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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1990

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Richard Nerysoo): Orders for the day for Friday, February 16, 1990.

Item 2, Ministers' statements. Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for High Arctic.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Hunters And Firearms Safety

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Right now we are looking at bills, as of yesterday and today. The Inuit hunters, sometimes they are ordered by the court not to use firearms any more; sometimes it even goes up to five years. When we are looking at full-time hunters who are supposed to be providing meat to their families, it is very hard to see those kinds of things. Perhaps they were convicted but -- for example, about a month ago this person who was ordered not to carry any firearms used a bow and arrow and caught a polar bear with a bow and arrow. He has nine children and his wife. He was using the bow and arrow to provide meat to his family. It shows that it is very hard for this person to provide meat for the family. We all know that polar bears are very dangerous without the proper weapon. So I want the government to consider a person, especially a full-time hunter, if they are convicted and are not supposed to use firearms for five years. I think this law is designed for people who are trying to hurt others. I do not think it should be for the hunters. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre.

Member's Statement On Protection Of Aboriginal Languages And The Environment

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My Member's statement of February 14 was not well understood, so I would like to repeat it in English. It was about my great happiness that after a big struggle for a long time, Mr. Allooloo had been successful in overcoming those giant people, Mr. Ballantyne and Mr. Wray, and was doing something to protect aboriginal languages and our environment. He has demonstrated to all of us that you can win battles without yelling and screaming and so on, and we would like to congratulate him for his victory. Thank you.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Point of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Point of privilege. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The honourable Member is not in possession of the facts and is making allegations as to what is happening in the Executive

Council and imputing motives. I would ask him to withdraw those comments. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: On a point of privilege. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre -- on the point of privilege I have not determined yet if it is a point of privilege. However on that point of privilege, the honourable Member for Kivallivik.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Once again the Member for Yellowknife Centre is running off at the mouth without full possession of the facts. He is imputing motives to Mr. Ballantyne and myself. I do not know to what end or why, but I would ask that he be asked to retract those statements.

MR. SPEAKER: If you give me an opportunity to review the record and provide the appropriate ruling with regard to the point of privilege raised.

Members' statements. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Member's Statement On Victims Of Crime

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My Member's statement today will be somewhat less controversial, yet it will be one that probably will be timely. I guess it has been raised in this House before and it will be raised in this House again and again and again, in the future, and that deals with violence and the victim.

Mr. Speaker, I would clearly state that society is unfair to the victim. I think society goes out of its way to protect people's rights but in some cases I think they go too far to protect the rights of the individual that has committed a crime, rather than the victims of crime. For example, Mr. Speaker, because I am a man I will say men beat their wives to the point where they require medical attention, they require safety, they flee the communities often times and come into the city of Yellowknife to find shelter and medical and social treatment here, while the perpetrator of this act remains in his community. He may get a slap on the wrist from the courts and remains in the home without any further responsibility. He has a house to himself, no kids, while the other partner is living here in the city trying to make a home for herself and her family. I have seen it all too often and I think it is very unfair.

If I have a couple of seconds I want to point out something that was said a long time ago when Judge Sissons was a judge. The people in the community used to sit in his court and they would watch and observe what was going on and if he turned and sentenced a person to time in jail for beating their spouse, the community often said this was unfair because they sent the person on a free trip to Yellowknife to spend two or three months in a jail where meals and everything were provided and yet the spouse was left at home to look after the kids. Sometimes the community felt that they should send the wife to jail for three months and let the husband look after the family and take all that responsibility.

I think sometimes we have our priorities in the wrong place.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Members' statements. Members' statements. The honourable Member for Deh Cho.

Member's Statement On Alcohol And Drug Treatment Centre, Hay River Reserve

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the government for their support of the establishment of an alcohol and drug treatment centre on the Hay River Reserve. In particular, I would like to thank the Hon. Jeannie Marie-Jewell, the Minister of Social Services, for her support for the initial feasibility study which led to a capital allocation for this project.

Further, I would like to thank the Dene Nation leadership and the chiefs of the Western Arctic for supporting the reserve in its effort to get this facility.

It has always been the aspiration of the aboriginal people to have programs which reflect their own language and culture. The Minister has to be commended for taking the first step in recognizing the need for a treatment centre and then carrying on with the work to make it happen. It is a very positive thing that the treatment centre will be located close to where the people who will be using it are actually living.

The people all know each other there and now there is a good opportunity to have the treatment centre program for one particular tribe using one aboriginal language. This will really help to make the centre's programs effective.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the people of the Hay River Reserve and their chief, Mr. Roy Fabian, for their determination and perseverance in making this project a reality. The effort that everyone put in was well worth the time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Members' statements. The honourable Member for Baffin Centre.

Member's Statement On Victims Of Spousal Assault

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was not going to comment on this. I like the comments by the Member for Yellowknife South on this. It is true that, for example, a man who is beating up his wife usually remains in the community and the wife has to leave the community. I think that is wrong, especially when they have smaller children. The children are the ones who are suffering because they are so close to their mother and they want to be with their mother. I think we should be focusing on this more. I think the Departments of Justice and Social Services should be looking at this. In that case the children should remain with the mother. Sometimes the children have to be cared for by their grandparents, and I think the grandparents have to get assistance for this. We should seriously look into this. In other words, the man should be the one to leave the community, not the woman. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Members' statements. Members' statements. I wish to bring the attention of the honourable Members of this House to the Third Yellowknife Girl Guide Company in our gallery. Just on a point of interest, these young ladies are working on their citizenship badges.

---Applause

Item 4, returns to oral questions. Returns to oral questions. Item 5, oral questions. Oral questions. Honourable Member for Nunakput.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, may I ask permission to go back to returns to oral questions?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to return to returns to oral questions. Are there any nays? There are no nays. The honourable Member may continue.

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

Return To Question O58-90(1): Cost Of Transporting Patients To Southern Hospitals

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Thank you very much. Mr. Speaker, I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Kilabuk on February 13, 1990, with respect to the cost of transporting patients to southern hospitals. The figures today relate to the Department of Health's travel costs for patients who are referred out of the territory for treatment, and I will present these by region: In Fort Smith Region in 1988, \$1,616,000 was spent; in 1989 from January to September, \$1,406,000. In the Inuvik Region in 1988, \$1,118,000 was spent; in 1989 from January to September, \$922,000. In the Kitikmeot Region in 1988, \$486,000; in 1989 from January to September, \$424,000. In the Keewatin Region in 1988, \$3,736,000; in 1989 from January to September, \$2,868,000. In the Baffin Region in 1988, \$1,651,000; in 1989 from January to September, \$1,495,000. The total cost in 1988 was \$8,607,000; in 1989 from January to September, \$7,115,000.

The figures I have given you could be reduced but not necessarily eliminated by changing the mix of services in the Northwest Territories. Mr. Speaker, some of the services now provided in the South could be provided in the NWT, especially if additional medical specialists can be recruited. But case analysis would have to be conducted to estimate how much they could be reduced by providing the same services within the NWT.

Return To Question O60-90(1): Future Of Northern Health Building

I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Lewis on February 13, 1990, regarding the future of the Northern Health Building in Yellowknife. Mr. Speaker, the Department of Public Works is presently reviewing the options available for either retaining or disposing of the building. No Government of the Northwest Territories department has defined a use for the building; therefore, it is preferable to dispose of it. At present, under a subsidized revenue lease agreement with the GNWT, the building is occupied by the NWT Mental Health Association, IODE, Northern Home Crafters and the Guild of Crafts.

The building is becoming more costly for the GNWT to operate and maintain. There is also an urgent need to undertake substantial and expensive renovations to the building. The Department of Public Works is considering these items in its review of the options for the building. Final disposition, if recommended, will depend upon satisfactory arrangements being made for the present occupant groups. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Returns to oral questions. Returns to oral questions. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Natilikmiot.

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS**Question O92-90(1): Inuit Radio Programming**

MR. NINGARK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister of Health a question. After we were talking on the matter of boarding homes for outpatients, I heard from Spence Bay that they were wondering if they can have a CBC program or a radio program while they are in Yellowknife, just like they have the Dene programs on the air; perhaps they could also hear the programs from Iqaluit and Rankin Inlet and the other Inuit programs. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Amittuq. Point of order. The honourable Member for Yellowknife...

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) I did not understand your question, sir. Can you restate your question?

MR. SPEAKER: Point of order. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

MR. WHITFORD: Sorry, Mr. Speaker, perhaps it was not a point of order. We are not getting translation right off the mark here. A lot is being said that is not translated and we sort of pick it up a little bit later and sometimes we miss a few words. It is hard to get the gist of what is being said if translation is not quick off the mark. This is the second time it has happened.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. If I could just ask the interpreters to ensure that they are pressing the appropriate button when they are translating. If I could proceed then to oral questions and ask the honourable Member for Amittuq, who had requested a repeat of the question by the honourable Member for Natilikmiot.

MR. NINGARK: Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Health. About two or three days ago we talked about a patient not wanting to stay at the Kitikmeot patients' transient centre. I was approached by the Spence Bay people on this subject and they wondered if it is possible to get Inuktitut radio, CBC radio programming, made available to the Kitikmeot patients' transient centre. I know there is regional radio from Rankin Inlet and one from Iqaluit and their programs are sometimes in Inuktitut. I would like to know if the Minister responsible for Health could have some kind of a study to see if it is possible to have Inuktitut programming made available to the Kitikmeot patients' transient centre. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Nunakput.

Return To Question O92-90(1): Inuit Radio Programming

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I will talk further with the Member with regard to the specific request and, also, probably the Minister of Culture and Communications and I will sit down to look at how that can be accomplished. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Tu Nede.

Question O93-90(1): PY Requested For Management Of Hook Lake Bison Herd

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Renewable Resources. Last year in the budget session, during committee of the whole, I had asked for a commitment from your department to supply assistance to the Fort Resolution community to help draw up some sort of

management plan for the Hook Lake bison herd.

In the conversation I had referred to the Fort Smith Hunters and Trappers Association getting help from your department on a PY position which was given to the HTA in Fort Smith and a similar type of position to be given in Fort Resolution to the local council. At that time you made a commitment that you would do that. I realize that it was too late to be in last year's budget. Was that public commitment that you made followed through on this year's budget? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Amittuq.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will look into the matter for the Member. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you taking the question as notice?

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member is taking the question as notice. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre.

Question O94-90(1): Fortune Tellers In City Of Yellowknife

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For several years now people have come to Yellowknife and set themselves up as fortune tellers, reading tea cups and tarot cards and practising witchcraft. My question to my giant friend, the Minister of Justice, is this: What is this government doing to discourage people from misleading innocent victims in this community, to discourage those people that practise those black arts?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

Return To Question O94-90(1): Fortune Tellers In City Of Yellowknife

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I can always count on my honourable friend to ask me interesting questions. Mr. Speaker, I think there are two avenues of recourse for individuals who might have been, or think they might have been, victimized by any of the processes, groups, whatever, that he is referring to.

The Criminal Code has provisions so that people can complain to the RCMP under certain circumstances, if the Criminal Code has been broken. Also, our consumer affairs division of the Department of Safety will investigate complaints if someone has been victimized and has paid money and it has turned out that it is under fraudulent circumstances. I think they are the two avenues that people have to seek some sort of protection.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O94-90(1): Fortune Tellers In City Of Yellowknife

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Another question to the same Minister. The people that engage in these activities, are they then guilty because they are not able to guarantee their results, or are they simply guilty because they are engaging in an activity that is prohibited under federal law?

MR. SPEAKER: With great respect, just to remind Members again that questions cannot be asked if they seek an opinion, either legal or personal. If the honourable Member for Yellowknife North wants to answer.

Further Return To Question O94-90(1): Fortune Tellers In City Of Yellowknife

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I do not have the general answer to the Member's question, but I can tell him, within my own experience, that if you drive a stake into the heart of a vampire you kill the evil spirit.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: We can all vouch that that is certainly not a legal opinion.

---Laughter

The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O94-90(1): Fortune Tellers In City Of Yellowknife

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, several Members are aware that in many of our communities over a long period of time there have been people called in some places "angekoks", some places "shaman", "medicine men". Would these people, in fact, who try to achieve certain results in the way that perhaps the people who come to Yellowknife do with their teacups and their cards and so on -- would those people also be guilty of a federal offence?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: That calls for a legal opinion. I want to emphasize that I did not say that people who were reading teacups were necessarily guilty of an illegal offence. I said there is a recourse to pursue if people think they have been victimized. I want to emphasize that. I will take the second part of the question under notice and get back to the Member, but I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, to the Member that probably the Legislative Assembly would pay for a trip for him and his wife to Eastwick to study the matter. Thank you.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Order. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

Question O95-90(1): Regional Hospital For Keewatin

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Health. In her reply to the question regarding patient travel from the NWT to southern centres, in the Keewatin Region alone, Mr. Speaker, the figure is \$3,736,000. This excludes hospital stays, transient centre stays and whatever else. Mr. Speaker, my question is this: Would the Minister agree with me that this is a good justification for building a small regional hospital in the Keewatin Region?

