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Speaker: The Hon. Richard Nerysoo, M.L.A.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1990

	<u>PAGE</u>
Prayer	164
Ministers' Statements	
- 7-90(1) Economic Strategy	164
- 8-90(1) Economic Strategy	165
- 9-90(1) Great Slave Lake Fish Freight Winter Subsidy	165
- 10-90(1) 20th Anniversary of Pangnirtung Weave Shop	165
- 11-90(1) Arctic Co-operatives Limited, 30th Anniversary	165
Members' Statements	
- Mr. Ningark on Government Hiring Practices, Natilikmiot	166
- Mr. Lewis on Safety at Mary Murphy Home, Yellowknife	166
- Mr. Whitford on Effects of Family Violence Program Cuts	166
Returns to Oral Questions	166
Oral Questions	168
Written Questions	174
Returns to Written Questions	175
Reports of Standing and Special Committees	175
Tabling of Documents	176
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of:	
- Bill 9-90(1) Appropriation Act, 1990-91	177
- Department of Economic Development and Tourism	177
- Department of Safety and Public Services	181
Report of Committee of the Whole of:	186
Orders of the Day	187

YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1990

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Richard Nerysoo): Orders for the day for Monday, February 19, 1990. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Ministers' Statement 7-90(1): Economic Strategy

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, when the Executive Council published our "Direction for the 1990s" document we made the following commitment, and I quote: "In the next four years the government will break down barriers to economic development by focussing on northern control of energy; improving the northern transportation network; reshaping financial support to business; and directing government spending so that it helps build local economies."

The Government of the Northwest Territories has focussed its energy and resources to meet this commitment. Today, Mr. Speaker, some of the results of our efforts will be brought forward in this House. I am pleased to announce that the Hon. Gordon Wray will be tabling both the government's and the Department of Economic Development and Tourism's strategic plans for economic growth and diversification.

The challenge of developing a plan to meet our economic objectives is daunting. Mr. Wray's business experience made him best suited to lead this task. Mr. Wray's instructions were to look at the role the government plays in the economy and to recommend ways to ensure that all Northerners who wish to participate in the economy and to share the benefits of economic prosperity, have ample opportunity to do so.

The government strategy was to be comprehensive, containing objectives and principles which would become the foundation for the government's economic policy during the 1990s. In undertaking this task, it was necessary to study the effect the government has on the economy as a regulator, as an educator, as an investor, and as a consumer and employer. Finally, it was necessary to answer questions about where and what types of jobs are being created and how many Northerners are filling these jobs.

All this was necessary to ensure that our response would address the needs of the NWT labour force; those participating in the wage economy and those dependent on land-based activities. Furthermore, it had to be generally consistent with the advice provided by the special committee on the economy through Mr. Lewis, Mr. Ernerk and Mr. Morin. We followed the path set by the special committee on the economy in defining the problems of the economy. However, the government's response had to go further and set out courses of action to achieve the results needed to address the problems. The economic strategy had to outline where the government could spend its money now to get immediate results and identify where investments were required over the

longer term to resolve the more persistent economic problems that hamper growth.

Consequently, the government strategy contains a number of departmental initiatives in the regions, which will put people to work now in disadvantaged areas, making use of available skills and resources, and in the longer term provide for other initiatives which will build an environment for sustainable economic growth.

In presenting this strategy to the Legislative Assembly, Mr. Wray will lead off by tabling the government strategy described in the report entitled "Economy in Transition: An Agenda for Action". The strategy defines the government's economic policy in its broadest sense by articulating in the economic policy the principles, the goals and objectives which form a framework for a full range of interdepartmental initiatives. These initiatives will proceed on a timetable which is depending upon a number of factors such as federal-territorial relations, global market forces and the availability of resources. During the course of the session appropriate departments will include a summary of initiatives undertaken to further the objectives of the strategy during their budget presentations.

Departmental Initiatives

In brief, the following departments will present initiatives that form part of the overall strategy: the Minister of Education will introduce a strategy for employment development which will increase participation of Northerners in the economy by providing employment related training; the Minister of Transportation will discuss the main elements of a plan for developing the northern transportation system; the Ministers responsible for Public Works, Municipal and Community Affairs, and the Housing Corporation will address the impact of government purchases and construction contracts on the economy and outline changes which will improve their impact; the Minister of Social Services will outline measures taken to enhance support systems for working families. This will be done in conjunction with an income support reform strategy which will be aimed at better integrating housing, child care, alcohol and drug prevention programs and counselling services, while recognizing a wildlife harvesters support program as an important component of income support reform; the Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources will outline progress in assuming greater control and participation over northern non-renewable resources; the Department of Renewable Resources will outline principles fundamental to our proposed sustainable development policy.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, this afternoon the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism will also table his strategic plan contained in a report entitled "Building On Strengths: A Community-Based Approach". The Minister will also today release four sector strategies integral to the department's strategy of building on strengths for arts and crafts, renewable resources, tourism and small business.

Since the "Direction for the 1990s" document was released, Mr. Wray and his departmental officials have worked countless

hours building a plan based on advice from people across the Territories. Input was received during the regional economic conferences, the special committee's community hearings and numerous meetings with business leaders and government officials. This investment of time and effort was essential to find out what was possible in the short and long term, given the time and resources available.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every NWT resident who took the time to freely give us advice on ways in which our economic performance could be increased. I believe that this strategy strikes the best balance between opportunities and economic constraints. Implementation will not be easy. We cannot do it ourselves, but by working together with other governments, industry, small business and NWT residents, government can bring together the people and the resources needed to build our economic future. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Ministers' statements. Honourable Member for Kivallivik.

Minister's Statement 8-90(1): Economic Strategy

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be tabling two documents today; the first entitled "Economy In Transition: An Agenda for Action", builds on the theme of the government's role in a changing economy and the second, "Building On Strengths: A Community-Based Approach", outlines the Department of Economic Development and Tourism's developmental strategy for the next five years. In defining our future role the special committee's report on the economy is particularly important because it brings to the attention of the public, information on changing patterns which have been occurring for some time but have not yet been clearly documented.

The most dramatic change is occurring in the economy of the small traditional community. More and more people are seeking to supplement income from land-based activities with earnings from wage employment. We cannot ignore this trend. The special committee spoke on the differences between the underdeveloped and the developed communities. In the government's strategy we have taken that one step further. Instead of formulating a strategy to deal with the differences in the two economies, the traditional and the wage-based, we have developed an economic plan which is based on building bridges and improving integration between these two economies.

The essential components of a successful economy are many. Consequently, our plan has many dimensions. To improve integration we have undertaken a major review of our transportation system, employment-driven education programs, our system for securing benefits from major industrial projects, systemic barriers to employment, our processes for ensuring that a balance is maintained between our economy and the natural environment consistent with the principles of sustainable development, and our business and industry infrastructure. With the changes we will introduce over the next five years, I believe we will go a long way to building a stable foundation for economic growth and stability. During my presentation of the department's budget, I will go into more detail about the contents of the department's strategy entitled "Building On Strengths: A Community-Based Approach". Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Kivallivik.

Ministers' Statement 9-90(1): Great Slave Lake Fish Freight Winter Subsidy

HON. GORDON WRAY: Mr. Speaker, I received a request from the MLA for Hay River, Mr. Pollard, on behalf of the Great Slave fishermen to extend the period for the winter subsidy. I am pleased to announce that the subsidy period will be extended from March 31 to May 10 at a price of 15 cents per pound, or 33 cents per kilogram, across the lake.

By extending this subsidy the winter fishery will be expanded, thereby providing approximately \$204,000 in additional gross revenue for the 30 people involved in the winter fishery. It is expected that between now and the end of the season the normal winter catch will be increased by up to 450,000 pounds or 225,000 kilograms as a result of seven crews moving to an area around Simpson Island where the fish have traditionally been more plentiful.

By extending the subsidy not only will we put income into the fishermen's pockets, but our support for the winter fishery makes good economic sense. Prices for whitefish peak at 85 cents per pound or \$1.87 per kilogram, during the winter, compared to 57 cents per pound or \$1.25 per kilogram in the summer and will result in a significant reduction in the number of culls that result from operation during the warm summer season. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Kivallivik.

Ministers' Statement 10-90(1): 20th Anniversary Of Pangnirtung Weave Shop

HON. GORDON WRAY: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to advise the Legislative Assembly that this year marks the 20th anniversary of the operation of the Pangnirtung Weave Shop. On behalf of the Assembly and my colleague from Pangnirtung, Mr. Kilabuk, I would like to offer special recognition to the weavers of Pangnirtung, who for 20 years have produced world class tapestries and woven products.

The arts and crafts industry is a \$20 million industry in the Eastern Arctic. Income from the sale of arts and crafts reaches into an estimated 25 per cent of all households. The prominence that the Pangnirtung tapestries have gained in art markets throughout North America and Europe has greatly assisted the promotion of unique, quality products from the Northwest Territories. From their small beginnings as an experimental weaving project, the shop has grown in size and reputation to where it now provides jobs to 14 weavers and piecework to over 40 women in Pangnirtung.

