court judge to the boundaries commission. The rationale is basically that we in the North should do these things by ourselves. I think we should not have to run to the South whenever we cannot make our decision and get someone like a Supreme Court judge to be involved in the issue that really essentially is the northern peoples?

Ever since I have been around in politics I have always heard it said that the elders are to be respected and I think the society of the North does respect elders in part because they are wise with all the experience and also they are not as involved in the day-to-day political activities that are under way. The rationale of doing away with this provision of having to appoint a Supreme Court judge is the hope that elders in the North can be appointed to be involved in a process such as this.

To me, to go south does not ensure us of a good and proper person, as was shown the last time around. Also, if we were to get a Supreme Court judge from the North, and I have the utmost respect for Mr. Ted Richard, but the possibility exists in theory that he could be appointed to a commission such as this and he was just recently involved with us in all of this. He, as a Supreme Court judge, would not be appropriate for a job such as this and so the idea, this notion, that somehow if we give it to a Supreme Court judge it somehow becomes magical or wonderful, just does not really apply in my view.

I truly believe that in the North we can do things differently from the South, that we in the North as 24 MLAs can sit down in a room and decide on three persons. I know the question arises as to the East and the West but I, as a person from the West, could possibly agree to somebody from



the West, somebody from the extreme East and somebody from the middle. I think we tend to categorize and class the North as East and West but there is a middle somewhere and so it is possible to choose three persons from the North, from East, West and the middle, to sit on a boundaries commission.

I think there are people, and I do not know whether John Parker would like me saying this, but I do not know whether he sees himself in this category of an elder, maybe not, but someone like Mr. Parker could very much be involved in a boundaries commission such as this. Those are the types of people that I mean. Respected people in the North that could be involved in this. We do not need to go to the South all the time. And so it is for these reasons that, in principle I think we in the North can do it, tend to our own political affairs and do away with the easy way out, of using a judge as chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: At the legislation committee meetings, Mr. Sibbeston quite eloquently put forward his case, and I sympathize with him and I think he is making some very good points. There is nothing magic about a judge and I, too, have some problems with having to use southern expertise to solve our problems.

However, I will respectfully disagree with Mr. Sibbeston on this particular case, at this particular time, for a couple of reasons. One is that because of the very rapidly evolving political and constitutional development in the NWT, I think there are some very sharp political differences in the NWT right now and I think it is very important right now that we, as a Legislative Assembly, indicate to the public that this will be an objective process. Although I agree with Mr. Sibbeston that there are many capable people in the NWT, I think we, as the Assembly, will have some degree of difficulty deciding amongst ourselves what people should be chosen. I think there are possibilities, especially with the chairman, that one faction or another will feel there might be a potential of favouritism. I think it has been said before that while there is nothing magic about a judge, the nature of the position is one of objectivity and non-partisan involvement. There is no other profession that has that as a basic difference of the profession.

#### A Number Of Factions In The North

The second part is, I would like to think that we in the Legislative Assembly are mature enough to choose three individuals -- there are a lot of other factions, not just East and West; there are big communities, small communities, Yellowknife and everything else. There are a number of different groupings that from time to time come to the front of this House. I think there is every possibility that any one of these groupings will come out and I think we, as an Assembly, can break apart in trying to decide whether it should be two in the West or two in the East or somebody from Yellowknife or somebody from smaller communities or larger communities.

So I think the simplest way to approach it, and the one that would give us the best public perception of objectivity, is a judge. And to answer Mr. Sibbeston's concern about any individual judge, it would have to be recommended by the Assembly. So there is some protection there. If there is a judge put forward and the Assembly thinks there is some problem with it, we could resolve these issues. So the best way to approach it is a judge, and a representative from the East, and one from the West, and get on with business.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: (Technical difficulties, comments inaudible)

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Question is being called. Those in favour, please stand.



CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Crow, Mr. Sibbeston, Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Morin, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Ernerk, Mr. Angottitauruq, Mr. Gargan.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): All those opposed, please stand.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Nerysoo, Mr. Pollard, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Whitford, Mr. Wray, Ms Cournoyea, Mr. Ballantyne, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Kakwi, Mr. Butters, Mrs. Marie-Jewell, Mr. McLaughlin.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): All those abstaining, please stand.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. Allooloo.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Committee motion is defeated, 12 against eight with two abstentions. Motion is defeated.

--Defeated

We are dealing with clause 2 as amended. Member for High Arctic.