MR. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Nunakput.

Return To Question O95-90(1): Regional Hospital For Keewatin

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, as I have related to the House on a number of occasions, these are the kinds of analyses that we are doing with the Keewatin Regional Health Board, and at this time I do not have the justification to agree or to disagree with the honourable Member.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Aivilik, supplementary.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, thank you. You might rule me out of order but my supplementary question is to the Minister of Health. Would the department agree that this is a good justification for building a small hospital in the Keewatin Region?

MR. SPEAKER: You are right, the honourable Member for Aivilik. You are seeking an opinion from the honourable Member about a particular project. However, you have that issue on record. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Pine Point.

Question O96-90(1): Advertising In February Issue Of Canadian Airlines Magazine

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. In the February Canadian Airlines magazine there are several pages inserted into their February magazine concerning tourism in the Northwest Territories and I must say that it is a very excellent arrangement with the airline that is well laid out. But it has come to my attention that all the work that appears to have gone into this was done outside of the Northwest Territories and I would like to ask the Minister how this came about. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Kivallivik.

Return To Question O96-90(1): Advertising In February Issue Of Canadian Airlines Magazine

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the Member for notice of this question. The company responsible for producing the magazine is Skyward Marketing Ltd. They are responsible for the production of the Canadian Airlines International inflight magazine. In order to receive exposure in this magazine the department must work through Skyward. Skyward has been given a monopoly on the production of the magazine. For the past four years they have produced an insert for the February issue as a joint venture between the department and the Tourism Industry Association. We anticipate that the magazine will reach an estimated 1.3 million passengers. The total cost to produce and publish the 24 page supplement for the February, 1990 issue was \$18,000. This was cost shared between TIA and the department, for a cost of \$9000 each. The cost to the department just to place one page of advertising in this magazine would have been \$10,950 so it is an extremely cost effective way to do it. But the bottom line is that Skyward has a monopoly and we must go through them and that is why their people have been used and not ours. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Natilikmiot.

Question O97-90(1): Obtaining Equipment With Store Rebates

MR. NINGARK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister of Renewable Resources a question. A long time ago we never used to buy skidoos or motor boats or things like that. We used to be able to get that kind of equipment with a rebate from the stores. I was wondering if it could be possible to do that again? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for

Amituq.

Return To Question O97-90(1): Obtaining Equipment With Store Rebates

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is he trying to ask about the Special ARDA program? The Government of the NWT used to make arrangements with the federal government but for two years now we have not had that agreement. Right now we do not have any funding for the Special ARDA program which you are talking about. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. The honourable Member for Baffin Central.

Question O98-90(1): Assistance For Victims Of Spousal Assault

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am going to direct my question to the Minister of Social Services. When the victims of spousal assault have to leave their communities, if they have children the parents of that woman have to look after their children. Are they assisted by the Department of Social Services for food and clothing while their parents are not looking after them? It is obvious that they have to get assistance, especially nowadays, because it is very expensive to buy food. How can they be assisted? Can they be assisted at all for food if they are victims of spousal assault? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Slave River.

Return To Question O98-90(1): Assistance For Victims Of Spousal Assault

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, yes, they can be assisted. Many times for individuals that have to either flee from their homes or communities, the department will not only assist them with food, but try to provide them with the required funding that they need to fulfil the babysitting requirements and other needs that they may have. However, there are times when the victim would chose to take her children with her to another community and then the department also takes the responsibility of providing food and shelter to the victim. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. The honourable Member for Baffin Central, supplementary.

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the response. There are some people in the communities who are not aware at all of this assistance that is available. I will be able to advise my constituents and give them that answer. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Is the honourable Member going to pose a question? Oral questions. The honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre.

Question O99-90(1): Changes To Water And Sewer Subsidy Program

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister responsible for Municipal and Community Affairs. It is with regard to the water and sewer subsidy program. My question to the Minister is: Is the proposed change due to the municipalities being dissatisfied with the current arrangements we have with our government? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Inuvik.

Return To Question O99-90(1): Changes To Water And Sewer Subsidy Program

HON. TOM BUTTERS: No, Mr. Speaker. The changes are being made because the program is costing this government an exceedingly large amount of money. In fact, I believe you will be looking in our supplementary estimates at some one million dollars plus, which had to be inserted into the program this year. Some communities had already spent the money allotted them and the Member is very aware of some of those communities' needs. So, we are attempting to develop a system that will provide a cost effective program at the least possible cost.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral question. The honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O99-90(1): Changes To Water And Sewer Subsidy Program

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister's response was "no", the municipalities are quite happy with the arrangements that we have with them. But would the Minister not agree with me, Mr. Speaker, that if the system that is in place, that they are satisfied with -- why change it? Would the Minister not agree that the current arrangements that we have now are for each municipality to negotiate directly with the department on this program. Why is he proposing these changes, when it could be accomplished the same way?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Inuvik.

Further Return To Question O99-90(1): Changes To Water And Sewer Subsidy Program

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I do not know that the communities are satisfied. There may be some dissatisfaction out there. Certainly, the costs associated with the program have been a lot greater than was projected, and I think it is incumbent upon the government to get value for money. It is in this regard that the government is looking at ways and processes by which the costs of this program can be reduced; but at the same time not jeopardizing the original objective of the program which was to provide a cost effective program to all our community residents at a reasonable cost.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O99-90(1): Changes To Water And Sewer Subsidy Program

MR. ZOE: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, through you to the Minister. How does the Minister know that the service is going to be provided as it is now? I do not see any assurance from our government that by making these changes the services will be carried out as they are now. Can I get assurance from the Minister that the service being provided to residents will be the same as it is now?

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Inuvik.

Further Return To Question O99-90(1): Changes To Water And Sewer Subsidy Program

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I am assured that the objectives of the program, as it was enunciated by my colleague in this House some three years ago, are still very much in vogue and are being sought after. There has been no change in the objectives of the program. There is an attempt being made to make it more cost effective.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre, supplementary.

MR. ZOE: Mr. Speaker, my last supplementary. Mr. Speaker, the Minister did not answer my previous supplementary. My question was with regard to the reduction of service to the residents of each municipality. With these proposed changes I am sure there is going to be a reduction of service. That is why I am asking the Minister. These changes are going to affect the service that is being provided to the residents of each municipality, and I am worried that these changes will reduce the level of service that is being provided. I am getting no response from the Minister to guarantee that these services will not be reduced.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no question in that statement. Oral questions. Honourable Member for Kitikmeot West.

Question O100-90(1): Effects On Communities Of Changes To Water And Sewer Service Program

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs regarding the program that Mr. Zoe was just questioning him on. There might be some opposition from hamlets; they are up in arms, quite frankly. Is the Minister aware, for instance, that the hamlet of Cambridge Bay will be affected by the rule changing from two drivers to only one driver per water truck, that they will lay off seven people? It will mean a \$230,000 a year reduction in the operating funds of that hamlet, thereby passing on to the smallest communities that get the least service, and have the least anywhere in the NWT, the cuts of this government. Is the Minister aware of that?

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Inuvik.

Return To Question O100-90(1): Effects On Communities Of Changes To Water And Sewer Service Program

HON. TOM BUTTERS: No, I am not aware of that particular situation, Mr. Speaker, but I will look into it. As I had advised the honourable Member, I will be reporting next week with regard to the program.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. The honourable Member for Kitikmeot West, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O100-90(1): Effects On Communities Of Changes To Water And Sewer Service Program

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could I ask the Minister is he aware also, when he makes those considerations, of a coroner's report of June 30, 1986, on the death of a child run over by a water truck in Snowdrift? The coroner's report clearly, as a safety thing, recommended that a second person be present in the vehicle cab while under way to act as a safety lookout, and that at least one person be present outside a vehicle during back-up manoeuvres within confined areas to act as a safety lookout. There is not only a monetary but a proclaimed safety consideration in this recommendation that his department has come up with.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Inuvik.

Further Return To Question O100-90(1): Effects On Communities Of Changes To Water And Sewer Service Program

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, I am aware of that report, Mr. Speaker. But I think when I explain the changes, the honourable Member will see that we are not restricting the

number of people that can be in the cab. There is nothing to prevent the municipality from providing that type of protection.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

Question O101-90(1): Keewatin Women Giving Birth In Yellowknife

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Health. Do the pregnant women in the Keewatin have a choice if they want to go to Yellowknife to have their children?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Nunakput.

Return To Question O101-90(1): Keewatin Women Giving Birth In Yellowknife

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, yes, upon request.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Aivilik, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O101-90(1): Keewatin Women Giving Birth In Yellowknife

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker, a supplementary. If they were to come to Yellowknife, would the government pay for the boarding and the travel?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Nunakput.

Further Return To Question O101-90(1): Keewatin Women Giving Birth In Yellowknife

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Oral questions. Honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Question O102-90(1): Restricted Use Of Firearms As Part Of Sentencing

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question directed to the Minister of Justice, under whose department territorial courts fall. The question is related to firearms and the restriction of use, as part of sentencing. There have been a number of occasions, of course, in the past where restriction on the ownership, use and possession of firearms is imposed on persons convicted of crimes of violence. Can the Minister's department do anything to review the existing sentences where the prohibition of firearms is used as part of a sentence, where firearms were not used, and I repeat not used, in that particular crime?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

Return To Question O102-90(1): Restricted Use Of Firearms As Part Of Sentencing

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a subject that has been brought to my attention before. It is a subject that we are reviewing presently. The difficulty, if there is a difficulty, the difficulty is trying to find a balance between the protection of the public and whether or not it is appropriate in some cases to take away somebody's ability to carry out their livelihood. There is a balance there. The Justice Minister of Canada is contemplating some changes to laws dealing with this. We are reviewing right now the facts, as we have them, and will be better prepared to make a

presentation to the federal Minister of Justice in the future. Once the facts have been totally reviewed I will inform the House of our approach. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Pine Point.

Question O103-90(1): Housing For Victims Of Spousal Assault

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question originally came to me in my capacity as Justice critic a month or so ago. The way the questions are going today I thought I would ask it today. It comes out of a conversation which Mr. Whitford and I had this morning, as a result of a Yellowknife lady having difficulty with accommodation here after being threatened by her husband. It was a related topic and I think it is more appropriate that I ask the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation this question. It has to do with women having to leave their houses after a spousal assault case. What I would like to ask is, what has been done to rectify the situation? Normally GNWT public housing is assigned to the husband and therefore he cannot be kicked out during this occurrence and the wife and family have to leave.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Inuvik.

Return To Question O103-90(1): Housing For Victims Of Spousal Assault

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a result of a request, I think from the Baffin Women's Association, back in 1988 to the president of the Housing Corporation, a change in the application form for public housing and for HAP units was made, which required that both spouses or partners would sign the application document. That was done, I believe, by the president of the NWT Housing Corporation in conjunction with his board of directors.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. The honourable Member for Pine Point, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O103-90(1): Housing For Victims Of Spousal Assault

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the fact that the change has been made on the applications but 90 per cent of public housing is probably occupied by people that applied for it and acquired that housing before the application was changed. I wonder if the Minister and possibly officials from the Department of Justice and that Minister, could look into the possibility of changing the tenants' leases to show a joint tenancy by both the husband and wife on the public housing units that were occupied before the application was changed?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Inuvik.

Further Return To Question O103-90(1): Housing For Victims Of Spousal Assault

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I neglected to give the Member thanks for his courtesy of giving me notice of his intention to ask the question today. As a result of that courtesy, I did check to see whether we had looked at including applications that were entered before 1988 and apparently that has not been the case. So my simple answer is, yes, we will look into that and see what can be done to improve that situation.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Natilikmiot.

I call the Members to order. I have a list on which I am looking and every Member who has had their hand up is on the list. Now I do not want to make a big issue of this, but I do pay attention and do put the names down. I do not want Members to be whistling or anything of that nature. Thank you. The honourable Member for Natilikmiot.

Question O104-90(1): Assistance For Community Rescue Committees

MR. NINGARK: Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the honourable Government Leader. I would like to know if there is a program in place to provide funding for locally initiated committees which are called community rescue committees, which have sprung up in the last 10 years. This is a very essential group, especially in communities like Pelly Bay, Gjoa Haven and Spence Bay, when one considers the long darkness and extremely cold weather when people go out on the land and they are stuck out there with their skidoos. I would like to know if the Government Leader has any program in place to assist those kinds of committees in the communities. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: I must have anticipated you were going to ask that question. The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

Return To Question O104-90(1): Assistance For Community Rescue Committees

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is a policy covering the subject of community searches and assistance to communities in conducting community searches, yes. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Natilikmiot.