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism, and I, stand committed to supporting the development of a strong and healthy arts and crafts industry. I would like to extend my congratulations to the people of Pangnirtung, and in particular the weavers, for their significant contribution to the development of the NWT arts and crafts sector and I wish them continued success. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Kivallivik.

Ministers' Statement 11-90(1): Arctic Co-Operatives Limited, 30th Anniversary

HON. GORDON WRAY: Last one, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Arctic Co-operatives Limited is celebrating three decades of business in the Northwest Territories this year. It is a pleasure for me, as Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, to

extend congratulations and good wishes to the 37 member-owned co-operatives, and the other divisions of Arctic Co-operatives Limited, including the NWT Co-operative Business Development Loan Fund, Canadian Arctic Producers, Tuttavik, and Northern Images.

Mr. Speaker, co-operatives are familiar businesses in communities in the Northwest Territories. They are engaged in retail grocery; dry goods; hardware; the petroleum, oil and lubricants program; hotel; travel; expediting; postal services; and wholesale and retail arts and crafts marketing. The co-operatives contribute significant economic benefits to our economy. For example, they have 1200 full and part-time employees and are the second largest employers of native people after the government itself.

I am most pleased to relate that the northern co-operatives have recorded their most successful financial year. On total sales of \$46 million they earned profits of \$2.5 million to be returned as dividends to their members. Total assets are \$31 million with an equity of \$8.5 million. Member equity in Arctic Co-operatives Limited is five million dollars, and \$10 million in the NWT Co-operative Business Development Loan Fund, representing a substantial investment by Northerners.

Mr. Speaker, this is very good news for the co-operatives and for the economy of the Northwest Territories. I am pleased to note that the Government of the Northwest Territories' support for the innovative NWT Co-operative Development Fund has contributed in a major way to the health of the co-operative movement.

Arctic Co-operatives Limited is not resting on their laurels in this anniversary year, however. Fifteen communities have expressed interest in establishing new co-operatives; Bay Chimo, Arctic Bay, Clyde River, and Aklavik among them. In the arts and crafts division two new Northern Images stores opened in 1989 and negotiations are under way for three more this year. In addition, several product development initiatives are planned to diversify the supply of arts and crafts products. I am certain that the department's new arts and crafts strategy will provide the framework for many successful product development and new marketing initiatives which will benefit northern craftspeople.

Mr. Speaker, Arctic co-operatives have enabled many native Northerners to gain control over their local economies, to contribute to the employment, training, and cultural heritage of the Northwest Territories, and I congratulate the members for 30 years of service. I wish them continued success. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Ministers' statements. Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements. Members' statements. The honourable Member for Natilikmiot.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Government Hiring Practices, Natilikmiot

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand before this Assembly to conclude the government hiring practices report I was making on Thursday on government hiring practices. I would like to read the numbers of native, non-native and total government employment in the Natilikmiot region: the total government employees in the Natilikmiot region is 303; native people, 146.5; non-native people, 156.5; women, 164.5. I am very proud to bring this report before this House. What I stand for is to retain what we have gained and not to hinder the progress that we have made in the past 10 years. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

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

Member's Statement On Safety At Mary Murphy Home, Yellowknife

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On the weekend, while walking through my constituency, I stopped in at the Mary Murphy Home and was shocked to find that 15 senior citizens were spending sleepless nights because in the basement there was a furnace that was not working properly. The oil tank had been moved from outside to inside and there was a whole bunch of pipes stuck into the top of a tank and it looked like the kind of plumbing that I do, Mr. Speaker.

My concern is that we always talk about elders and the respect that we have for elders. These are old people who have not got the kind of response that they would expect, when they are not able to sleep simply because of fumes and because they do not have a feeling of safety. I will be asking the Minister of Safety a question later.

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

Member's Statement On Effects Of Family Violence Program Cuts

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to bring to your attention and to the House's attention a group of representatives from throughout the Northwest Territories who have come together here in Yellowknife to bring their concerns to the government about priorities regarding family violence and the effects that program cuts are going to have on this important priority.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate those women who have taken their time, who have gathered here this weekend to discuss regional and territorial issues dealing with family violence and the provision of services, both counselling and supportive services, in shelters for people in need. While they are here, they are hoping to meet with Members of this Legislative Assembly and this government to be able to reassure the Members that things are being done, but they also want to ensure that this priority is not lessened at all by government reductions. If Members could take a few minutes to meet with them, they are in the middle rows there. I would like to introduce them if I had enough time; they are from all over the North; they are from Iqaluit, Fort Providence, Rankin Inlet, Fort Smith, Hay River, Inuvik and of course, from Yellowknife. Thank you very much.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Members' statements. Members' statements. Item 4, returns to oral questions. The honourable Member for Kivallivik.

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

Return To Question O41-90(1): Purchasing Policy For Government-Run Stores

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to a question asked by Mr. Whitford on February 12, 1990, with regard to purchasing guidelines for government-owned enterprises. Mr. Speaker, government enterprises are given a budget, mainly for working capital, which can be spent at the discretion of the individual manager. When the costs of goods and services exceed the authority of the

manager, purchases are made by the Department of Government Services which follows established purchasing policies and procedures. The manager's purchasing decisions are made in consideration of government policy and in consideration of the need to supply goods to consumers at the lowest possible cost.

Enterprises are operated in a business-like manner while ensuring costs for customers do not become too onerous. A specific example is the government-owned store in Rae Lakes. This store provides for groceries and dry goods in the community. Annual expenditures exceed \$500,000, 51 per cent of which is directed to northern suppliers. Southern purchases allow the store to take advantage of reduced prices and volume purchases offered by wholesalers in Edmonton on a range of foodstuffs and dry goods. A letter providing complete details with regard to the purchasing practices of this specific store will be sent to the Member. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Returns to oral questions. The honourable Member for Nunakput.

Return To Question O50-90(1): Mercury Used For Filling Teeth

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Ningark on February 12, 1990, regarding mercury used for filling teeth. The filling material that is put in back teeth to replace tooth structure destroyed by decay is known as amalgam. This material is an alloy composed of silver, tin, copper and zinc in powder form, and mercury is added to the powder and mixed into a plasticine consistency in a special machine. At this stage the amalgam is placed into the tooth under pressure. The material hardens in about five minutes and then is carved to conform with the contour of the teeth. In the hardened form, there is no evidence that mercury vapour is released in harmful quantities or is absorbed by the body.

Any excess filling material which is not used in the tooth is placed in a special canister and sent once a year by the NWT dental therapists to the National School of Dental Therapy in Saskatchewan for disposal. Mr. Speaker, the Canadian Dental Association has stated that the use of silver dental amalgam is preferred over many other materials, and that there is no evidence to believe that patients are at risk if this material is used.

Return To Question O2-90(1): Devolution Of Authority To Hire Dental Therapists

I have another return to a question asked by Mr. Ningark on February 8, 1990, regarding the devolution of authority to hire dental therapists. In April 1988, Medical Services Branch, Health and Welfare Canada, transferred 28 dental therapist positions to the Department of Health, GNWT. These 28 positions were subsequently allocated to the regional health boards.

The health boards are responsible for hiring these health workers. It is essential that the professional staff of the regional health board, who are familiar both with the training institutions and also the medical and technical aspects of the various positions, be the primary people involved in the hiring process. Regional health board staff are able to explain to applicants the details of the medical components of the dental therapist positions and to assess candidate suitability.

Mr. Speaker, local communities have not been involved in this selection process. It would be possible, however, through the board structure, to consult with the community in which the health worker will be placed, so that any specific concerns which the community has may be identified. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Returns to oral questions. The honourable Member for Amittuq.

Return To Oral Question O42-90(1): Environmental Assessments For Pulp Mills

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to Question O42-90(1) asked by Mr. Morin on February 12, 1990, regarding environmental assessments for pulp mills. The Department of Renewable Resources has a person delegated to track pulp mills and all other industrial developments that occur on rivers in our neighbouring jurisdictions which subsequently flow into the Northwest Territories. Specifically, with regard to pulp mills using the kraft process, there are four which we are currently tracking: Alberta-Pacific, Daishowa, the Proctor and Gamble expansion in Grande Prairie, and the Weldwood expansion at Hinton.

The Alberta-Pacific review has been completed and we are awaiting the report of the environmental assessment review panel.

The Daishowa pulp mill is presently under construction. A joint federal-provincial review was done in 1988; however, an Alberta interest group is in the process of bringing action against the federal government. They feel that the environmental impact assessment was inadequate and that a comprehensive environmental assessment review process, EARP, was not followed.

The Proctor and Gamble expansion has not yet begun. The company has initiated proactive meetings with downstream users in Alberta and the Northwest Territories. They are presently working on an environmental impact statement which will include the Northwest Territories. It is expected that formal public hearings will be held once the environmental impact statement is submitted to the Alberta government.

The Weldwood expansion is nearly completed. The mill will soon be applying for a permit to operate and will be expected to comply with both Alberta's and the federal government's revised standards on pulp mill effluent, including persistent toxic compounds. This particular expansion, however, has not gone through a comprehensive public review.