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

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make an amendment on clause 2. I move that the commission numbers be amended by deleting the word "two" in line four and substitute it with the word "four". I believe we already have a copy of this amendment. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Okay, Mr. Pudluk, your motion is in order. To the motion. Question is being called. I will read the motion as proposed by Mr. Pudluk, for the benefit of Members. This motion reads: I move that subsection 2(2) be amended by deleting the word "two" and substituting it with the word "four". I have a motion on the floor. To the motion. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess with two, plus the chairperson of this commission, you would have the good, the bad and the ugly; and I understand, using Mr. Patterson's words, "Small is beautiful." I want to know for sure, just so that I am very clear in my own mind, that the whole idea of this organization is, if you have four members plus a chairperson, you would have two from the East and two from the West, plus a member, this chairperson, probably coming from Yellowknife. Can we think about where the membership should be coming from, just so that representation is equally divided between the West and the East?

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

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think Yellowknife South sort of sees itself like a rabbit sitting and watching while the wolves are trying to decide who is going to devour him...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Shame, shame!

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Order. Can I have order in the House? Order! Mr. Whitford, you have the floor.

MR. WHITFORD: The outcome is going to be the same, Mr. Chairman. The rabbit is going to get eaten. It does not matter by which one. I represent a good number of people, thousands of people, and they have said that they would like to be heard in the Legislative Assembly in equal proportions to the rest of the North.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Order! The Chair would like to remind Members to speak directly to the motion. The reference the motion has is converting from two to four members, and the rationale



that the Member for Yellowknife South is indicating is not relevant to the motion on the floor. Could I remind Members to speak to the motion? Mr. Whitford, to the motion.

**MR. WHITFORD:** The Member for Yellowknife South feels that by having four members on the committee, there is a better chance that Yellowknife South, the city of Yellowknife, will have a better representation, and will have an opportunity to put its opinion into this and have its recommendations made. It feels that it will have a better chance at having its -- I can see the wolves are out -- but I feel that in some cases, yes, small is beautiful, but other times -- in this case four is going to be practical. That is why I acquiesced in the position I had originally taken on the first motion, in order that I could see that we would have a good representation from the Territories. We can pick four wise and just people from across the North and they will represent the views of the North, and I think that is why it is very important that we increase the numbers from two to four. I will support that motion. Thank you.

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

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Question is being called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The Chair's count is in a tie. I guess the chairman has to break the tie. The motion on the floor is defeated 10 to nine.

--Defeated

The time being 2:00 p.m. I will now rise and report progress.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I call the House to order. Mr. Zoe.

ITEM 18: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILL 2-89(1), ELECTORAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES COMMISSION ACT

**MR. ZOE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 2-89(1) and wishes to report progress.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Zoe. 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:** The agrees have it.

Item 19, third reading of bills. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to get unanimous consent to go back to Members' statements, if I could.

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

REVERT TO ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Grazing Paths For Wood Bison

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Speaker, with regard to a newspaper article on January 3, grazing paths for the bison. I was surprised to read about the proposal by the NWT Wildlife Federation, the proposal to spend \$10,000 of government funds to cut grazing paths for wood bison in the

Mackenzie Wood Bison Sanctuary. Mr. Herbert of the Wildlife Federation believes this plan of action would help the bison herd to spread out and increase.

Mr. Speaker, wood bison are big, strong animals and do not need man's help to get to where they want to go. I know, Mr. Speaker, that the bison herd has been grazing 75 miles from the Falaise Lake area where the main herd is. If the plan is implemented, Mr. Speaker, it would be an intrusion into the traditional land use areas. I also believe the plan would disrupt the natural balance and the sensitive environment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Gargan. We are back on orders of the day, Item 20. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Announcements, Mr. Speaker. There will be a meeting of the Nunavut caucus on Sunday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. and at 9:00 a.m. on Monday morning a meeting of ajauqtit.

**ITEM 20: ORDERS OF THE DAY**

Orders of the day for Monday, February 13th.

1. Prayer
2. Budget Address
3. Ministers' Statements
4. Members' Statements
5. Returns to Oral Questions
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Replies to Budget Address
11. Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motion
15. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters: Bill 2-89(1)
20. Report of Committee of the Whole



21. Third Reading of Bills

22. Orders of the Day

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Monday, February 13th, at 1:00 p.m.

**--ADJOURNMENT**

Available from the  
Publications Clerk, Department of Culture and Communications  
Government of the Northwest Territories, Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
\$1.00 per day; \$40.00 for 1st session, \$20.00 for 2nd and 3rd session; or \$60.00 per year  
Published under the Authority of the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly  
of the Northwest Territories