Question O105-90(1): Emergency Measures Programs

MR. NINGARK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question for those communities, especially in the Natilikmiot, namely Pelly Bay, Gjoa Haven and Spence Bay. There was a time when some members approached me as to whether or not there could be a meeting arranged between those three communities. I would like to know if the Government Leader is prepared to assist in the transportation for such meetings. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Iqaluit. The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, my colleague, the Minister of MACA, informs me I may have misunderstood that question, so he is going to provide an answer.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Inuvik.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess the Government Leader was optimistic. I am going to take the question as notice but I am going to confirm that the question is properly directed to me and there are emergency measures programs under the government and I will provide the Member with a description of what those programs are and how they can be approached.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The question is taken as notice. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

Question O106-90(1): Status Of New Guidelines For HAP Housing

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation. During the fall session of the Legislative Assembly in 1989, the honourable Minister told this House that the corporation would be establishing new guidelines for HAP housing programs. Could the Minister indicate to this House as to when he plans to do just that?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Inuvik.

Return To Question O106-90(1): Status Of New Guidelines For HAP Housing

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, in Norman Wells I think I was responding to the question from the honourable Member for Baffin South and I indicated to him that I would provide Members with a copy of the proposed amendments and I believe, because I recall signing the letters, that I have sent those proposed amendments to all Members in the last 30 days. I will certainly see that you get the package containing the proposed amendments to be made to HAP.

As the honourable Member recognizes, it has also to be approved by the federal government, our partner in the HAP program. The proposed amendments, which I have circulated to Members, has been in the hands of the federal government for some four months now and I have indicated a desire to sit down and discuss this with them, our federal partners, as quickly as possible. The federal government has been carrying out a study on the rural and native housing and it is using that study, which is not yet public, as the reason that they have not looked at the proposed HAP amendments I provided them. Certainly it is an active initiative and it is being delayed at the present time because I have not had an opportunity for discussions with our federal partner.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Question O107-90(1): Cutting Trees On Commissioner's Land

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My apologies if I appear to have whistled, I did not really mean to whistle. It was more of a sigh. My question is directed to the Minister responsible for Renewable Resources. In the last couple of days I observed several trees partly denuded of their lower branches to make snow sculptures out in front of the Northern Region Headquarters here in Yellowknife and, I believe, the trees are located on Commissioner's land. I just wondered if members of the public and organizations making snow sculptures require permits to cut trees on Commissioner's land.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Amittuq.

Return To Question O107-90(1): Cutting Trees On Commissioner's Land

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The forest management regulations allow a person or a group to cut two trees a year in the Northwest Territories. This is defined, in our regulation, as city, corporation or individual in this case. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O107-90(1): Cutting Trees On Commissioner's Land

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Speaker, to the same Minister. Does this regulation include denuding the tree or does that just include cutting it down? I observed several trees being cut and some partly denuded of their branches.

MR. SPEAKER: It has got to be Friday.

---Laughter

The honourable Member of Amittuq.

Further Return To Question O107-90(1): Cutting Of Trees On Commissioner's Land

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: It must include destroying a tree. They are allowed to cut down two trees a year, whether it is an individual or a corporation, or a city. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable Member for High Arctic.

Question O108-90(1): Musk-Ox Quotas, High Arctic

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is directed to the Minister of Renewable Resources. There are three islands in my constituency which have musk-ox. These are Ellesmere Island, Somerset Island and Devon Island. Are you considering other islands so that the people can harvest a musk-ox quota? I want to find out if this has been considered and whether you still have a musk-ox quota for those three islands.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Amittuq.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: There are islands on which you cannot get musk-ox but these other islands we are researching to see if we could harvest musk-ox. I can give you a proper answer as to what the situation is regarding these islands, next week. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Is the honourable Member taking the question as notice?

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, yes.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member is taking the question as notice. Oral questions. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Hay River.

Question O109-90(1): Registration Of Companies Contracted To DPW

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister responsible for the Department of Public Works. I would like to know, sir, if it is necessary for companies who contract with this department to be registered in the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Nunakput.

Return To Question O109-90(1): Registration Of Companies Contracted To DPW

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, no, it is not necessary to be registered in the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. Oral questions. Item 6, written questions. Written questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

ITEM 6: WRITTEN QUESTIONS**Question W9-90(1): Unlawful Use Of Firearms**

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a written question for the Minister responsible for Renewable Resources. Yesterday in my Member's statement I indicated that there are fluctuations between the issuing of citations to persons misusing firearms; that is, carrying loaded guns in boats and cars and it depended on the year and it depended on the individuals. I want to ask the Minister, through a written question, because it falls upon his department and the game wardens to enforce gun laws in the bush and on the highways, can the Minister provide me with the numbers of charges laid by his officials for the misuse of firearms; that is carrying loaded guns or handling guns unsafely in either boats or vehicles for the years 1987, 1988 and 1989?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Written questions. Written questions.

Item 7, returns to written questions. Returns to written questions.

Item 8, replies to Opening Address. Replies to Opening Address.

Item 9, replies to Budget Address. Replies to Budget Address.

Item 10, petitions. Petitions.

Item 11, reports of standing and special committees. Reports of standing and special committees. Item 12, tabling of documents. Tabling of documents. The honourable Member for Kitikmeot West.

ITEM 12: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to table Tabled Document 7-90(1), a letter addressed to myself from Beth-Anne Tremblay. This is a four page letter concerning an alleged miscarriage of justice.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Tabling of documents. The honourable Member for Kitikmeot West.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to table Tabled Document 8-90(1), Coroner's Case on Chenoa Fraser. It is a report concerning the death of a child on the 30th of June, 1986, in Snowdrift by being run over by a municipal services vehicle.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Tabling of documents. The honourable Member for Inuvik.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Tabled Document 9-90(1), Public Housing Rent Scale, which is translated and I believe I have also circulated copies of this document to all of the MLAs.

MR. SPEAKER: Tabling of documents. Tabling of documents. The honourable Member for Hudson Bay.

MR. CROW: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Tabled Document 10-90(1), a letter which I have received from Sanikiluaq regarding truck drivers. I think it is also related to the Baffin. It was also mentioned by another MLA. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Tabling of documents. Tabling of documents. Honourable Member for Aivilik.

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I

would like to table Tabled Document 11-90(1), a letter from the health committee of Repulse Bay asking for funding from the GNWT of \$6000 to clean up the community, and they are also asking for funding of \$8500, for a total funding request of \$14,500.

MR. SPEAKER: Tabling of documents. Honourable Member for Aivilik.

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Tabled Document 12-90(1), again from the Mayor of Repulse Bay, John Kaunak. He is asking for funding for a curling rink; he is asking for half of the funds that are usually provided for recreational activities. The smaller communities do not get too much funding from the government and they are trying to get recreational activities going in Repulse Bay.

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Kitikmeot West.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Tabled Document 13-90(1), a four page document entitled "Revisions to Cost Accounting Guidelines, Cost Accounting for Water and Sewage Services". Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Item 13, notices of motion. Notices of motion.

Item 14, notices of motion for first reading of bills. Notices of motions for first reading of bills.

Item 15, motions. Motions.

Item 16, first reading of bills. First reading of bills.

Item 17, second reading of bills. Second reading of bills.

Item 18, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Committee Report 1-90(1), Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on the 1990-91 Main Estimates and Bill 9-90(1), Appropriation Act, 1990-91, with Mr. Gargan in the chair.

ITEM 18: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS AND OTHER MATTERS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): The committee will now come to order. We are on the Department of Justice. We will recess for 15 minutes.

---SHORT RECESS

Bill 9-90(1): Appropriation Act, 1990-91**Department Of Justice**

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): The committee will come back to order. We are on the main estimates, 1990-91, the Department of Justice with Mr. Ballantyne. Mr. Ballantyne, would you like to bring in your witnesses at this time?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Yes, Mr. Chairman, with the committee's permission.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Does the committee agree that the Minister brings in his witnesses? Agreed? Sergeant-at-Arms, would you please escort the witnesses in? For the record, Mr. Minister, would you please introduce your witnesses?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I have with me the deputy minister of Justice, Mr. Bickert, and the director of our finance and administration division, Ms Louise Dundas Matthews.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, very much, Mr. Minister. When we concluded yesterday we were on general comments. General comments. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe that when we concluded last night I had the floor. I still have a number of questions to ask the Minister of Justice. With regard to protection provided for the victims of crime, which is in the departmental review, this is a very important one because the people must feel, the victims of crime must feel, that they are protected within the law. Before I ask the question I will just give a couple of examples with regard to spousal assault or any other victims of crime. What I would like to know is, what kind of protection is provided by the law for the victims of crime, any victims of crime, while they are waiting for the courts to arrive at the communities?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ballantyne.

Protection For Victims Of Crime

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Depending on the circumstances, there is a range of protection offered to a victim. The RCMP immediately, once a complaint has been laid, will offer the victim and their families some immediate protection. Once charges have been laid and it goes in front of the court, the court could impose certain conditions on the release of the accused. For instance, the accused would not be allowed contact with the victim until the trial date comes up. I think some of the Members have talked earlier about the unfortunate reality which is that in many of the cases, because of the size of the community and because of lack of adequate facilities, the victim and her family would be removed and taken to a safe shelter in one of the larger centres or in Yellowknife. They are the ones that come to mind.

But I would like to say that new resources are going into our victims program, and we have a victims committee set up. We will be looking at new ways to offer victims support because I think there is more at stake here than just physical protection. In many cases victims and their families need counselling. They need to know what avenues are open to them for assistance, whether it is financial assistance or legal assistance or a support mechanism in the longer term. If the crime leads to a permanent separation, then, obviously, counselling for employment opportunities are necessary. In the cases where reconciliation is possible, both parties should have, where possible, the benefit of trained counselling to help them resolve their differences.

As I say, there is a range of opportunities for the victims. It has only been in the last few years that society and governments have really begun to emphasize the rights of victims. I think, again, here in the Northwest Territories we were the second jurisdiction to pass legislation which imposed surcharges to support victims of crime; the second Legislative Assembly in the country after Manitoba. We still have a long way to go, and I hope that the committee that I have set up will give advice to me and the Assembly as to how we can improve our support to victims in the future.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Just following up on the question of safe shelters in the communities. I know this ties in with the Department of Social Services, but

specifically the question is with regard to safe shelter. How do I put this so it comes out right and clear? When battered women are put into a safe shelter, what sort of protection is provided for them within the safe shelter by the department or by anyone who is responsible for safe shelters? Are there supervisors in these places? This is one of the big concerns that I have, for a protection that is provided, especially to the women, in the small communities in the Northwest Territories.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Chairman, I am sorry that I do not have the details for a comprehensive answer to the honourable Member. I think that, probably, the Minister of Social Services would be better able to provide details as to what sorts of arrangements in safe shelters across the Territories would be available for the protection of victims.

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

RCMP Involvement In Search And Rescue

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I will ask that question of the Minister of Social Services when we get into the budget of Social Services. Just sort of continuing on, the honourable Member for Natilikmiot was asking a question with regard to search and rescue during question period today. I would like to question the Minister of Justice with regard to the involvement of the RCMP. I think it is very good that the force is involved in this particular issue. In Nunavut, when someone is lost due to the weather, skidoo breakdown, or whatever else, search becomes very important, where everybody gets involved at the community level. For example, in Rankin Inlet not very long ago, just a matter of two weeks ago, a young man was lost and everyone got involved in terms of searching for that person. The local radio was on almost 24 hours a day informing people as to what was happening. This is a community initiative, and I think this is very, very good on the part of the local people. As well, the RCMP were involved in providing air transportation in searching for this individual. When someone is lost, every person at the community level with a snowmobile machine available to him gets involved in searching for these people.

I do have a question for the Minister. When it comes to the RCMP, there used to be, and perhaps still is, a requirement for 24 or 48 hours -- the Minister could confirm that. Is there still a requirement for that 24 or 48 hour period before the RCMP can get involved in search and rescue?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: In most things, the local detachment has a certain amount of discretion. It would depend on the circumstances. There could be some circumstances when it would be reasonable to wait for 24 or 48 hours, and there would be other circumstances where a search would be initiated immediately. The general policy of the force is to leave some discretion to the local detachment, depending on the circumstances. I suppose in the worst case scenario you could have a search initiated when one was not needed, and all the resources are out on one search, then somebody else gets lost and it would be hard to divert effort. As I said, it is usually left to the local initiative. If there have been any real problems with that, I would definitely be prepared to review it. I know over the past couple of years we have had a lot of discussion with the RCMP as to their procedures. I think they have improved their procedures, and they are very supportive of the idea of community involvement. As I said, it depends on the circumstances and

on the judgment of the people at the time. Thank you.