Return To Question O21-90(1): Areas With Registered Traps

Mr. Speaker, I have another return, if I may, to Question O21-90(1), asked by Mr. Morin on February 8, 1990, regarding registered traps. There are two types of registered fur trapping areas at present. The most common one is the registered group trapping area. These are relatively large areas set aside for use by a large group. These areas may include one or more communities and many trappers. Presently, there are two registered group trapping areas: Fort Good Hope and one for the communities of Trout Lake, Nahanni Butte and Fort Liard. In order to trap within these areas you must belong to the group. Furthermore, the individuals cannot trap outside the area reserved for them.

The other type of registered fur area is called a registered trapping area and is much smaller in size and reserved for use by an individual or small group. There are 26 of these, primarily located in the South Slave in proximity to Fort Smith.

The honourable Member is correct when he indicates that one of the potential benefits for registering individual trapping areas is for management. It provides the individual or small group more opportunity to harvest the areas in a controlled manner. It also provides other benefits. The individual or group can plan their trapline development such as sets, trails, cabins, etc., confident that others will not be competing for the

same resource.

The honourable Member's request to compare productivity from registered and non-registered areas is more difficult to respond to. We do have records on fur sales by community and by species. However, differences in trapping effort, in trapping emphasis by species, access to different species, and in fur handling by trappers are all factors in price and productivity which make it difficult to compare. I will be happy to provide you with more specific information about fur harvests if you require it.

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 O110-90(1): Problems With Gasoline In Central Arctic

MR. NINGARK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct this question to the Government Leader. If someone else prefers to answer my question, feel free to do so. I was approached by a person from Gjoa Haven in regard to the petroleum products used for hondas, etc. There is a rumour that petroleum products used for those kinds of equipment are hazardous to the environment and the skidoos. There was an assessment done on this and I want to know if you have any results of this study that was done.

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Inuvik.

Return To Question O110-90(1): Problems With Gasoline In Central Arctic

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, yes, we have had an assessment done as a result of complaints we have received from Cambridge Bay, Coppermine and Gjoa Haven. Just recently we have also received one from Clyde River. As a result of the complaints we received from the Kitikmeot, tests of the gasoline were made and we have received a response from the samples that were sent out. The response has not been concluded, but the results of the testing to date would not indicate that it is the gasoline that is at fault. There is an anomaly in that Mr. Ningark's home town, Pelly Bay, which is supplied by gas from Hall Beach, is not troubled, nor are we experiencing difficulties in the Western Arctic but just in the Central Arctic. So in view of the fact that the gasoline would not seem to be the trouble, we are now looking at the octane rating because we have learned that in some communities, Coppermine being one where we visited just recently, they are applying an additive to the gasoline which provides an octane boost. It seems that once that additive is used, the problems are diminished. While we do not have anything conclusive, we are going to have thirty 45-gallon drums of automotive gasoline with a very high octane rating sent to Gjoa Haven, Cambridge Bay and Coppermine for testing purposes. I think this will solve the question with regard to the gasoline. There may be something else that is causing this problem, but at least we will determine whether it is the octane rating of our gasoline.

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

Question O111-90(1): Potential Health Hazard At Mary Murphy Home, Yellowknife

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister responsible for Safety. In light of the fact that 15 old people in the Mary Murphy Home, people who have lived in many parts of the Territories, find themselves with a heating system

which has an oil tank practically covering the whole entrance to the furnace room, where the oil tank of 250 gallons is only four feet away from the furnace, where there is oil all over the furnace floor, where there are fumes that people are breathing, where there are old people who cannot sleep because they fear their lives are in danger; will he, as soon as possible, get somebody to go down to that place, either to assure those old people that they are safe or to get things fixed up so that they can get some sleep for the rest of this week?

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

Return To Question O111-90(1): Potential Health Hazard At Mary Murphy Home, Yellowknife

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, if the Member had called me first thing in the morning, it would have been done already. So the answer is, yes.

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

Question O112-90(1): Distribution Of Report Re Gasoline Testing

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is a supplementary to the Minister of Government Services. The report that the Minister just referred to, inconclusive as it may be, could that be made available to us? I would be very interested in seeing it.

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

Return To Question O112-90(1): Distribution Of Report Re Gasoline Testing

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question O113-90(1): Interpreting Services At Aven Seniors' Centre, Yellowknife

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct this question to the Minister of Social Services, even though she is not present at the moment. I will direct my question to the Government Leader instead. I visited the Aven Senior's Centre in Yellowknife yesterday. It is a great house, and I saw a lot of elders who are now residing in that group home who are unilingual people. I would like to ask the Government Leader if they provide interpreting services to the group home here in Yellowknife? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will have to take that question as notice for the Minister of Social Services. Qujannamiik.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member is taking the question as notice. Oral questions. The honourable Member for High Arctic.

Question O114-90(1): Sport Hunting Of Polar Bears

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Renewable Resources with regard to the sport hunting of polar bears. Jerome Knapp is an outfitter for polar bear hunting. Is he the

only outfitter we have to go through to take people out polar bear hunting or can we take people out polar bear hunting through some other outfitters? This has created problems in some communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Member for Amittuq.

Return To Question O114-90(1): Sport Hunting Of Polar Bears

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, the HTAs in the NWT do not have to go through Canada North Outfitting Ltd., or any other outfitters in order to get sport hunters to hunt in their community. HTAs in the NWT can approach the hunters themselves. Thank you.

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

Question O115-90(1): Polar Bear Hunting By Dog Sled

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Renewable Resources. As you are aware, the sport hunting of polar bears is usually done by dog sled only. My question is, is it possible for people to take sport hunters by snowmobiles instead of just by dog team? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Amittuq.

Return To Question O115-90(1): Polar Bear Hunting By Dog Sled

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To date, the regulations state that they have to go by dog team. The regulations would have to be changed if we were to change it to snowmobiles. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Aivilik.

Question O116-90(1): Clean-Up Of Mine Site, Rankin Inlet

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will try to make my question to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs brief. I would like to know what MACA is doing with regard to the contaminated tailing pond at the old mine site in Rankin Inlet and whether it will be cleaned up. People have found out that it is hazardous, so I would like a response please. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Inuvik.

Return To Question O116-90(1): Clean-Up Of Mine Site, Rankin Inlet

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, yes, the condition described by the Member is exactly correct. The hazardous condition of the old tailings pond was identified in a report developed by Thurber Consultants in 1989, in responding to development expectations and plans that the community had for enlarging its industrial area. The report I think caught many people, including MACA, by surprise and in response to that report, in conjunction with the Rankin Inlet council, a special technical committee was established which included the territorial Departments of Municipal and Community Affairs, Renewable Resources, Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, from our government, the Keewatin Regional Health Board, the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet, plus representation from the federal Departments of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Fisheries and Oceans and Environment.

The committee has met on three occasions since it was formed. It has looked at the problems associated with that tailings pond and has suggested that there are more studies that should be carried out. I believe the committee is looking at making a report to myself next month. However, I have heard that one of the recommendations that the committee will be making will be that further work has to be done and that money will have to be found for a consultant to examine both the short-term response and the long-term response to the problem.

While I have not received the report yet, Mr. Speaker, I have been in touch with the federal government to inquire if they are aware, through the federal appointees on the board, of this need, and to try and identify the amount of money that will be required to develop the consultant's role.

As the Member quite rightly points out there has been some short-term correction action taken. That is the flooding of the area and putting up signs, but it is not too long before spring will be upon us and that will be melted and that site will again be exposed. So I am very much aware of the concern that the Member has brought to me. I will have to meet with my own executives advising them of this additional need to deal with that very serious problem.

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

Question O117-90(1): Group Trapping Area, Fort Providence

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Renewable Resources. Mr. Speaker, the Minister made his statement on registered group trapping areas. The community of Fort Providence has, for some time, identified an area which they would like to register as a group trapping area. I would like to ask the Minister, how soon would he be able to establish and identify this group trapping area that the community of Fort Providence has been requesting?

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

Return To Question O117-90(1): Group Trapping Area, Fort Providence

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, when these trapping areas are being established, generally the department and the communities who are affected get together and agree on the size and the standards that are to be followed by the trappers. Once the people who will be using that area and the department agree on the size, the recommendation to the Minister will be put forth for approval. I cannot say at this point where that is today, for that particular area. Thank you.

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

Question O118-90(1): Condition Of Community Hall, Snowdrift

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. Mr. Minister, I would like to start off by thanking you for coming into Snowdrift on Friday. It was a very good visit. What I would like to know is, in what condition did you find the community hall in Snowdrift?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for

Inuvik.

Return To Question O118-90(1): Condition Of Community Hall, Snowdrift

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, one of the cardinal rules is that you do not ask a question for which you do not know the answer. The Member was with me and he knows the answer. It was very cold and not very comfortable.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. The honourable Member for Tu Nede, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O118-90(1): Condition Of Community Hall, Snowdrift

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So, Mr. Minister, what action are you going to take to rectify the problem?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Inuvik.

Further Return To Question O118-90(1): Condition Of Community Hall, Snowdrift

HON. TOM BUTTERS: As the honourable Member well knows, Mr. Speaker, in discussions with himself and the chief, I think it was pointed out that the current facilities that have been made available in the community of Snowdrift are what it is entitled to under the policy of our government. What I indicated to the Member and to the chief is that I would certainly be willing to sit down and look at their particular situation. As I understand it, the policy that we have developed for small communities has been fully put in place in Snowdrift. But I will look at it further, sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Question O119-90(1): Decrease In Budget For Family Violence Programs

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question that I am going to direct to the Government Leader. Mr. Speaker, I have been made aware, and I hope the House has been made aware in the last few days here, that since 1988 most of the emergency shelters here in the Northwest Territories, shelters for assault victims, have doubled their occupancy and threaten to double that again in the years to come. The question is for the Government Leader: This year the government has increased its budget by about two per cent but, at the same time, it has decreased the budget for family violence programs by that same amount. Does this mean that the government is no longer committed to the issue of family violence?

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

Return To Question O119-90(1): Decrease In Budget For Family Violence Programs

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, while I am tempted to take the question as notice, I would like to assure the honourable Member that this government is committed to addressing the issue of family violence. I expect the evidence will be provided when the Minister of Social Services presents her main estimates for the Department of Social Services to this House later in this session. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable

Member for Baffin South.

Question O120-90(1): Regulations Re Sport Hunting Of Polar Bears

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Renewable Resources. Is it possible that you can change the regulations or are you going to attempt to change the regulations in regard to sport hunting of polar bears? Thank you.

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

Return To Question O120-90(1): Regulations Re Sport Hunting Of Polar Bears

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question that the Member raised is an interesting one but I am not prepared to change it as it is agreed to by Canada through our participation under the CITES convention. The Government of Canada was also involved in the CITES Agreement so we have to abide by their agreement. In the Northwest Territories there are quotas set for hunting of polar bears under this agreement. I can further provide the Member with more information on this, if he so requires. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O120-90(1): Regulations Re Sport Hunting Of Polar Bears

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like an indication in this House whether it is "yes" or "no" because it is very difficult sometimes to understand exactly what you mean. Thank you.

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

Further Return To Question O120-90(1): Regulations Re Sport Hunting Of Polar Bears

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this present time I am not trying to change the regulations.

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

Question O121-90(1): Polar Bear Quota For Clyde River

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will direct my question to the Minister of Renewable Resources. We do not do it on purpose but it seems as if we have questions to the same Minister. I was told by my constituents in Clyde River that the quota was lowered in Clyde River for polar bears. They were told that they were going to raise the quota again. When will the quota go back to the original amount? They were concerned about when they will get their old quota back for polar bears, because of the fact that there is a very low employment rate in Clyde River. They do not have the resources for carving. That was the main reason. In my constituency, this is a community where they do not have very many job opportunities. When will you raise the quota again? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for

Amittuq.

Return To Question O121-90(1): Polar Bear Quota For Clyde River

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have been reviewing the quota for the Northwest Territories for a number of years now that scientists have been studying the polar bears. Mr. Speaker, with regard to the polar bear quotas, the Member is correct that some years ago the community of Clyde River made an agreement with our government to reduce the quotas. At this time studies are being conducted and in some areas these studies are almost completed. Departmental officials will be going to different communities in the Northwest Territories to discuss the polar bear quotas. Clyde River is included. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for your response. When you review the quotas for the Northwest Territories, you might have to take into consideration that Clyde River does not have very many resources like soapstone. It is not easily available. I hope they will be increasing the quota for polar bear. Thank you.

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

Question O122-90(1): Transfer Of Responsibility For Airports To GNWT

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister responsible for the airports division. It is regarding Nanisivik and Hall Beach. The responsibility for airports will be given to the territorial government. It was going to start in the fall but they have not reached agreement. When can we expect an agreement?

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

Return To Question O122-90(1): Transfer Of Responsibility For Airports To GNWT

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The original date for transfer was actually April 1, 1989 and then we moved it to the fall; we have moved it again to April 1, 1990. Part of the problem is continuing problems in the negotiations of the turnover of the airports and the proper funding, and in that whole problem we have with the capital for the six new airports. Essentially, I have said that I am not willing to accept responsibility for O and M for 40 airports until we can resolve the capital issue for at least the six new airports. I am hopeful that the turnover will take place on April 1 of this year, but it is now the middle of February and we still have not had any word from Mr. Bouchard on the response to our strategy. So while I say, officially April 1, 1990, I suspect it is probably not going to be until the fall, quite honestly. Thank you.

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

Question O123-90(1): Deciduous Tree Die-Off Near Yellowknife

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister responsible for Renewable Resources. Last summer, the people in the city of Yellowknife were concerned

about the die-off of trees, the deciduous trees, just northwest of Giant mines. This concern was raised because it is on the outskirts of the city and it is in the prevailing wind area of the city. Can the Minister advise me if his department undertook a thorough study and determined what the cause of this tree die-off is, and whether or not this report is ready? If so, when can we get it?

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

Return To Question O123-90(1): Deciduous Tree Die-Off Near Yellowknife

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The department is aware of this problem and has investigated it. We believe that the sulphur dioxide emissions from Giant mines is the cause of this problem. Forestry Canada has agreed to have their inspectors assess this problem next summer. We will know then what the cause of this problem is, after their inspection has been completed. Thank you.

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

Supplementary Question O123-90(1): Deciduous Tree Die-Off Near Yellowknife

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Speaker, supplementary question. The fact is that the winds fortunately were blowing away from the city, but they also blow toward the city. My question is, is there a chance that this problem is going to occur on the south side of Giant mines, in the city?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Amittuq.

Further Return To Question O123-90(1): Deciduous Tree Die-Off Near Yellowknife

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, at this point, we believe that the cause of the problem is sulphur. Nevertheless, there could be other causes of this problem. Unless we know for sure what the causes are, we are not going to know what the potential impact of this problem will be. As I said, Mr. Speaker, there is going to be a study done, an assessment of this problem and the causes of it, by Forestry Canada by this summer. Unless we know what the real cause is we cannot start to speculate on the cause of the problem. Thank you.

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

Question O124-90(1): Fort Smith Region Decentralization

MR. ZOE: Mahsi cho, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Government Leader. Would the Government Leader give us an update on the status of the decentralization of the Fort Smith Region? Mahsi cho.

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

Return To Question O124-90(1): Fort Smith Region Decentralization

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, that is quite an ambitious question to answer in that the organizational review undertaken by my predecessor in 1987 covers organizational plans and changes for almost every department of our government within the Fort Smith Region. I will try to provide the highlights for the honourable

Member, Mr. Speaker.

As I stated to the House in presenting the budget of the Department of the Executive, I am pleased to note that this year in the budget before this Legislature, in fine tuning the Fort Smith organizational review, the government proposes the addition of an area director for the North Slave area in Rae, as well as the upgrading of a Fort Simpson area position to a similar level. This is aimed at providing executive management and program co-ordination in the North Slave area and in the Simpson area, independent of the regional executive in Fort Smith. Mr. Speaker, the object is to, as much as possible, give the Deh Cho and the North Slave areas management which is, in effect, self-sufficient and, as much as possible, independent of Fort Smith.

The other organizational changes are quite detailed, Mr. Speaker, so I will not go into that detail at this point. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O124-90(1): Fort Smith Region Decentralization

MR. ZOE: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Government Leader, through you, if he would table all the detailed documents that he has made reference to in regard to decentralization of the Fort Smith Region.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Member for Iqaluit.

Further Return To Question O124-90(1): Fort Smith Region Decentralization

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I will prepare a report on the reorganization of the Fort Smith Region to date and table it in this House.

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

Question O125-90(1): Cullage Rate On Great Slave Lake

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Economic Development. In his Ministers' statement today titled "Great Slave Lake Fish Freight Winter Subsidy", he stated at the bottom "...and will result in a significant reduction in the number of culls that result from operation during the warm summer season." How will this program result in a decrease of the culls of the whitefish?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Member for Kivallivik.

Return To Question O125-90(1): Cullage Rate On Great Slave Lake

HON. GORDON WRAY: I asked that same question this morning and the answer I was given by my department is that there is a lot less wastage in the winter than there is in the summer.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Member for Tu Nede, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O125-90(1): Cullage Rate On Great Slave Lake

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary. Mr. Minister, as you are aware, there is right now a 19 per cent cullage rate on the lake. That is well over a quarter of a

million pounds of wastage of fish. Even with this program how does that bring down the percentage? It has no effect. Is your department at all concerned of the cullage rate on Great Slave Lake?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Kivallivik.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Obviously we are always concerned about cullage rate. However, I perhaps should take this under advice to get more information from the department, but what I am told is that a winter fishery reduces the amount of cullage in the fishery. I will take the rest of the question under advice and get back to the question.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member is taking the question as notice. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Nahendeh.