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

Praise For RCMP Action

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the Minister for that answer. I want to tell the Minister that when this young man, David Pissuk, was lost in Rankin Inlet, Sunday, he was found two days later, Tuesday. I asked for information as to what took place from the time that Mr. Pissuk was lost to the time that he was found. I asked one of the members of the RCMP, Brian Abrams, over the phone. I was extremely impressed with the way that he reacted. I asked for the information at 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon; 15 minutes later the full information came to the offices of the Legislative Assembly. I was very impressed with the way the detachment personnel in Rankin Inlet reacted to my request.

I do have one or two other points to make with regard to legal services in the NWT, especially where I come from. Everyone for any reason has the right to legal aid in the NWT. No one is excluded. I am extremely pleased also to see that much work has been done, and a conclusion has been reached, with regard to the establishment of Keewatin legal aid services. Everyone worked hard, whether they were the Keewatin Inuit Association, Keewatin Regional Council, Members of the Legislative Assembly or the Minister's staff. I think it worked for the benefit of the people of the Keewatin Region, and everyone else should have the same right to receive that kind of legal aid service, no matter where they are. Now that a lawyer, and the Minister could probably confirm this, is in place in Rankin Inlet, it means that the people of the Keewatin Region will be able to get better legal aid from the justice system of the NWT.

Law And Police Training Centres In NWT

Exactly one year ago, Mr. Chairman, I put together a motion which was sort of directed to the Department of Education, but naturally the Department of Justice would have to be involved in looking at that particular motion. I believe that the motion indicated something about Arctic College in the NWT establishing a law training centre in the NWT. I am wondering if the Department of Justice has been involved in working on that particular motion. What has happened?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: As I recall the motion, there was some discussion in the House about the Saskatchewan Native Law Centre. I believe the Member asked if we would look at the possibility of establishing something here in the Territories. We have looked at it, not in a conclusive way. The beginnings of doing something are modules of our legal interpreter training being offered through Arctic College. We are looking at involving Arctic College in some para-legal training. That is the beginning of the sort of thing that Mr. Ernerk was talking about. It was thought, though, that we should move fairly carefully because it becomes extremely expensive and not necessarily productive to try overnight to replace a well-established southern institution.

We are also having ongoing discussions with the RCMP about the possibility of a police training centre here in the NWT. We are proceeding slowly with the idea that Mr. Ernerk put forward in his motion, but as I said, proceeding carefully and making sure that we are going to benefit people of the North in the best way by our approach.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is the next question that I was going to ask of the Minister with regard to the issue of the motion that we also passed, I think about a year ago as well. I am, to a certain extent, as a member of the public, half way satisfied with the moves and direction that the Department of Justice has taken with regard to placing more native people within the force itself.

I am also pleased about the fact that the government has moved toward placing more local RCMP officers at the community level. But I think there has to be more initiative to placing more RCMP officers at the community level. That seems to be the only way to be able to properly interpret the law and to properly deliver the services of the RCMP. I am wondering, Mr. Chairman, how far the Department of Justice has gone in order to try and establish this police training centre in the NWT? Again, I state my views that only if you establish your own training centre for the police up here, only then will you attract more native people to the police force. I think it would be very positive if that happens in the not too distant future. I understand what the Minister said with regard to the issue of a police training centre in the NWT; that it is a slow process. But I guess I would like to see things quicker.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: We have a request in with the Solicitor General's office and they are studying it with the possibility of putting a centre here in the NWT. Of course, what remains is the discussion of who pays for it. Our opening position is, of course, that we think it will be useful for them so they should pay the major portion of it. There is also the reluctance on the part of the people in the Solicitor General's office and the police to hive off part of the training responsibilities in Regina. But I must say that the new commissioner, Commissioner Ingster, is very flexible and I think very understanding of the importance of Canada having the RCMP reflect the different people in Canada, with a prime emphasis on aboriginal people, the founding people. So I think that perhaps we have some leverage that they do not have in other places.

I have said in this House on a number of occasions we achieved some major changes in RCMP policy as far as training. As I said, prior to the agreement we made with the RCMP a year and a half ago, we wanted to hire special constables and immediately they had to go to Regina. Now they can train in their home community detachment before they go to Regina, so they can get a good orientation about what police work is about before they are put into the more formal training process in Regina.

The RCMP now, for the first time -- because of representations that we made to them over the last few years, will allow some lower educational standards for somebody to become a regular constable, with the feeling that once the person is in the force, they can upgrade their education. I said I am very pleased because it was very unusual for a special constable to become a full member of the RCMP. But in the last few years four special constables have joined the RCMP as full members. That, I think, is very, very encouraging.

I emphasize again that one of the most successful programs that we have run is the program that we are running for summer students. In the last two years, out of the 16 or 17 people who took the program, some four or five of them have joined the force and are taking training. So I think we have come a long way. I absolutely agree with Mr. Gargan's point and Mr. Ernerk's and other people's point that until the force here in the North reflects the make-up of the population, people will not have that total confidence. I think we all recognize that the RCMP is one of the best, most professional

police forces in the country. The new regime under Commissioner Ingster recognizes that it has to be more representative of the people it serves. So I am happy with the progress that we have made but there is no doubt in my mind that there is a lot more that we have to do. We are going to be working very diligently to try and achieve more improvements.

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

Aboriginal Judges In NWT

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I would like to get back to the idea of native judges. About a year ago, perhaps less, there was a major conference that took place in Thompson, Manitoba. I believe even some members of the Minister's department, as well as Social Services personnel, attended that conference. I believe also it was an international conference, with representatives from the State of Alaska, Greenland and our own people as well attending that conference. It was seen to be a very productive conference, in a way that people became more aware within the circumpolar community.

Since that conference I have talked to a number of people who attended and they indicated to me that they do appoint native judges in Greenland, with slightly more authority than what we have now in terms of justices of the peace in the NWT. You can correct me if I am wrong. In the State of Alaska I have noticed that they have tribal doctors. In Greenland they have Kalaallitmiut judges. In the NWT here we have talked about placing more aboriginal people in the justice system in the NWT. I think it would be very, very positive to place more aboriginal judges to the system so that native people, the elders, could contribute more in terms of native culture as well as native values. Things that we hold so dearly among our elders in the NWT.

I am wondering, Mr. Chairperson, if I could ask the Minister of Justice and his department to see if he could study the Greenland system. It is very impressive, just listening to what is going on in that country. See what new ideas the department could get from the people of Greenland. Is that question understandable, Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Member has raised some very valid points. I would like to emphasize first of all that justices of the peace are judges and in the recent amendments we made to the Justices of the Peace Act we did, in fact, enhance the status of the justices of the peace. We will be putting into effect, over the next year, a better training program. We are looking at the possibility of different tiers of justices of the peace whereby some justices of the peace will have more responsibilities than presently. As I said in response to some of Mr. Gargan's comments, in fact our justices of the peace have, in many ways, as much power as a Navajo judge. I think that as the first step to deal with the issues that both Mr. Gargan and Mr. Ernerk have raised is to try to utilize our justices of the peace in their capacity as judges. They are judges. We hope that within the next year they will go out from under the authority of my department and come under the authority of the territorial court judge with that support mechanism in place.

We have, in fact, looked at the Greenland system. There are things to learn there, as there were in Window Rock. On the other hand, our legal aid system is far superior to the Greenland legal aid system. They have a very rudimentary, undeveloped legal aid system in Greenland. In some areas we are ahead and in other areas we can learn from them.

If I could make one correction of a statement I made earlier, when I said the RCMP is one of the best police forces in the country, I meant in the world -- one of the best police forces in the world.

We are in the process of looking at different systems and looking at them objectively, to look at the good things that we can learn and the mistakes that we can avoid. In Alaska, in Greenland and in some of the American tribal court systems, I think there are learning experiences both ways because our situation here is quite unique. For instance, at that northern justice conference in Manitoba we are so far ahead with legal interpreting that our people were actually giving a seminar to people from other countries about the progress we have made in legal interpreting. I do not think we have to be ashamed of what we have accomplished, but we definitely have things that we can learn from other justice systems. Our department is going to continue to study other systems to find ways where we can improve ours. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Family Law Reform

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My other question is with regard to family law reform. One of the major objectives within this department indicates, "To prepare and propose possible amendments to reform family law." I am wondering what sort of changes the government is looking at within this particular branch, which I think is very important, and I would certainly like to hear what sort of changes the government is taking a look at, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. I have not received the report of the family law review committee, and I do not want to presuppose any recommendations that they are going to make to us. Again, I want to emphasize that I am looking at this at a two stage approach. Once the recommendations have been given to me I want to ensure that they are circulated widely at the community level so that all MLAs can see them and can give me their honest opinions, suggestions and criticisms. The mandate of the committee is to look at the whole area of family law. We are looking at things like custody -- we talked about that. We are looking at matrimonial property and child welfare. We are looking at the whole range of laws that deal with the family. We really have not decided to limit what the review will be. It is our feeling that there are, within modern laws across the country, things that we can do to improve our system. There are also things that we could do in the area of aboriginal custom law to improve our system. The committee has a very wide mandate. There will be full discussion before any sort of legislative proposals come forward.

This is very difficult and very complex, and I am sure is going to be quite controversial. We will be dealing with new ideas and we are going to be dealing with modern laws, sometimes, probably, in conflict with custom laws. How do we accommodate both those at the same time? I have no illusions that it will be easy, but I think it is something that is exciting and something that we all can benefit from. I hope to have the support and the ideas of Members as we go into this difficult area.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Who all is involved in this committee? I am thinking of women's organizations such as Pauktuutit, the NWT Native Women's Association, the community leaders and those who work

directly with social services at the community level, health committees; organizations of that nature. If the Minister could answer that question for me, I would appreciate it very much.

Secondly, when is the committee, or when is this government, planning to make public the recommendations on family law reform? When can we expect to see the recommendations? Are we talking about the fall session of the Legislative Assembly, are we talking about the winter session of 1991, or is it ongoing? What are we talking about in terms of timing?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: If I can mention the members of the advisory council. We took a lot of care and a lot of time to make sure that this council was broad-based. As I said, I solicited the advice of the major Inuit, Dene and Metis organizations, and the final result, I think, is pretty representative. The members of the advisory council are Sue Heron-Herbert and Bobbi Bulmar from the Dene and the Metis; Shelley Howell from the Status of Women; Mary Sillett of the Inuit Women's Association and ITC; Elaine Bengts of the Law Society of the NWT; Cheryl Walker from my department and Vicky Trerise from Social Services; from IRC it is Michele Ivanitz.

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

Surname Project

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One final issue that I would like to indicate to the Minister and his department is the surname project. I do not know who ever thought of the issue of the surname project that took place in 1970. Simple things like some people's names are misspelled. Today, for example, if a woman goes to Churchill or Winnipeg to have her baby, by the time she comes back the baby's family name is not properly spelled, and then the family has to pay a certain amount of money to get that name changed again to the original; between five dollars and \$15 to the Government of the Northwest Territories.

The other problem is that when you really want to change your name I understand that you have to go through the courts in order to change that name. The fault, Mr. Chairperson, is not really the family's fault. The minute that the baby was born the name is spelled by the hospital workers, I guess, and when that family member wants to change the spelling of a name then he or she has to pay a certain amount of money to get it changed. I would have thought, since it is not the fault of the family for misspelling such a name, that either the hospital or the Government of the Northwest Territories would be responsible for the costs of spelling that name properly. I wonder if the Minister, Mr. Chairperson, could enlighten me and make my day as to what can be done because it is a problem and many, many of our people, many of our women go out of the Keewatin Region to have their babies in Churchill and Winnipeg, Manitoba.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I understand, Mr. Chairman, the question. I do remember last year the question being brought up. At that time I was responsible for Vital Statistics and I remember, if I recall, I gave an undertaking to the Member that we would review that because I agree that people should not pay that \$10. The portfolio was changed to Mr. Kakwi and I will definitely find out what happened on that because it is a good point. I hope it was not lost in the

shuffle and I will definitely look into that one.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I thank the Minister for his answers.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): It is noted. Mr. Pedersen.

Banishing Perpetrator Of Offenses Instead Of Victim

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have some comments for the Minister and some questions for the Minister regarding an issue that other Members have talked about already. It is what I would refer to as the further victimization of victims. I tabled a letter today which I believe all Members received, from a lady who feels that justice was not carried out fairly and she did not receive protection under the law. If the facts are, indeed, as they are in that letter, then I would agree with her 100 per cent.