Question O126-90(1): Fort Smith Regional Director Moving To Yellowknife

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I was not going to say anything regarding decentralization, but since my colleague has raised the subject, it has jogged my memory a bit. Firstly, I want to thank the Government Leader for coming to Fort Simpson as he did to deal with the matter of further decentralization to Simpson. I am in general agreement with the views to strengthen the areas in Fort Simpson and Rae and Smith. One of the options I know the government had was a possibility of moving the present regional director, who is living far off in Fort Smith, far off in the southern corner of the NWT, the option of moving him to Yellowknife, which would be much more central and where he can deal more appropriately with the three areas. I am wondering what has happened to this option, whether the Government Leader is able to state what the plans are in this regard.

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

Return To Question O126-90(1): Fort Smith Regional Director Moving To Yellowknife

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the option of relocating the regional director to Yellowknife does make some sense and perhaps it makes the most sense in the long term. Having said that, Mr. Speaker, I should observe that some aspects of the regional director's co-ordinating role, in fact most aspects of the regional director's co-ordinating role, will now be undertaken by the area management which we have now established in communities like Simpson and Rae. So the co-ordinating role is perhaps somewhat lessened by those moves.

Mr. Speaker, nonetheless I do think that this should be the way we go ultimately. I cannot say, however, that I have determined to relocate the present incumbent for the foreseeable future. But I think that in the long run that is what should be done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Member for Nahendeh, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O126-90(1): Fort Smith Regional Director Moving To Yellowknife

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate what the Government Leader has said. So it seems that in the very long future, someday, the regional director will be moved from Smith to Yellowknife. I think this will be the right thing to do. I have heard it said that Mr. Ellis, being a very good singer -- he has a beautiful baritone voice -- that one of the

considerations that was dealt with in deciding what to do with him is that he was necessary in Fort Smith because they have a beautiful cathedral which requires someone like Mr. Ellis singing. So part of the decision to keep him there now, I heard it said, is that he was necessary there. There is no cathedral in Yellowknife.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Just to remind Members that the supplementary should be associated to the original question that was asked. The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

Further Return To Question O126-90(1): Fort Smith Regional Director Moving To Yellowknife

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it certainly is true that Mr. Ellis has a beautiful voice, baritone I believe. However, I would like to assure the honourable Member that the government, in its wisdom, usually does not consider such factors in its decision-making. I would like to assure the public that we are not going to await the establishment of a cathedral in Yellowknife to move the incumbent to that city.

I am not sure if the Member wants a serious answer to that question or not, Mr. Speaker, but I do agree that Mr. Ellis has a very fine voice. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Question O127-90(1): Cause Of Traffic Fatality, Yellowknife

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct a question to the Minister responsible for Highways. Last fall I raised the issue in Norman Wells of the unsafe condition of the highways. This past January there was a tragic accident on the highway involving three large transport vehicles. I would like to ask the Minister whether or not his department has investigated that accident and has come to any conclusions that the highway conditions played any significant part in that fatality.

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Kivallivik.

Return To Question O127-90(1): Cause Of Traffic Fatality, Yellowknife

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Member is indeed correct. On January 8th there were three super B tankers involved in a major accident on the corner of highway 3, north of Yellowknife. Unfortunately this accident resulted in the death of one driver, injuries to another and the spillage of some fuel. Obviously, in a situation like this, we are extremely concerned about traffic conditions and what role, if any, did they play. The vehicles themselves belonged to Westcan Bulk Transportation who have just recently opened a terminal here in Yellowknife.

RCMP investigations, and investigations by our own people, have come to the conclusion that the deceased driver of the southbound tanker lost control of her transport due to excessive speed in negotiating a curve on the highway. The department followed up to see if road conditions, transport equipment, all the practices of the carrier may have been involved in the collision and we arrived at the same conclusion as the RCMP, Mr. Speaker; that the very simple and common driver error of going too fast had the tragic and fatal consequences.

However, I would like to also report that as a direct result of

the collision, Westcan Bulk Transportation has imposed on its drivers an 80 kilometre speed limit on highways 1 and 3 and a one mile following distance between trucks. Also the terminal manager in Yellowknife of Westcan's duties will include regular highway patrols to observe the performance of the Westcan fleet on the highways. Thank you.

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

Question O128-90(1): Media Present At Economic Press Briefing

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since we do not have a really tough, mean opposition, we depend very, very much on the press to let the public know what is going on in the Northwest Territories. So I would like to ask the Minister responsible for Economic Development and Tourism, this morning I believe he had a press conference to explain to the people of the NWT, through the media, what his plans were in terms of an economic strategy. We normally have Native Communications, CJCD, CBC and some stringers from out-of-town papers and the local News North of Yellowknife -- could he tell me if all those people were at that press conference?

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

Return To Question O128-90(1): Media Present At Economic Press Briefing

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Member is indeed correct; because of the vast distances in size we depend heavily on the media to inform the public as to what is going on in the NWT, particularly the print media because radio is not available in all regions.

This morning we did not have a press conference, but because the economic documents are very detailed and require a lot of explanation and questions, we scheduled a press briefing. Invitations were sent to all of the local press that the Member mentioned. Unfortunately, I have to say that the only people that showed up were CBC radio, the Edmonton Journal, L'Aquilon and Nunatsiaq News. The News North, which is probably the most widely read newspaper, did not bother to show up. I guess it did not think it was important. Thank you.

AN HON. MEMBER: Shame.

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

Question O129-90(1): Monitoring Air Emissions From Heavy Industry

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister responsible for Renewable Resources. A question was raised earlier about the suspected emissions from industry. It is speculated on the cause of this tree die-off north of the city. Can any territorial regulations be applied to monitor, very carefully, emissions from heavy industry in this area? Are there any rules and regulations or guidelines that we can impose or introduce to monitor emissions?

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Amittuq.

Return To Question O129-90(1): Monitoring Air Emissions From Heavy Industry

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At the present time, no. The provisions when the federal government is giving out water licences do not allow monitoring to take

place. However the federal and land use leases administered by Municipal and Community Affairs deals with the air emissions. At the present my understanding is that no federal air quality regulations exist. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O129-90(1): Monitoring Air Emissions From Heavy Industry

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Speaker, it puzzles me quite a lot that one department of government does not have any regulations and yet it is possible that another department may or may not have. I wonder if these two departments can get together and maybe come up with some kind of a solution to this particular problem. Is the Minister's department talking to the other department about this potential hazard?

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Amittuq.

Further Return To Question O129-90(1): Monitoring Air Emissions From Heavy Industry

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my department could talk to MACA or any federal departments. But at the present time my understanding is that there are no provisions existing in legislation either through our government or the federal government that accommodates the Member's concern. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O129-90(1): Monitoring Air Emissions From Heavy Industry

MR. WHITFORD: Yes, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps the Minister can tell me when they are going to have some regulations and guidelines in the Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Amittuq.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, with your indulgence I would like to take the question under advisement.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member is taking the question as notice. Oral questions. Honourable Member for Baffin Central.

Question O130-90(1): Commercial Use For Sharks

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is directed to the Minister for Economic Development and Tourism. We are going to keep asking for this until we get it. It is regarding the fishermen in Baffin. Their business has been destroyed by the sharks. The fish nets cost around \$300 or \$400. Sometimes they buy the nets and as soon as they are set out, they are destroyed by sharks. My question is, is there any commercial use for sharks in the future, perhaps in the 1990s? I would encourage the government to try hard to find a market for sharks. If we could find a market for sharks, I am pretty sure people in Baffin could make more money on them. Perhaps, Mr. Minister, you will look into this to see if we could find a market for sharks. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Member for Kivallivik.

Return To Question O130-90(1): Commercial Use For Sharks

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you. As I reported in the fall, Mr. Speaker, we are trying to break into this market. However, the Member should understand that it is a market that is very tightly controlled by a cartel centred in the United States and Europe and it is very difficult to get into this market. We are introducing salting and drying techniques to the fishermen this year to reduce the weight of the skins, but we also have run into more problems now inasmuch as the mercury levels in the flesh are above the levels allowable under the Canadian federal Department of Health. These levels are under allowable limits for the United States. We also have a slight problem that we do not think will be a major one, and that is the flesh also contains a toxin resulting from the ingestion of a pelagic snail which is part of the sharks' diet. We have run into a couple of minor snags, but I can assure the Member that we are trying to break into this market and I will keep him regularly informed as to our progress. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. Oral questions. Item 6, written questions. Honourable Member for Aivilik.

ITEM 6: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question W10-90(1): Health Costs In Keewatin Re Specialists' Travel

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a written question to the Department of Health. Could the Minister of Health provide to this House the expenditures incurred by the Department of Health in 1988 and 1989 for health related matters, including travel and accommodation costs for visiting specialists to the Keewatin Region -- that is, ear, nose and throat specialists; doctors; pediatricians and gynecologists? As well, could the Minister of Health provide this House with the costs regarding travel and accommodation of visiting dentists to the Keewatin Region for 1988 and 1989 from Yellowknife, Churchill and Winnipeg? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Written questions. The honourable Member for Deh Cho.