In my own constituency, Mr. Chairman, there are many cases but I will mention only a couple of them. A lady in her mid-30s who lived in an abusive marriage for many years received beatings on a regular basis. The last one was so severe and so nearly fatal that it required medical evacuation. In order to get any kind of peace in her life she has had to vacate the community of Coppermine, leave her home, her family, and she now lives in Yellowknife with four children, struggling greatly because housing is a problem here. Whereas she was well employed in Coppermine, the skills that make her employable in Coppermine are not skills that make her employable in Yellowknife. There is not a great demand for Inuktitut teachers in our school system in Yellowknife. It is a great, great hardship to anyone like that. In the meantime, the perpetrator of these assaults over many years, and of the crime that almost took this woman's life, is living in the family home, in public housing in Coppermine, quite comfortable in his home community and within the family circle.

Mr. Chairman, another example that I will mention is a family situation that broke up about three years ago. There are two children in this case and the lady in question has lived in absolute terror for her life and for the lives of her children, for these three years. I know that we have laws and I know that we can take advantage of them. The ex-spouse in this case has served two terms, not particularly lengthy, in jail for the assaults that he has committed on her, the beatings that he has laid upon her. I saw her after one such beating and I did not know the person that I was looking at. I did not recognize the face.

Lately, within the last week or 10 days, the terror that this man has put upon this woman and her children has been to the extent that he has gone down and physically disconnected, ripped the phone wire out of the house, and informed her "Now you cannot call for help." He cut half the trim off her parka, in view of the children, and said, "Next time it is your face that goes."

It is a terrible situation, Mr. Chairman. What bothers me is that though we put the weight of the law on them and jail terms are imposed, punishment is only punishment if it is considered so by the one who receives that punishment. In this case here, going to jail for two or three months is no punishment at all. The perpetrator thinks: "That is my two or three month holiday and then I am going to get back to what I was doing before." If you come from communities where the home situation is so bad that it is a reward to be put into jail

for three months, then obviously there is no deterrent in giving a jail term. It just does not work.

Distance Imposed In Restraining Order Could Be Increased

Mr. Chairman, what I am wondering, and what I would like the Minister's comments on, is that when our court system, together with a jail term, imposes a restraining order or a peace bond on a person and says that he must not come in contact with this person or -- it seems to me I have noticed some times that you must not be within a certain area of this person's house. Is there any way that this area can be extended to 400 miles?

In other words, Mr. Chairman, what I am asking the Minister is, is there anything in our laws that would permit banishment of the perpetrator of the offenses to a community other than the home community, rather than always banishing the victim and thereby further victimizing these people that certainly deserve to be helped rather than to be further punished?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think the questions that the Member is asking are really hitting at the very heart of issues that people across Canada are trying to face. This whole area of family violence and sexual abuse of children is something that everybody, governments and communities and individuals, probably for the first time in recent history, are trying to come to grips with. I think all of us have to admit that the tools to deal with them presently are not all there. We have a long way to go.

To answer the Member's specific question, there is, now, latitude for a judge to put some prohibition or restraining order in keeping somebody out of a community before a trial and there are some conditions that can be placed on an accused person in their parole conditions or what have you. But the difficulty is that once their sentence is complete, that person, according to the system, has paid their debt and it is difficult to keep them out of a community.

So I do not have an easy answer for what you are saying. The concept of banning is something that has been used, probably successfully, in other cultures at different times but I am not quite sure there is latitude within our justice system presently to allow it.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, it was certainly something that was used in Inuit culture as well. At least in the area where I come from, traditionally. I would like the Minister's comments specifically on: Is it not possible for a judge to put an area, that you cannot come within a certain distance of a person's house in a restraining order? I am sure I have seen that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Yes, judges have a fair amount of latitude and they can impose any reasonable condition. So that definitely is a possibility. They have the latitude to do that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if the Minister, on behalf of myself and the other Members of this committee, would inform the judicial system in the NWT that we would consider distances that would make contact impossible, to be reasonable. Because what we have now is

not working and it is not good enough that we all sit and say we know it is not working and the law may not have all the tools that are required to make it work and that the deterrents we impose may, in fact, not deter anybody. The time is here to do something about it to make sure, while we may be carrying on studies, that we can do it. If we can use that one clause now and simply expand the distance that we consider reasonable so that we can -- perhaps it does not come out as banishment, but you can just make the distance so far that it becomes de facto banishment.

I want to see some action now, Mr. Chairman. I do not want to talk about it any more. Let us take some action that protects the victims of crime and not victimize them any further while we are doing the talking.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Community Must Deal With Problem

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. The Member poses some difficult questions. I wish I had all the answers that would satisfy the Member. I think that judges generally are dealing with circumstances and situations as they come up and try their best to deal with them in an appropriate way. I am not sure if there is any magic answer and I am not sure that even banning somebody for a period of time will work. Under the Charter of Rights there could not be a perpetual banning. There only can be an up to three year condition put on probation.

Unless the community as a whole deals with the problem, I am not sure that the courts and the court system have the tools to deal with it. It is one part of the solution, but it seems to me that more and more I am talking to people and becoming more exposed and better educated myself as to some of the horrendous problems that we are facing as a society. There has to, first of all, be a general community realization and acceptance that there is a problem. There has to be some very open discussion and dialogue at the community level so that there is more than just the justice system imposing punitive measures. It must be accepted in each community that it is unacceptable behaviour. I think all of us need to be educated a lot more. I think all of us have to have more experience with the issue.

It is just in the last year or so that I have been talking to people and I see that some of my ideas, although they seemed good to me at the moment, really are a way of avoiding the problem rather than really dealing with the problem. I think we all have a lot to learn. It has to be that people in positions of authority and trust and responsibility, whether they are teachers, RCMP, councils, the leadership -- I think all of us have to get better educated as to how we deal with this.

Concerning Mr. Pedersen's point, I think the judges are aware of that; and we have to recognize that longer punishment just warehouses the problem a little longer. I am one that believes that it can be a deterrent. But without everything else coming into play, it in itself will never be enough. I think that across the country now people are recognizing that we do not have the proper tools or the proper training or the proper understanding as communities to deal with these problems. It is very healthy now that people are starting to talk at a community level and starting to exchange information and starting to exchange experiences, so that people who are victimized know that they are not isolated, with no one to talk to, that other people are experiencing the same thing and there is a lot of sympathy out there.

I will do my best. I can tell the House this -- and the House knows that I have some fairly strong feelings on this subject

-- that I will do my best, within my capacity, to try to ensure that the justice system in the NWT does its part. But I think we have to recognize that it is going to be a lot broader than just the justice system, that we have to deal with these very fundamental and scary problems that are facing us.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Pedersen.

Action Must Be Taken To Protect Victims Of Crime

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that the problem is complex but yet this whole debate is very frustrating. The Minister says the justices do realize the problem and they are trying to be reasonable and within reasonable limits impose distances and time and so on. For whom are we being reasonable? For the victim or for the criminal? You also say that longer sentences do not solve any problems and yet we are prepared to sentence the victims of these attacks, the women, to life in Yellowknife and the criminal gets three months or whatever.

The one case I am telling you about, that woman and her children are now living here. They do not like being here but they are here and it is the only place that they can feel safe. It is the closest place to home where they can feel safe. If we can sentence them to that, and they are the victims, can we not be a little harsher on the criminals, the perpetrators of these crimes?

You say we have to have community debate. If we do not take some action and stop what we are doing, the community you are talking about, that should debate, are the leftover perpetrators of the crimes because the rest of them are going to be down here. We cannot wait and talk; we must take some sort of action while this debate goes on. We have to do something now to start protecting the victims of crime and not further victimize them.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think every Member knows my feelings on victims of crime and I think we have taken some major steps to try to deal with it. As I go to communities I get that side of the story. I get another side of the story from community members who think it is very unfair to send people out of the community. They think it is very unfair to send people to southern institutions. We get as many complaints the other way around. Emotionally I think we all can agree that more has to be done. But a lot of education, a lot of change in attitude has to happen at the community level also. Because it just cannot be imposed from the top. I think as people involved in the justice system become more aware of the problem and with the changing mores in society -- things are changing; I think people are becoming more aware. Sometimes it is frustrating, but we as a legislature, it has only been in the last few years that you have seen legislatures across the country talking about this problem. So I think we are making progress. I agree it is frustrating, but I think this sort of debate is very helpful and very useful, to get the message out there that we are no longer ignoring abuse of victims.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do wish the Minister had been able to give me a little more comfort. We do agree that there is a problem. Others may want to talk to that subject better than I have been able to.

I do have another subject under Justice that I would like to bring up. It also relates to Finance, although that is not the capacity in which I am asking the Minister that, and I will certainly be bringing it up when we get to the Minister of

Social Services as well.

Enforcement Of Child Maintenance

The Minister in his introductory remarks made reference to maintenance enforcement. Mr. Chairman, maintenance enforcement, as I understand it, is ensuring support to those who are entitled to it from those who are responsible for this maintenance. Yet, Mr. Chairman, it is my impression that in the NWT there are a very large number of children of single parent families who, in fact, receive no support from the other parent. Many of these receive social assistance, and that is why I will bring it up to the Minister of Social Services.

What I want to ask this Minister, because he is the Minister of Justice, is whether or not the legal system allows our government to, when a person applies for social assistance and this is granted and there are children involved, and where the other parent is known and capable of supporting, can we, can the government, sue for child support?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Basically, under the Maintenance Orders Enforcement Act, the right is of the mother to sue for support, not for us, but we normally provide the support for her to do that. We have also entered into reciprocal arrangements with the other provinces so that if a spouse leaves the NWT, now we have an arrangement where it is easier to track them down. For instance, if they go to Alberta the Alberta court will enforce upon them the necessity to fulfil their obligations.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not think the Minister quite understood what I had asked because the reply relates to after the court order has been issued. What I was saying is, do I as a taxpayer have to accept that a woman who has one or more children, if she is not willing to sue the father of these children for child support -- am I obligated as a taxpayer to pay for the raising of those children for 18 years?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think I answered your question correctly, but to do it in a different way: If somebody applied for social assistance, the Department of Social Services would make them, essentially, sue the person or they would not get social assistance.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will bring that up again when we get to Social Services. The honourable Minister across from me looked a little puzzled when Mr. Ballantyne said that. Mr. Chairman, I do think that this is something that we should indeed look at because society as such should not have to pay for that. I think it is not only a problem for us in the NWT, but birth control methods are quite readily available and not difficult to use, and very effective these days. Society should not be saddled with the burden necessarily of always having to support children that the fathers are not willing to support themselves.

Mr. Chairman, to illustrate that the problem exists in some other places, I would just quote very briefly from a newspaper clipping I have here that says, "Many men, however, continue to think that they have lots of children as proof of their manhood. That is not manhood, but rabbithood. A true man is a father who provides for his children, puts food in their mouths, shoes on their feet, love in their hearts and education

in their heads." Mr. Chairman, that was said by President Habib Ben Ali Bourguiba under something called "His advice to the men of Tunisia." We are not the only ones that have that problem, but it is every bit as relevant here as it is elsewhere. I am glad to hear that under the Social Services Act the provision exists that we can ensure that the responsible parents are held responsible financially if they have the capability.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. General comments. Mr. McLaughlin. He is not here at the moment. Mr. Ningark.

More Training For By-Law Enforcement Officers

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister of Justice a question, and I think most of the Members from small communities across the NWT will be in agreement. I am speaking of the local by-law enforcement officers in the communities such as Pelly Bay, Spence Bay and Gjoa Haven, and I am sure across the Territories. A lot of times people in the communities have a misconception about this position. We know the local by-law enforcement officer is there to enforce the municipal by-laws and we know that he has no jurisdiction over the Criminal Code of Canada. Many times the by-law enforcement officer is called upon to investigate when somebody is out drinking. I feel that is part of the Canadian Criminal Code.

I am wondering if, in conjunction with Municipal and Community Affairs, there could be more training made available to train local by-law enforcement officers within the Territories because it is a very, very important job within the community. Sometimes these people are called upon to investigate some very controversial incidents. Thank you.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Presently, under the present RCMP contract, it is not their mandate to provide training to by-law officers. I think that MACA pays the salary, through the hamlets, of by-law officers. We have had discussions with the RCMP and they recognize that there are some problems in some communities, including Yellowknife, about the co-ordination between the RCMP and the by-law officers. They are working right now on ways to try to improve that co-ordination. We are aware of the problem.

When you are talking about something like a liquor offence, it is really an RCMP responsibility. There is no doubt about that, and any time there are problems like that if you could make me aware of it, I will make the RCMP also aware of it. We are trying to find better ways to co-ordinate by-law officers and the RCMP right across the Territories.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Ningark.

MR. NINGARK: I just want to say thank you, and I hope that there will be more training initiated for these people that are holding a very important job at the community level. Sometimes they are in a situation where people are embarrassed, the by-law enforcement officers are embarrassed, because of their job and what they are supposed to do. I would like to emphasize to the honourable Minister that training is a very important part of our everyday livelihood, especially in the remote and small communities. I would strongly emphasize that more training initiative be taken by this department. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I thank the Member for the

comments and we will definitely follow up on that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): General comments. Mr. Pollard.

Raising Limit For Small Claims Court

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Lewis read into the record a recommendation from the standing committee on finance with regard to raising the limit on the small claims court. I wonder if the Minister could tell us if that is possible, and is he prepared to recommend that?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The actual responsibility of that is a rules committee made up of judges. We are reviewing it with them now and we hope to have a response to you in the near future. It is under active consideration right now.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, by way of explanation to the committee, Members felt that with the price of items going up all the time and inflation going as it is, that it would be better to increase that limit and a lot more things could be handled in the small claims court.

Mr. Chairman, on a different issue. There has been a request from the lawyers in Hay River to have more services available at the court house in Hay River. I am sure those similar requests would be applicable to Inuvik and Iqaluit. I think the Minister is already aware of the request and I wonder if he could advise us if he is doing anything about it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I have not received a formal request for anything officially and as soon as we receive one we will definitely consider it.

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

MR. POLLARD: I think in the Minister's opening remarks, Mr. Chairman, he mentioned something about a legal registry in Inuvik. I wonder if the Minister could explain that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I am not sure what the honourable Member is talking about. There already is a registry in Hay River for the filing of legal documents. Unless I am missing something, I am not exactly sure to what the Member refers.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: Perhaps more to the point, Mr. Chairman, I guess the question I am asking the Minister is: Are there more services available at the Inuvik court house than there are in the court houses in Hay River or Iqaluit? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: No, it is quite the opposite. What we are going to do is bring the Inuvik court up to the standard of the one in Hay River. Mr. Butters should have asked the question.

--Laughter

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): General comments. Mr. Whitford.

Staff Increase Required For Maintenance Enforcement

MR. WHITFORD: Many of the concerns I had with the Department of Justice prior to reviewing the budget have already been addressed by other Members. But I just want to go back to the area of maintenance enforcement. Yesterday I was under the impression that the Minister had said in his opening remarks that an increase was designated for that section. For some reason I understood, erroneously it seems, that there was also an increase in staff. But when I read his comments in Hansard today, the unofficial version, it only says that there will be more funding to meet the operational requirements. What I was getting at yesterday, through you to the Minister, was that I have had a number of concerns expressed to me by those people on the receiving end of this area -- those people who are separated legally, divorced legally from their spouses and are not receiving the maintenance that is required. It is a hardship for them to go chasing after it, getting their own lawyers although they have already had a court order.

But what it boils down to is the fact that there are not enough bodies working there to be able to carry this out. I understand that we have now somebody that is temporarily there, somebody that was a sheriff before and is only filling in and is never there to answer the phone. I am expressing the concerns that were expressed to me. I have not had the time to go over there and check this out myself, but I know that I did call and nobody answered. When I looked at this I felt that finally it was being addressed but in fact it is only going to give more money to it. The problem is not money, it is people there.

So is the department looking seriously at this and saying: It is a growing area, an important area, and there are interprovincial agreements in place and it takes time to chase after these people that want to duck out on their responsibility and if you only have a person working half-time with not enough time to do all the paperwork, can you get a job done? My concern is, do you have plans to put more people in or a permanent individual in there?

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: We are actually quite pleased with the results we are getting in this area. We spent \$150,000 a year ago to automate this whole area. Because of the fact that we are under some restraint, what we have done is brought people from other duties to work on this. We have actually had full-time people. We have had two full-time people, one for a year, and now we have a full-time person taken from other duties to do this. They are doing a good job. It is a slow process. Somebody should be answering the phone calls. I would be very interested if the Member could be more specific as to times and dates when this has happened. But we think it is being pretty well managed and we think that they are doing a job very well. In fact I have even got a couple of letters of thanks from people. For the first time people are seeing something happening. The only reason we do not have a full-time PY is because we are under restraint, but we are covering the position full time, by utilization of some other staff.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): General comments. Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: I understand that they borrowed from another section. They have borrowed from the sheriff's office and put somebody in there, after the person who was in there for a while was moved over to a more permanent position as

a rental officer. Perhaps I am not getting my facts straight and the Minister knows better than I do, I certainly hope he does. But I am of the understanding that they borrowed from another section to put somebody in there temporarily and that the job is only now being advertised and it is not yet filled on a permanent basis. That is my understanding and I think this is where some of the problem lies. I just wondered if this is the case.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Well, the Member is partly right in his analysis; Mr. Baile going over to the rentals office is correct; the person coming from the sheriff's office is correct. But what I am saying is that the position has been staffed on a full-time basis and will continue to be staffed on a full-time basis. I would like it if we had more resources but we are doing the job. What we are doing in the department and what I am encouraging other departments to do is to utilize the resources there and not always be asking for more PYs but to do it from within. So as far as I am concerned, if we can have somebody doing it on a full-time basis we are doing our job. Once more resources become available then we will, hopefully, get an extra PY from this Assembly.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Whitford.

Part-Time Staff Not Sufficient For Maintenance Enforcement

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again I probably will contradict myself from time to time throughout these hearings. On the one hand ordinary MLAs are going to say to departments, "cut", and in other areas we are going to say, "Look, the job is not getting done. The public service is not serving the public." What it boils down to is that sometimes some services are so important to the public on a daily basis that we need the resources there. We do not need them on a part-time basis and we do not need them borrowing from someone else or doubling up in some cases.

The Department of Justice, through my experience with them in the past years, has had one person looking after a whole bunch of sections, a whole bunch of things. For example, the one individual -- I am going back a few years here now -- looked after the coroners, looked after the justices of the peace, looked after administration of court services, looked after the firearms; one individual. I do not know how they could possibly do a job in all those areas and a lot of credit has to go to the individuals that were there and are still there looking after these other areas. What I am saying is that sometimes you need people to look after a particular program so that we give good service to the public, especially where the public is going to be affected and it is going to reflect on other departments, as some of my colleagues have already said.

In the maintenance enforcement, if they are not getting moneys from the people that they are supposed to, through court orders, because some scoundrel says, "Look, I do not have to do that. I do not have to pay and let the law come after me", then that person has no other alternative if they want to live a reasonable life. In society today you have to pay rent, you need to look after the kids and if you are not getting maintenance money from your spouse you have to go to another department, and Social Services is burdened with that. It is the individual who is the one who is victimized twice over, not only by the fact that they are being denied something, but they are also being required now to go through other legal means to have what is rightly theirs given to them.

So what I am saying is that if we do not have proper staff

then I would encourage the Minister to have his officials look at this and come up with some figures to say that these are the number of cases that we have in here and we can justify having a full-time individual look after that, with part-time support staff. I think that those are important areas and I will be one to support the Minister. I am not criticizing him, I am trying to encourage him and to help that department because that one is where the eyes of society are focussed today, the Department of Justice, because of its broad mandate to look after wrongs that have been suffered by members of society through no fault of their own, to rectify them, to redress the wrongs. It is his department that is responsible for that and that is why I am encouraging him, not criticizing him, to get the people to do the job. Give him the resources, he says, and he will get the job done. That is what I am trying to do. I am trying to say to him, "Look, there is an area that I have had some experience in, some exposure to." I am saying that there are some concerns. If he could prove me wrong by having his officials look at that, then that is a different matter but do not take part-time people to do an important job like that.

It is like the justice of the peace administrator, that has been dragging for years, Mr. Chairman. Finally they have an ad out but it is going to take more months before we get somebody. In the meantime the people that are depending on this individual are being neglected. The result is that people who want to do a good job are not able to do a good job because they are not receiving the attention that they should for their technical requirements, for their advice and for staffing. I know there have been a lot of improvements made in the last couple of years and a lot of praise must be given to the department for doing that, but what I am getting at is that there is a concern here, expressed by a Member; let us look at that and see if we can correct that.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I appreciate the Member's support for this particular area. I can assure the Member that that position will be staffed full-time and it will get the attention that it needs. I think we have done a pretty good job in that area and there has been a vast improvement over the last few years. But I do thank the Member for his comments because it is an important area and there is always room for improvement.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. General comments. Mr. Morin.

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, I think it was the budget session that I asked you a question in the House about dragging equipment in the communities; to have the RCMP have that on hand in the communities that are beside bodies of water. If my memory serves me right you did make some commitment to that. So would I be able to now go to the local RCMP station in Snowdrift and Fort Resolution and see this equipment?

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I recall Mr. Morin's question and I remember it was after some problems in Fort Rae, I think. I registered the concern with the RCMP. I know that they have done some things since then but I do not think they have dragging equipment in every community. If the Member would wait, I will get the information for him during this session and find out exactly where that is at. If it is not satisfactory, I will pursue it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Morin.

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, it is

just a matter of having the proper rope and hooks. It is not a big amount of equipment.

Concern Re RCMP Telecommunication System

I have still been getting numerous complaints about the Great Slave Lake telephone system. People in the communities are complaining that this system is still not working properly. People do not like to have their calls forwarded to Yellowknife. In some medium-sized communities like Fort Resolution where we have approximately 600 residents, it may be economically feasible to have the person that guards the prisoners on full-time from midnight to morning when the RCMP are off, so somebody can answer the phone right in the community. Have you done any work on this?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Since those caucus meetings we had last March, there have been some real technical problems with the system. In April the Horn Plateau repeater site was repaired so that system users in Providence, Hay River, Fort Smith and Fort Resolution, could again communicate with Yellowknife. In May the Hay River repeater site was upgraded by installing a drop repeater; that greatly increased mobile coverage in Hay River. In June cable connectors were required in all repeater sites. In July Jean Marie/Nahanni Butte repeater sites had potash batteries installed. A new repeater was installed at Simpson. In August battery powered back-up systems were installed at all AC repeater sites. In September a new repeater site at Fort Providence was installed to supply mobile and portable coverage for the settlement and surrounding area.

A press release on public place communications was circulated to the media in July. The RCMP also participated in a program on call-forwarding and a diverter system, for the information of the public on radio in early September. A Chipewyan-speaking person from Snowdrift has been hired. I do not know if there is any problem with that, in the telecommunications section in Yellowknife. I think that was a commitment made by the RCMP. The Great Slave Lake telecommunications system has been improved, so the operators answering the phone during hours when the local detachment is closed, can tell immediately from which community the call is coming. In the 16 communities outside the Great Slave Lake telecommunications system, police carry portable units when they are out of the office so they can answer calls directed to the detachment.

So there has been a lot done since our meeting in March. But if the Member could give me some specific examples of other things that should be done, I will definitely will follow it up.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Morin.

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I realize there has been a lot of money spent on the system. One thing that I made clear to you before, Mr. Minister, is that people were not happy and they did not accept the fact that their calls were being forwarded to Yellowknife. I have asked you this before, if you could look at the feasibility of having a staff person in the office at Fort Resolution from midnight to 8:00 o'clock in the morning who could also be used as what they call "the babysitter", to look after prisoners when they are arrested at night.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I know this has been an issue for awhile. There are two aspects to it. One aspect is the cost, because I do not think we could be reasonably

expected to put somebody in one of Mr. Morin's communities without opening it up again. It is not within the RCMP contract so it would not be cost shared. It would be 100 per cent paid by us.

Secondly, the experience of the police in other areas of the country is that this is safer and more efficient. Because many times just because somebody is there, they do not have the access to the communications system and they do not have the technical knowledge. The police are saying that once people got used to the idea that they are not actually talking locally to a person, in fact if there is a problem it can be handled better from headquarters than from the community. It is just as easy with a modern communication system.

I agree, three quarters of the problem has been that this system has had these technical problems. But if it is operating functionally, as far as service to a person in the community, which is the important thing, the safety of people, the experience has been actually better to dispatch it out of Yellowknife with the call forward, than in the detachment itself. They can react just as quickly and they can also have access to whatever other thing may be needed, whether it is medical, whether it is reinforcements from other communities or what have you. We have tried and I had hoped that once it is fully operative that we would give it a chance to see how it is working.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Morin.

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, I do not think it takes a hell of a lot -- excuse me, I retract that -- a lot of technical training to train a person how to pick up and dial a phone. So I do not buy your argument about the training end of it at all. That is basically what you said. As far as the money part of it goes, you do have people in the community that are being paid to watch prisoners already and that is on a weekly basis. It might be two or three nights a week. So to have them there and create a more permanent job for somebody in the community, would make a lot more sense to me than the system you have in place right now.