Question W11-90(1): Chernobyl Radiation Effects

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, my written question is to the Minister of Health. Has the Government of the Northwest Territories conducted or received any scientific research on the Chernobyl radiation fall-out? Has this government conducted its own analysis of the research, and are you satisfied that there are no long-term health problems as a result of the radiation fall-out? Further, would the Minister table in this House the reports of the Chernobyl disaster and the effect of the radiation fall-out on the environment and the wildlife in the NWT?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Written questions. Written questions. Honourable Member for Natilikmiot.

Question W12-90(1): HAP Eligibility Of Small Business Operators

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Housing. I would like to know if the small business operators in the community are recognized by the NWT Housing Corporation as part of the eligible group to

receive HAP houses, since these individuals are very much part of the local economy. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Written questions. Written questions. Item 7, returns to written questions. Mr. Clerk.

ITEM 7: RETURNS TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Speaker, return to Question W8-90(1), asked by Mr. Morin to the Minister of Renewable Resources on cancellation of registered traplines in South Slave.

Return To Question W8-90(1): Cancellation Of Registered Traplines In South Slave

Hon. Titus Allooloo's return to Question W8-90(1), asked by Mr. Morin on February 14, regarding cancellation of registered traplines: A registered group trapping area and registered trapping area may not be altered without the approval of a hunters and trappers association. No trapline has been registered by the department anywhere in the Northwest Territories without the necessary approvals from hunters and trappers associations having first been obtained.

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

ITEM 11: REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Report Of Special Committee On The Northern Economy

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, this is a report of the special committee on the northern economy. Mr. Speaker, the government has now had almost four months to review the final report of the special committee on the northern economy, the SCONE report. Along with the other Members of this House, I am anxiously awaiting the answer to the one single question that must now capture our attention, how will the government translate these findings and recommendations into a long-term economic development strategy? We should know the answer very shortly when Mr. Wray talks to us about his particular budget.

But, as our attention is focussed on the future, it is important that we turn to the past and remind ourselves what this whole exercise is really all about. Mr. Speaker, two years ago this month, the Members of this House created the special committee on the northern economy for some very specific reasons. They were concerned about what was happening to our economy. They knew it was undergoing significant changes and they sensed that there was no vision, no long-term strategy, for dealing with the future. So they set up our committee and told us to create a vision, and so we did. We went out and talked to people; for 18 months we travelled to every part of the NWT and we talked to hundreds of people.

We discovered, Mr. Speaker, what we thought we would discover. There was no vision, no clear cut sense of priorities. Though many government departments were trying to do a good job, they were often working at cross-purposes. In terms of the economy, there was no leadership, no sense of direction and no co-ordinated strategy among departments and programs. You could drive a truck through the gaps

between economic, educational and social programs. Also missing were solid evaluation procedures. For years it seems government has been setting up programs, turning them loose with a meter running and not doing nearly enough to make sure they were staying on track.

Perhaps the greatest problem we encountered, Mr. Speaker, was a sense that there was no control at the local and regional level. We heard continual complaints about too much bureaucracy, too much centralized planning, too much neglect of local concerns and priorities. We quickly realized that solutions could no longer be imposed from above, or from outside. There was only one way to turn things around. Government would have to stop working in isolation and begin working with people, groups and organizations to develop local economies. The key to the development of local economies was the development of people through education, organization and discipline. I do not mean "imposed values", Mr. Speaker. I mean those values of education, organization and discipline within people and within communities.

Mr. Speaker, we listened to what people told us. We listened carefully, and then we took their ideas and developed them into a vision. The vision contained in the SCONE report is a long-term economic development strategy based upon the principles I have outlined. It is a vision that calls on the whole of the government to develop local economies by helping people to develop themselves to control these local economies.

Mr. Speaker, since we finished our report we have had a chance to sit back and reflect on the validity of the vision we have presented to this House in the broader context of world events. In the few months since we have completed our work we have seen each night, on our television sets, amazing changes in the rest of the world. The whole of eastern Europe and the total society of South Africa are undergoing deep, radical and permanent changes. Whole economies are being transformed and, though these societies are very different from our own, the principles guiding these changes are the same principles that we have built into the SCONE report.

People do not want imposed, centrally planned solutions; they want to make decisions for themselves. What is the vision that Mr. Mandela, for example, worked out for his people during his 27 years of imprisonment? Standing before thousands of his people with his clenched fist held high he has proclaimed the gospel of organization and personal discipline. Who among us can forget what he said during that poignant moment when he returned to his small bungalow in Soweto and he looked at the hundreds of young people pressing around him and said, "The best thing you can do for this cause is to go back to school"?

Mr. Speaker, since completing our report we have received many comments. Most of them have been favourable but there are some who feel that we have not said enough about the need to stimulate business. Although we value the indispensable role that our business community must play in the revitalization of our economy, we realize that there can be no business development without people development, especially development through education and training. This point has been emphasized time and time again in a series on the economy of Atlantic Canada. This was of great interest to us because they are so similar to us.

This series is running in the business section of the Globe and Mail. In the first article, on February 10, the author notes the tremendous resurgence in entrepreneurship and the development of small businesses, especially within the French-speaking community in New Brunswick. New Brunswick has

seen an increase of 327 per cent in new businesses from 511 in 1982 to 2144 in 1989. The reason, according to the article, is the tremendous impact of the University of Moncton. It gives people the education they need to get good jobs and exposes them to the world of business.

The link between education and business development is not lost on the local politician who must determine spending priorities. I quote from this article, "In regions constantly on the lookout for new ways to boost the economy, the education option is becoming increasingly attractive. For politicians, channelling more money towards education rather than flashy mega-projects may not be as appealing because there are no grand openings to officiate at, no ribbons to cut, but the idea that money could better be spent on developing basic infrastructures such as a well-educated workforce is gaining ground among businessmen and economists."

Mr. Paul Martin, last weekend, at a forum on the hill made the same comment, that the emphasis in the SCONE report was probably the right one and we should look at it if we want to develop our economy even on a national scale. "In my most sinful moments I think they should slash all funding to private business and put it all into education", says economic consultant Elizabeth Beale of Halifax.

Mr. Speaker, we are not suggesting that the government slash all support for private business. On the contrary, it must support business development but it must do so in a way that links business development with people development. Government economic programs must be closely tied to its educational and social programs. If there is no people development, if people cannot gain a basic education and needed work skills, there will be no business development.

We have great confidence, Mr. Speaker, in the approach outlined in the SCONE report. We realize that government is very concerned about budget limitations due to formula financing and sees a shadow of the goods and service tax hovering above us, about to pounce down out of the sun onto our very young economy.

We urge the government not to panic, not to throw our report on the grounds of fiscal restraint, because we do not expect a quick fix and the people we talked to are fed up with quick fixes. We have prepared a long-term economic strategy and we expect the government to take the long-term approach as well. Over the next decade this government will spend much more than \$10 billion on goods and services. There is plenty of time to redirect priorities and institute the developmental approach that will help us to create a viable economy.

To help the government we have developed a useful evaluation tool; it is called the SCONE score card, and it is already on Members' desks. It is designed to ensure that government policies, programs, projects and strategies are in line with the principles that we have spelled out in the SCONE report. We have outlined many principles in it and as we go through the government strategy and the government budget we will be using the score card to indicate to what degree you have in fact taken the work of our special committee seriously.

Mr. Chairman, on the very last page of our report we asked the government what so many of the people we spoke to asked us: Is all this work and is all this money going to make a difference? That is now a question that we must address to Mr. Wray, responsible for the Department of Economic Development, but hopefully he will be doing it on behalf of other Members who have helped him to develop this strategy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Motion To Move SCONE Report To Committee Of The Whole, Carried

I would now like to move, Mr. Speaker, seconded by the Member for Aivilik, that the special committee on the northern economy's final report, The SCONE Report: Building our Economic Future, be moved into committee of the whole for further discussion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

---Carried

The committee report shall be moved into committee of the whole for discussion today. Reports of standing and special committees. Reports of standing and special committees. Item 12, tabling of documents. Tabling of documents. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

ITEM 12: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to table Tabled Document 14-90(1), Counselling Centres/Shelter Use in the Northwest Territories. It outlines, Mr. Speaker, some of the figures that will give Members an indication of what the present situation is for family violence and how these facilities are being used. It will also give the reader an outline of what the cuts in the budget are going to mean to the shelters in the future, in the coming year. It will also give the reader an indication of where these shelters are located and some of the people that are running the types of services that are provided by the centres. It will also give the reader, Mr. Speaker, more importantly, an indication of the value of the dollar spent.

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

HON. GORDON WRAY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to table Tabled Document 15-90(1), Economy in Transition: An Agenda for Action. This is in English and Inuktitut, and it is the government's main strategy document.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I would like to table Tabled Document 16-90(1), Building on Strengths: A Community-Based Approach. It is from the Department of Economic Development and Tourism and it has four appendices: Tourism: The Northern Lure; Arts and Crafts: Creating Opportunities For the 1990s; Small Business: Big Potential; Renewable Resources: Building on a Tradition. These are also in English and Inuktitut. Thank you.

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

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to table Tabled Document 18-90(1), a document from the Baffin Regional Council, the motion that was made during the Baffin Regional Council session, in regard to lack of plumbers and electricians in the communities. Also, Mr. Speaker, I would like to table Tabled Document 17-90(1), a document with regard to the high prices of skidoos and hunting equipment. Thank you.

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

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to table Tabled Document 19-90(1), a

document from the mayor of Repulse Bay. It is in regard to the priorities that they have set up in Repulse Bay. They want Municipal and Community Affairs to give this consideration because of lack of gravel. They have spotted where they can get gravel. There is also a lack of docks in Repulse Bay and also the airstrip is very close to the community, to the houses, and with the increase of houses in the community, the community itself cannot grow. They have spotted where they would like to see the airstrip. These are their priorities. I would like MACA to give this some consideration. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Tabling of documents.

Item 13, notices of motion. Notices of motion.

Item 14, notices of motion for first reading of bills. Notices of motion 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; Committee Report 2-90(1), Special Committee on the Northern Economy Report; with Mr. Zoe in the chair.

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): The committee will now come to order. We are on the main estimates, 1990-91. We were dealing with Bill 9-90(1) on Friday. What is the committee's wish? Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The government was ready to proceed with the Department of Economic Development, but I understand that some of the Members would like a bit more time to study the documentation. We would ask, though, if the Minister of Economic Development could give his opening address because it summarizes the government's strategy and then after that the government will be prepared to put off the rest of Economic Development and go to the Department of Safety and Public Services.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): We have one suggestion from the Government House Leader to deal with Bill 9-90(1). Is the committee agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Prior to going to Economic Development and Tourism we will recess for 10 minutes.

---SHORT RECESS

Bill 9-90(1): Appropriation Act, 1990-91

Department Of Economic Development And Tourism

I would like to call the committee to order. We are dealing with the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. Mr. Minister, are you prepared to give your opening remarks?

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr.

Chairman, fellow Members, we often think about budgets in terms of dollars and person years; which department or community wins and who loses. We sometimes forget that budgets are the final step in the planning process, the action plan. They commit money and resources to the task at hand. It goes without saying, Mr. Chairman, that a strategy and budget can only succeed if it addresses the right problem.

With this in mind, I would like to take this opportunity, not only to review our proposed budget, but our plans for the future. Mr. Chairman, when the Government Leader introduced the strategy paper, "An Economy in Transition", he made a government wide commitment, a commitment to support and nourish development at the local level. During this session, seven government departments will be tabling or outlining their plans for furthering this goal.

I see Economic Development and Tourism as a key player. Since taking over the department, I have committed significant effort to reviewing its programs and their performance. That is what I would like to share with you today: My thoughts for moving toward a more equitable and dynamic economy.

I will begin my outline where we started, with the problem. From there I will review our plans for addressing these challenges, including the introduction of new programs like the development corporation. I will conclude with a review of our goals for various sectors of the economy.

Mr. Chairman, I have to start by thanking Members of the special committee and its chairmen, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Ernerk and Mr. Morin, for their contribution. Aside from recommendations which have been instrumental to this strategy, they also provided residents with a forum for discussion and debate.

Unequal Economic Growth In NWT

I believe most people now know that economic growth is not the problem. In fact our economy has experienced one of Canada's fastest growth rates over the past decade. As you noted, our problem is that opportunities have been largely limited to a few communities, and when they were developed locally most of the skilled personnel and other resources had to be imported. This has led to serious inequities, including: The concentration of wealth in a few communities; four communities, Hay River, Yellowknife, Fort Smith and Inuvik account for almost two thirds of all income: The lack of opportunity; in small communities unemployment is typically over 25 per cent, reaching as high as 56 per cent in communities like Rae Lakes, while unemployment in Yellowknife remains around five per cent: The lack of technical skills; around 80 per cent of all the jobs in regional centres are filled by people from outside.

Obviously creating more jobs is not the only answer. We must look at where they are created and who fills them. I am not recommending that we ignore developed communities. Rather, I believe we have to look at new ways of developing opportunities where there are few.

Mr. Chairman, it would also be unrealistic to expect equality. There will always be regions and communities more prosperous than others. Changing markets, new resource discoveries, and other factors all work to ensure a varied economic landscape. While we must recognize this reality, I believe government has a responsibility to support less prosperous areas. People should be able to realize their aspirations in all communities, not just regional centres.

In some ways this is not a new approach. During the 1970s the department was actively involved with local development. In 1978, for example, we operated over 40 businesses, including a garment factory, a furniture factory, a jewellery

store, a fish cannery, and various arts and crafts stores. These projects were designed to provide jobs where there were few. As most Members know, few of these projects survived privatization. By judging these projects according to the "bottom line", we forgot their importance to local economies. In 1978 they generated around two million dollars in wages and salaries; almost equal to the fur harvest of that time. Mr. Chairman, we must begin to look beyond the bottom line. Development in smaller communities will have a cost and it will take time.

In looking at new solutions I relied heavily on my business experience, where common sense and basic research go a long way toward success. Just as you would not expect a plan for a hotel in Yellowknife to succeed in Baker Lake, you should not expect the same development strategy to work. Markets, operating costs, labour supply and a host of other factors demand different approaches. And yet our programs expect all businesses, no matter where they are located, to meet the same basic criteria: short term viability; at least 10 per cent equity; and they must be "for-profit" businesses. It surprises me that an area as big as the Northwest Territories has so few regional or community-based programs. Mr. Chairman, it is time to change.

The Strategy

Mr. Chairman, the name of our departmental strategy speaks for itself, "Building on Strengths: A Community-Based Approach". It proposes a realistic approach to development based heavily on traditional community strengths: arts and crafts; tourism; and resource harvesting. These sectors benefit all communities and most of the jobs they create can be filled by local people.

Our second emphasis is on expanding the range of goods and services, particularly in smaller communities and on replacing imported goods with northern products. These latter two objectives can best be achieved through small business development.

Mr. Chairman, every time money is spent outside a community or territory, we lose jobs and we lose opportunities. It amazes me that a community like Rae-Edzo, with its large population has so few basic services, like a hairdresser or laundromat. Instead of money remaining in the community to create needed jobs, it is spent elsewhere. If we are going to create needed jobs and opportunities at the local level, this must change.

Community-Based Development

Mr. Chairman, in recognition of this I am proposing we target our programs to communities. Obviously we cannot have 57 plus programs, but I believe we can group communities according to their economic characteristics. In doing this I looked at three factors: potential market or population; actual market or community income; and the number of existing businesses.

Mr. Chairman, we are dealing with three types of communities. First there are "mature market communities", characterized by high incomes, low unemployment and a competitive business community. Examples include Yellowknife, Hay River, Inuvik and Fort Smith. By and large these communities are doing well, and our primary goal is to build upon their private sector strengths and to look at ways of expanding their importance as territorial supply centres. I feel these communities have the potential to take over from our traditional sources of resupply; Edmonton, Winnipeg and other southern centres.

There is also a second group of communities with large but underdeveloped markets; communities like Rae-Edzo, Cape

Dorset, Baker Lake and Coppermine. In these communities markets are not developed and most goods and services are imported from the South or other communities. Jobs and incomes are lost and they end up with high unemployment and few opportunities. For these communities I am recommending we develop available resources which expanding their importance as trading centres.

Finally, there is a large number of small communities whose economies are closely tied to traditional harvesting. I suggest the development in these build on their human and resource advantages. In most cases, this means developing arts and crafts businesses, tourism, or taking advantage of renewable resources. Since investment in these communities is risky, I believe active government support will be required.

Development Corporation

Mr. Chairman, by building upon the strengths and capabilities of each type of community, I hope to maximize overall development while moving towards a more equal distribution of opportunities. To achieve this, my first priority must be job creation in less developed communities. Unemployment rates of between 30 to 50 per cent are unacceptable. Although this department, with only three per cent of the GNWT's budget, cannot begin to solve the problem, we can have an impact. I propose to start by creating a Northwest Territories development corporation. It is unrealistic to expect or rely on the private sector to develop all opportunities. From experience, I know that operating a business in a small remote community, with a small market and relatively unskilled labour force, is risky. Profits are the exception, not the rule. To develop opportunities in these communities, we will have to become directly involved and we should do so through a development corporation. Mr. Chairman, we cannot continue to operate community projects from within the department. A corporation allows the flexibility and freedom necessary to get the job done.

Mr. Chairman, this corporation will not replace the private sector. Rather, it will provide services necessary to further industry development, such as fish processing plants, or will provide needed commercial infrastructure. The focus will be on using community strengths, whether that is in arts and crafts talent, tourist attractions or natural resources. This type of direct investment is necessary to support further business expansion in many small communities. For years we have talked about our inability to take advantage of country foods because we lack processing facilities. Mr. Chairman, with the development corporation we can build such facilities and remove at least one roadblock to development.