If that prisoner they are guarding were to get sick or something was to happen, the RCMP and guard have already made arrangements how to communicate. So that communication is there. People, when they phone the RCMP, feel a lot better when they phone and talk to somebody they know. It is taking too long to action calls with the system you have in place now. So what I am asking you is if you would look into the feasibility of setting this up the way I requested. That is all I am asking. Thank you.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Yes, I want to explain first of all a couple of things. I was talking about training, I was not talking about the use of the telephone. I agree with the honourable Member that that is fairly simple. What I was saying though is that in bigger centres they can have access -- for instance, if you needed a doctor, if you needed some other support mechanism there quickly. It is all there to get your hands on, in the major communications centre, easier than in the small detachment office.

Secondly if you are looking at the job creation aspect of it, I think we should probably be looking at other than the RCMP because there is nothing in their contract for this whatsoever. They have sometimes, when it is needed, on a part-time basis, hired matrons or guards. But only when it is needed, not full-time. So if we are looking at this as far as creating jobs, I mean if we are looking at an economic development opportunity, if that is the major thrust here, perhaps we can deal with it, because I am the first to agree with you, job

opportunities are very important in the community.

But what I will do is, I will review with the RCMP exactly what is going on and what I will bring back for the Member is some cost estimates to do that sort of thing in communities, so we have an idea of the magnitude of what we are talking about. We can take it from there. I am prepared to review it to do that, if that would satisfy the Member.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Morin.

Extra Training For RCMP On Family Violence

MR. MORIN: Normally if any other services are needed at a scene or whatever, the RCMP have to go there and see that first. There is not going to be any other way of doing it quicker by a phone call being answered in Yellowknife, because still RCMP have to be on the scene. But you have agreed to look at the feasibility and do some estimates on it, which is good. I am satisfied with that for now.

Mr. Minister, sexual abuse victims, as well as wife-beating victims in the communities and the centres, will your department or the RCMP look at giving the RCMP themselves extra training in how to deal with these situations? They do not always deal with them correctly. Possibly you could have the NWT Family Counselling Service or someone put on workshops for members and make sure that they get the native people's point of view on how to handle this type of situation. A lot of times when women are being abused, or people are being sexually abused, they are treated as the criminal, and that is not the way to do things. Could you look at some extra training for members so that they can handle the situation better?

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: That is a valid comment. We are, in fact, encouraging the RCMP to take advantage of training in all these areas, but it is really something you cannot do too much of. There is definitely a need for more training for the RCMP. That is a very positive suggestion and one that I will pursue.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. General comments. Mr. Morin.

Need To Outlaw Semi-Automatic Weapons In NWT

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, you are well aware of the shooting that happened in Montreal where the ladies were shot at the university, as well as down in the States where a bunch of young children were shot with a semi-automatic weapon at a hamburger stand or a Kentucky Fried Chicken.

I realize that in the NWT a lot of people hunt and make their living from the land. I myself hunt a lot and harvest a lot of meat, but I have never had the need -- I have never been taught to hunt an animal with a 30-shot clip and fire off all 30 shots to bring them down. I do not really think there is a need to have those types of weapons available for hunting in the NWT. If we are to continue to manage our game well, those types of weapons should be outlawed, anything semi-automatic like the 223s. I am hoping that your department can look into some sort of change in law. There is no reason at all why any hunter cannot either pull the bolt back and put another shell on top, or else lever his action, put another shell on top, if he happened to miss the first shot. I think that with the rate of alcohol abuse we have, and the alcohol consumption in the Territories, and weapons being allowed like that here as well, somewhere in the future we could have trouble. We may be able to cut that off if you get rid of these

types of weapons and do not allow them to be sold in the NWT. Thank you.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. The gun laws of Canada are being reviewed by the federal Minister of Justice. They are looking especially at military type automatic weapons which present the biggest threat. There seems to be a consensus among Ministers of Justice that the import of automatic military weapons should be something that should be very rigorously controlled. The reality is in this country, like the United States, there is a powerful gun lobby which is lobbying pretty hard against those particular amendments.

I have already indicated our support to the federal Minister of Justice as far as banning automatic weapons is concerned. I agree 100 per cent with the Member. A hunter does not need an automatic weapon by any stretch of the imagination. When you are talking about semi-automatic weapons, though, it becomes a little bit tougher because, as the Member knows, a lot of people presently own semi-automatic weapons. I think that one is going to be a lot tougher. I agree with the Member that a good hunter using a bolt action rifle or a pump action shot gun should be able to bring home the meat, as it were. I think there will be a lot of opposition to the banning of semi-automatic weapons, and I would be interested in comments from other Members on that particular aspect. As far as automatic weapons and military type assault rifles, the AK47s, M16s, what have you are concerned, I fully agree and I have already told the Minister of Justice that there is no way to justify those firearms as hunting firearms.

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

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A semi-automatic is no good in the winter anyhow, they just freeze up most of the time, the ones I have seen. It would be good to lobby people and see what their reaction is. I have never seen that many semi-automatic big bore rifles, they are mostly 22s, where I have been travelling.

The calibre of the RCMP living in the communities now is a lot better than in the past. I do not know if they have changed their training, but the ones we are getting in our communities seem very nice and get along well with the people. That is the easiest way to work in the community, to try and communicate and get along with the people. Is there any way that you can encourage them also to try and get members time to travel on the land with the hunters and the trappers. Say, out of every two month period, he must, as part of his duties, go out on the land. I think that would help even more, and if it is part of his job it would help him go out there as well.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think one of the reasons that you are seeing improvements is a direct result of the sort of debates we have had here over the last four or five years. Our share of the police budget is now almost 70 per cent and I have taken the position from the very beginning that we will have a major part of that decision-making process on the way they operate. We have been very lucky to have two chief superintendents who have been very supportive of the sort of direction that the Assembly and myself have offered to them. There have been a lot of improvements over the last four or five years and I think it reflects a much more sensitive attitude

on the part of the RCMP toward people at the community level up here in the Territories. I think that the idea you put forward is a good one. I think now the members have some flexibility, but it is definitely something that I will encourage with the chief superintendent, that members do get a chance to go out hunting with local people and travelling out on the land with them. I think that would be very good for everybody. It is a good comment and one that I will follow up on.

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

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. During the previous review of the Minister's budget there were a number of questions that had come up and I just wonder if we could ask some of them here to find out at what stage of development they are. For example, when I was involved with the department and with the justices of the peace program, often the JPs themselves, those that were really keen on being justices of the peace, complained that there was not enough work being given to them. There were not enough cases coming forward to them; they were signing a lot of documents but were never really getting into the heart of the matter. Subsequent to that, of course, the task force had made recommendations for training to upgrade the skills of those justices of the peace that were interested in pursuing the profession a little bit more, getting a little bit more involved.

At the same time, by way of a preamble here, the circuit court has been criticized for travelling a lot and perhaps going to some of these communities where courts are held but -- the judges, I am sure, can confirm what I am saying -- they deal with a lot of stuff that should not be done by judges, by the circuit court judge because they are not there, they have to travel in there. Yet there is a justice of the peace in that community. A lot of money could be saved and justice be done by the local JP rather than have a circuit court go in there, if more of the work was given over to the justices of the peace to do.

Status Of Justice Information System

But the question I am leading up to, of course, is the facts on this. It is easy to say that we JPs should be more active but to substantiate that with facts requires some statistics. I think a question was asked of the Minister in our hearings about a justice information system, a computerized system. I took this to mean a more modern version of a study of the numbers, the types of offenses that were committed in the Northwest Territories, through court records, to determine whether or not a lot of the cases that would come in front of a judge could, in fact, be handled by the justices of the peace. We needed that information and the only way to get it was to go down and look at the records and see what sections they came under, what territorial acts and how many and where, so that the department could then plan for upgrading a particular justice of the peace or justices of the peace in an area where those particular offenses were most common and they were able to do it. You needed a computerized system to do this because it is quite tedious work.

I see from reading some of this that they were talking about developing such an information system and I wondered if this had ever got under way and whether or not it will be applicable to the particular types of things that I am raising here, such as being able to identify areas where JPs can take more advantage of opportunity to be good justices of the peace by having worked there and relieving some of the pressure that the judges themselves are facing, from having to go to every community. I wonder what the status of that

information system would be?

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. I agree with the Member's comments. I think that the JPs can, in fact, take a load off the judges. The justice information system we expect to be on line this fiscal year. So that will be a tremendous asset and everything is coming together. I will pre-answer the Member's question; interviews for the JP administrator are going to take place within the next 10 days. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Whitford.

Success Of The Law Line

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister did anticipate my next question. How is the justices of the peace administrator competition coming along? I hope they have some applications. I have been thinking of it but I am not available for the next several years.

I have another question similar to this. I guess we are pretty fortunate here in the Territories that we can criticize our judicial system; we can criticize, perhaps, the courts for going too frequently or not going frequently enough; we can criticize the fact that we have untrained JPs and the fact that we have JPs running all over the place, too many of them. So we have that benefit of living in a land of lots of opportunity and lots of good services. We even have a law line to get information. They have done a lot of advertising on TV and it is in newspapers and now, I understand, they have increased it to two days.

I just wanted to find out if the Minister has any information as to the application of this particular program? Is it a cost benefit or is it a program that can be determined to be successful in its short life so far? Is it getting a lot of attention from the public? They are calling on very good legal questions that prevent people going in the wrong direction somewhere along the way, or avoid unnecessary court time during a circuit. Does the Minister have any information that he could give this hearing about the apparent success of this program? This is the law line, the 1-800 number.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Point of order. Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to move that we extend sitting hours to finish this department.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): I have my list. Mr. Whitford still has the floor. Mr. Minister, do you want to respond to Mr. Whitford's comments?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: If Mr. Whitford wanted to move to extend hours I would stand back and let somebody else do it.

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, we normally go to 2:00 o'clock on Friday and we still have time yet. I think it is an important area but it is nothing that we need carry on, in my opinion. I just need the answer to a couple of my questions here.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Okay, the law line actually has been extremely well-received. From mid-April to December, 1989, there were 265 calls from 35 different communities. It is too early to really evaluate it but I think that

it has been a very successful program and I think that the volunteer lawyers who man that particular law line deserve a lot of credit. So I think there is a lot of potential in it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. General comments. Mr. Kilabuk.

Motion To Extend Sitting Hours, Carried

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Mr. Chairman, I do not think we are going to finish the meeting so I would just like to have it extended if the Members agree.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): There is a motion on the floor. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The hours have been extended.

---Carried

Mr. Kilabuk.

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Automatic guns are dangerous for those who do not know how to use them properly. The Minister stated that this is being researched right now in Canada. I do not think it is going to be very easy to deal with because the communities do receive different kinds of catalogues where you can order different types of guns. Some are strong and some really fast. Not just the smaller guns. I wonder if the catalogue people in Canada can be talked to. I am just bringing this up in case somebody did not consult these people who have guns for sale through the catalogue. Because people do order guns through the catalogue. There are some in our stores now that are really powerful. I would like this included in the consideration.

Regional Training Sessions For Justices Of The Peace

As for what Tony mentioned regarding the JPs in the communities. He mentioned the things I wanted to make some comment on and I just want to make a small comment. We do have JPs in the different communities. I have never seen any JPs having a workshop together. Would it not be better if the JPs in Baffin Island go and have a workshop together at the same time. They can then work better together toward the same goal. I am sure the other regions are helping each other. I want to know from the Minister if they can do this in the future, so that they can work together and meet their goals, such as the training of aboriginal judges.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The first point, as I have said, the federal Minister of Justice right now is looking into the possibility of prohibiting automatic weapons from entering the country. It will be quite difficult to stop those magazines. But if the Parliament of Canada changes the Criminal Code to prohibit certain weapons from coming in, it would mean then that people would not be allowed to order those automatic weapons.

As far as the second question. I expect that there will be a training seminar for JPs in Iqaluit very soon. We hope to have, on a regular basis, training sessions in the different regions of the NWT.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. General comments. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was going to make a motion to extend the meeting but the motion

has been passed already.

Directorate, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 7.08. Directorate, total O and M, \$1,676,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Police Services Agreement, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 7.09. Police Services Agreement, total O and M, \$20,937,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Legal Aid, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 7.10. Legal aid, total O and M, \$3,709,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Lawyer Support Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 7.11. Lawyer support services, total O and M, \$2,095,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Registries And Court Services, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 7.12. Registries and court services, total O and M, \$6,866,000. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I have a question for the Minister and his department with regard to legal interpreter training programs. What sort of interpreting programs do you carry out? I appreciate the interpreters work because often it is extremely difficult to try to translate from Inuktitut to English, so there is very tough work being carried out by our communication officers of this Assembly. My question is this: What sort of program do you carry out with regard to legal interpreter training? I am particularly speaking of Inuktitut to English for instance.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. There has been a lot of work in this area. Eight interpreters have completed a full eight week program; that was over three different seminars. Another seven interpreters did six weeks. Another 41 interpreters have completed two weeks. Students were instructed in court room procedure, points of law, interpreting skills, and terminology development. I think that is what the Member was referring to. A Dene legal terminology workshop involving interpreters, elders, and other resource people was sponsored. It was a joint effort of the Dene Cultural Institute, Arctic PLEA -- Arctic Public Legal Education and Information Society, Mackenzie Courtworkers Services and the Language Bureau. An introductory two week language interpreter program was delivered through Arctic College in Iqaluit in mid-January and 21 students from Baffin, Keewatin and the Arctic

coast successfully completed that course.

To answer the question from the Member, the terminology development is ongoing in all native languages. They are developing a training module. It is nearing completion and materials up to the third module have been drafted. We have actually formalized the whole training process and in the training curriculum there are going to be four modules, each for two weeks, and the first module is "origins of law and criminal procedures", module two is "common offences, common defences, young offenders", module three "jury trials, expert witnesses, coroner inquests", module four "civil law and procedures". An introductory level cross-cultural workshop, either has or is about to be presented in Yellowknife for the judiciary, court staff, lawyers and interpreters. We have made tremendous progress.

As I have said, we have been told by the experts in the field that this is by far the most sophisticated course offered in North America. We are getting inquiries from all over the country; in fact from other places in the world, who want to learn from this. We are quite proud of the accomplishments in this area. I think it will not be too long before people will be asking us from around the world that we send over people to explain to them what we are doing in this area.

Registries And Court Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Registries and court services, total O and M, \$6,866,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Grants And Contributions

Grants, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 7.13. Details of grants and contributions, total grants, \$100,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Contributions, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 7.14. Total contributions, \$1,806,000. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, with regard to the Arctic Public Legal Education and Information Society, is this where a person can get a legal opinion, where they have this toll free hotline which a person can phone for legal advice?

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: You are right, it is a hotline, it is toll free. Rather than specific lawyer-client legal advice, it is giving general advice on the law, on how to proceed and some general assistance. It does not take the place of a traditional lawyer-client relationship if someone is having problems. It can point them toward who to talk to and, in a general sense, it can give them some advice as to how to proceed.

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

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I assume that the advice is free, and the lawyers provide free time for that?

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Yes, the lawyers provide free time and the executive director, Stephen Whipp, has done a tremendous job in his time here to do this, as well as many other activities. I remember when we first started this, maybe three years ago, there was a fair amount of criticism that it was not getting into the communities. There has been a lot more involvement of the society in the communities. This has the support of a lot of volunteer lawyers that are giving their time to man this particular line.

Contributions, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Page 7.14. Total contributions, \$1,806,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Grants And Contributions, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total grants and contributions, \$1,906,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The next two pages, 7.15 and 7.16, detail of work performed on behalf of third parties, \$921,000. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if you could allow me to ask a question. I am not sure where to ask it. It must come under one of these items here. Please excuse me if I appear to be naive or ignorant. When did the old age pension start in Canada? The reason I am asking is because in this book called "Mysterious North" written by Pierre Berton, when he talks about the Eskimos, he said that old age pensions began in 1944 and the Eskimos only received old age pensions then at the age of 70. There was some sort of injustice done to the Eskimos when colonialism came to the aboriginal Inuit. Is this a proper question, or am I being ignorant of the system?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Maybe the Minister could take it under advisement. Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I do not have the answer. I know it was during or just after the war that old age pensions were introduced. I can research it a little bit and see what I can find out for the Member.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have read part of the book. I do not particularly like the book, but I do want to indicate to the Minister and to the Government of the NWT that if the book is right, and if the question is accepted -- and obviously the Minister has accepted it -- some sort of injustice was done to the Eskimos then, because as original Canadians who looked after the North, and if the old age pension has been in existence for a number of years now -- maybe prior to 1944 or around that time -- then every Eskimo at that time who turned 65 or whatever had a right to receive that pension, like any other Canadian living in Canada. Just a comment, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Pages 7.15 and 7.16. Total department, \$921,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Total O And M, Deferred

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Back to page 7.07. Total O and M, \$35,283,000. Agreed? Mr. Gargan.

Motion To Defer Final Approval Of O And M, Department Of Justice, Carried

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a motion to defer final approval of O and M, specifically because it does have an effect on the Department of Social Services and there are unanswered questions which have to be addressed which also have an effect on the Department of Justice. So I move that we defer the final approval of the main estimates for the Department of Justice.

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

--Carried

Registries And Court Services, Buildings And Works, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

Page 7.08. Registries and court services, buildings and works, headquarters. Total headquarters, \$250,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Buildings And Works, Baffin, Total Capital

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Baffin, total capital, \$279,000. Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Could the Minister advise us what we received for the prior year's cost and what we will be receiving for the money that is proposed for this year?

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Are you talking about for Baffin? My understanding is that we will be doing the preliminary design of the new courthouse in Iqaluit in the next fiscal year. There might be some other work done but I am not sure right offhand. A local committee has been established and a submission for land acquisition was considered. Four alternative sites were requested for review and they have to establish a site and then a design consultant will be contracted for preliminary design. Preliminary plans are scheduled there for the next year. So that is what we will be doing. We will be picking a site and doing the plans.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to confirm that then. Picking the site, not working on it. Picking the site and doing the plans is going to cost us a total of \$643,000 in this two year period, is that correct?

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: What I am saying is that there could be some geotechnical work done on the sites. Your figure of \$643,000, put in a supp, was transferred to other projects last year. So that was not actually spent on the

site so the transfer of those funds was approved by this Assembly. So we are just talking about the new funds.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Total Baffin, \$279,000. Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, could the Minister explain to the House what the facility in Iqaluit is at the present time?

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Presently there is the existing facility, it is a rented facility and in the estimation of the evaluators it is not suitable for long-term use. We said when we put in the judge and the court registry that it was with the anticipation that there would be a new facility built. The reason that this facility was delayed is because we had a year when we were looking at the possibility of lease-built or one that we would build ourselves. After all of that, we have made the decision that we are going to build this as a government. So that cost us some time.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want some clarification because I do not understand this. The Minister says the \$364,000 prior years was transferred out of here by supplementary appropriation which we had approved. I do not remember precisely every supplementary appropriation that we approve but if we did transfer it out why does it still show here? It certainly gives us an incorrect picture of the total capital projection for a project. If it says we need \$279,000 to spend and \$364,000 was spent in prior years' costs, then it gives us information that is not correct. So how can we judge the budget and how can we realistically approve it if the figures do not make sense?

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: As I understand it -- I am going to have to check my figures for you -- \$120,000 was transferred in a supp and the rest is going to lapse. That is my understanding but I do not have it right here. I do not know why it did not show up there. It is because we lost a year because of the decision in evaluating the cost savings and the pros and cons of going lease-build or building our own. So I think that is what we did. We have transferred \$120,000 by supp and the rest has lapsed. I will get that for the committee, just to make sure that we have all the exact numbers.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have no difficulty with that. It is the technical thing that worries me a bit. It was my understanding that when it says "prior years' cost" in that column that we are talking about actual expenditures. What the Minister is telling me is that it is not actual expenditures and perhaps we should not even be looking at that column at all because if we have taken \$120,000 out of there for some other purpose, and I am not objecting to that or arguing with it, and we are going to lapse the other \$244,000 I have no arguments or objections with that either. My argument is that it should not be showing as prior years' cost. There should be no cost there at all. If there were no costs incurred why do they show as prior years' cost?

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Again, I will get the information for the Member but this year is not finished yet so I think next year it will all be taken into account. Like I said,

I will confirm everything I said but that is the way I understand it, the \$120,000 was transferred. There might have been \$5000 or \$6000 spent on some evaluations, the rest was lapsed and we will get a technical explanation as to why it still shows \$364,000. But that is my understanding to the best of my memory of what happened.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Through you, could I request that we get that technical explanation and could we also be advised if this is consistent throughout the entire budget, this procedure of presenting it like that?

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Sure, no problem.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total Baffin, \$279,000. Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, further to Mr. Pedersen's questions to the Minister. Showing in the prior years' cost, on page 7.08, part of that \$364,000, if I am understanding the Minister, is lapsed from prior years. I would ask the Minister if that would be part of the two million dollars on page V in the fiscal framework that says, "authority lapse due to incomplete capital projects, two million dollars", is that part of that number, Mr. Chairman?

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think so. I will have to confirm that.

Buildings And Works, Baffin, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Total Baffin, \$279,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Total buildings and works, \$529,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Total registries and court services, \$529,000. Mr. Ernerk.

Capital Projects Needed In Keewatin Region

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I am somewhat concerned and I will try to say it nicely and I hope I do not get into trouble by saying it. It is a comment to the Department of Justice. I would like to see this government take a look at the Northwest Territories equally, as much as possible, including capital projects and including services to the people in all of the Northwest Territories.

I often talk about a number of programs that need to be dealt with in the Keewatin Region.

Last year I asked a question with regard to the construction of a courthouse in Iqaluit and I got into slight trouble with the government; but that does not matter, that is the way that life goes. I see, again, a courthouse for Iqaluit for \$279,000. Mr.

Chairperson, are we really taking a look at where our priorities lie in all of the Northwest Territories? When I talk about capital programs, this regional hospital, birthing clinics in the Keewatin Region, I also have a question in the back of my mind as to when this government will make a major statement on placing capital projects, such as courthouses, in the Keewatin Region.

I would hope, if you understand what I mean, Mr. Minister and Members of the government, that during the winter session in 1991 you will make a mention during that winter session that you have taken a look at the number of court cases that have been held in the Keewatin Region, and I think there are many. I think there are quite a few over the course of the year, as there are in other places in the Northwest Territories. I would hope that in terms of bringing good justice to the communities, that one day in 1990-91, as part of your long-term plan, you will be able to say to me and to the people that I represent in the Aivilik riding and throughout the Keewatin Region that you have taken a look at the numbers of dollars – the amount of money is huge in terms of large amounts of money – and one day the people of the Keewatin Region will also receive the same kind of services that are offered in other parts of the Northwest Territories such as Iqaluit, Yellowknife, Inuvik and other places like that. I would hope, Mr. Chairperson, that the Minister will make a major statement like that when we meet again during the winter session of 1990-91.

For me, the only way and the only time that justice will work properly is when you bring it home to the communities. That

is the only time that it will work effectively and sufficiently and it will have a participation of people who are directly involved at the community level. I wish and I hope that this Minister will think about this between now and the winter session of 1990-91. Thank you.

Registries And Court Services, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Total registries and court services, \$529,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 7.06. Total capital expenditures, \$529,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): That concludes capital. Now I will rise and report progress. I would like to thank the witnesses.

ITEM 19: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MR. SPEAKER: I will call the House back to order. Report of committee of the whole. The honourable Member for High Arctic.

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering CR 1-90(1) and Bill 9-90(1), and wishes to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. You have heard the report of the chairman of the committee of the whole. Are you agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Speaker's Ruling

I wish to indicate the Speaker's ruling on the issue of the question of privilege. I have reviewed the question of privilege raised by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, which was subsequently spoken to by the honourable Member for Kivallivik. I wish to indicate that the point of privilege raised is not in order. However, I wish to state the following, regarding the Rules which affect all items of business of this House: Rule 35, "In debate a Member will be called to order by the Speaker if he: (h) makes allegations against another Member, an official or a witness; (i) imputes false or unavowed motives to another Member; (k) uses abusive or insulting language of a nature likely to create disorder; (l) speaks disrespectfully of Her Majesty, or of any member of the Royal Family, or of Her Excellency the Governor General," or His Excellency the Governor General, "or uses offensive language or words reflecting disrespect toward the Commissioner, the Assembly or any of its Members;"

Supplementary to these Rules, I wish to remind Members that the success of this House depends upon the respect and integrity we give to this institution, its Rules, and to all Members who are here to conduct work on behalf of the people of the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

Item 20, third reading of bills. Item 21, Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Meetings, Mr. Speaker, for Monday, February 19: ajauqtit at 9:00 a.m. and at 12:00 noon a meeting of the special committee on the northern economy.

ITEM 21: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Monday, February 19th.

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Oral Questions
6. Written Questions
7. Returns to Written Questions
8. Replies to Opening Address
9. Replies to Budget Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Tabling of Documents
13. Notices of Motion
14. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
15. Motions
16. First Reading of Bills: Bills 2-90(1), 3-90(1), 4-90(1), 5-90(1), 6-90(1) and 7-90(1)

17. Second Reading of Bills: Bill 1-90(1)
18. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters: CR 1-90(1) and Bill 9-90(1)
19. Report of Committee of the Whole
20. Third Reading of Bills
21. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Monday, February 19, 1990, at 1:00 p.m.

--ADJOURNMENT

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