I also see this corporation assisting with the development of commercial space. How can a business, like a bakery, survive in a small community where it costs over \$300,000 to construct a plant? No one could afford to buy the bread.

I should add that this will be no monopoly. Projects will be sold to the private sector and the participation of local development corporations and entrepreneurs will be encouraged.

Although this corporation will be separate from the department, I am proposing we contribute \$2.9 million to be available for investment in fiscal year 1990-91. Obviously this amount is not going to have a great impact, but it is a first step and will get the ball rolling.

Business Capital

Mr. Chairman, the largest source of incomes and jobs in the NWT is, and will remain, the private sector. We must build upon this strength. As such, both the strategy and budget

give priority to improving our business assistance programs.

Mr. Chairman, without being critical, I think many of us have a narrow view of the business community. When we talk about small business, we often think of its common examples such as a convenience store, the fuel oil supplier or the local building contractor. But it also includes highly specialized and professional businesses like accounting firms, airline companies, dental clinics and pharmacies. And yes, it includes art galleries, craft stores and renewable resource businesses like meat processing plants, lumber mills, commercial fishermen and a host of other businesses. In total, there are over 160 different types of businesses within the NWT.

By and large, each is small, the average employment being less than eight people. Together, however, they are the NWT's largest and fastest growing employer. Between 1978 and 1988, trade and service businesses created over 50 per cent of all new jobs in the NWT. Still we can do better. I could use statistics to compare ourselves to other areas, but I believe most of us know there is room for expanding the range of local goods and services.

Consolidation

To assist small businesses, I am proposing a number of new initiatives. Major changes will include: the consolidation of our existing contribution programs; the introduction of an independent and improved business loan fund; a new program for very small businesses, the SELF program; and a "Buy North" campaign.

Mr. Chairman, over the years the department has introduced new programs to meet changing needs and priorities. We now have over 20 different contribution programs. Even so, only one program, Venture Capital, has a regional development objective; 60 per cent of all contributions are made in the four most developed communities. I propose to change this.

Over the coming year, I will be introducing a consolidated business contribution policy designed to encourage business growth in less developed communities. I guess the bottom line is, "What will these changes mean for the small businessman in Cape Dorset or Snowdrift?"

First, there will be one business assistance program, one review process and one application form. I believe you call it "one-window shopping".

---Applause

Second, additional assistance will be provided to start or expand a business in less developed communities and money will be targeted specifically for that purpose. Thirdly, red tape will be minimized, making for quick and efficient decisions. Instructions have been given that all business application forms have to be turned around in less than 60 days.

Business Loan Fund

To complement these changes, our strategy also calls for changes to the Business Loans and Guarantees Fund. If approved by the Legislature, these changes will make the board truly independent and allow it to meet a variety of business needs, whether that business is a Hay River trucking company or a tourist lodge in Baffin. If necessary, debt repayment will be scheduled to the seasonal operation of a company, or financing may be provided for special needs like inventory financing. The new legislation will also recommend a substantial increase to current funding limits. Businesses are becoming more sophisticated and we must be prepared

to support their expansion. Finally, I am proposing that a bank refusal will no longer be required for businesses in communities without access to commercial financing.

---Applause

Requiring a business from a small community like Snowdrift to travel to Hay River or Yellowknife to make a commercial loan application before we even consider it, makes no sense. Because it costs additional money and time for a businessman to travel to a major centre, current procedures actually penalize the small community businessmen. Instead, we should be giving them all the help possible.

I should add that we are also looking at ways of expanding financial services to all residents of the NWT. People are more likely to spend their money locally if they can write cheques, draw on their savings or conduct other financial transactions at the local level. I will keep the Assembly informed of our progress.

Self-Help

I am also proposing one addition to our business assistance programs. Right now all businesses, no matter their size, must meet the same basic criteria. A taxi business wanting a loan for a new motor has to fill out the same forms and provide the same information as a business planning a half million dollar expansion.

Mr. Chairman, I think all Members know someone in their community who runs a very small business. Some of these people do not want to get into business in a big way, but may wish to expand or make a few additional dollars. To help them do so, without forcing them to develop complicated business plans and spend money on feasibility studies, I am proposing to introduce a new community-based program. Very small community businesses will make an application to a local board; this board will have the authority to approve or reject the application. In doing so, they will take into consideration the person's track record and standing within the community, not just the technical aspects of their business plan.

Buy North

Mr. Chairman, not all elements of our departmental strategy involve business financing. One that does not is the "Buy North" campaign. Every time we import something from southern Canada we export jobs and income. Although many of these goods cannot be produced in the North, I believe we can do something about the: \$131 million in food imports; \$67 million in lumber imports; \$91 million in fuel imports. To change this, I am proposing we make a commitment to "Buy North", not just by this department but by the government and I hope everyone. We hope to do so by: publishing an annual report detailing northern purchases by government and the major industries within the private sector, this report will not only assist us in identifying areas for improvement, but will help the private sector identify opportunities; maintaining existing northern preference policies; assisting with a marketing campaign on behalf of northern products and producers; and, increasing consumer awareness of northern goods and services.

Joint Programs

Mr. Chairman, before moving on I would like to talk about the EDA or Economic Development Agreement. Although the EDA has been instrumental to economic development, I believe it can be greatly improved. Its current focus on profitability and the private sector has limited its application to less developed areas and communities. In fact, most of its business

assistance has been allocated to developed communities. Instead of duplicating what we can do, I would like to see our joint initiatives focus on building the foundations for growth. By this I mean developing the docks, roads and industry markets necessary to overall development.

Summary Of Tools

Mr. Chairman, these are the tools I propose to develop. In summary, these are: a NWT development corporation; a consolidated business assistance program; a revised business loan fund; a new program for the very small business; and, a new approach to federal-territorial programs.

As I mentioned earlier, I will use these new tools to pursue local development, and I propose to do so by concentrating on traditional economic strengths. Particularly tourism, arts and crafts and resource harvesting.

Tourism

Mr. Chairman, I see tourism as being very important to local development, and I have assigned it a high priority within the budget and strategy. Unlike many other industries, it is able to attract investment, generate cash, and create jobs in communities throughout the NWT. Facilities developed for tourists can also encourage development in other areas, particularly in arts and crafts, country food and business services.

Mr. Chairman, tourism is already a significant industry in the NWT; last year there were 39,000 leisure travellers. These travellers purchased \$35 million in goods and services, and perhaps more importantly, accounted for some 2700 seasonal and full-time jobs. This is also an industry where native residents have excelled. Of our 370 tourism businesses, approximately 148 or 40 per cent are owned by native residents.

Even so, I know we can still do better. Our strategy for doing so focuses on three areas: improving the quality of NWT vacation offerings; helping with the selling of these offerings; and, increasing the variety and quality of services and attractions. If we succeed, I believe we can increase non-resident tourism expenditures to \$56 million and create some 300 new full-time jobs. By the year 2000 I think we can realistically talk about \$84 million in revenues.

Renewable Resource Businesses

Mr. Chairman, renewable resources have always been the backbone of local economies, and they are integral to our strategy. I have assigned the department the following priorities. For the fishery, I want to see more local processing of fish, the development of new products and an expansion into the marine fishery. In forestry, it is about time we got realistic about the industry. Either we develop it or we do not. Right now we import over \$50 million in lumber products while producing only one million dollars. If we can agree on a realistic strategy for development I would like to see expansion into the Liard valley and other productive areas.

We import over \$150 million in food every year. That is a very big market. I want to see some new investment in country foods and the creation of processing facilities. If commercial quotas are available, they should be used to generate local jobs. In this regard we can also increase our agriculture production, both for local consumption and export. Some of the initiatives include the development of a legal policy for regulating production, continuing negotiations for an egg and chicken quota, establishing standards for health and safety, and conducting a pilot game ranching project. The details of these and other initiatives are outlined in our

Renewable Resource sector strategy, "Building on a Tradition".

Arts and Crafts

An undervalued opportunity is arts and crafts. The creative use of rock, bone, wood, bark, hides, antlers and other materials has made some NWT residents among the foremost artists and crafts people in the world. It has also made a lot of money. Right now arts and craft sales generate more income than the fur, forestry and agriculture sectors combined. And more importantly, most of this income accrues to native residents.

I am excited about the industry's potential. We have to start looking at producing more, and producing new products. Demand for quality products exceeds supply, with medium priced crafts having the greatest potential. Significant sales are now being lost to low cost imitations of Dene, Inuit and Metis art.

To start things off I plan to create two centres for excellence. These centres will look at ways of improving the design, quality and composition of products, and of maximizing productive efficiency through the introduction of new technology. We also have to look at ways of improving raw material and equipment supply. To do this I will develop a freight and material distribution subsidy program for those raw materials.

Mr. Chairman, these initiatives, along with the others outlined in our arts and crafts strategy, should enable us to increase our sales from \$22.5 million to around \$48 million.

Closing

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my comments on our strategy. As you can see, we have charted an exciting new course. I think we have met and in most cases, exceeded the recommendations of the special committee. In agreement with its recommendations we are: undertaking new options for the development and delivery of joint federal/territorial programs; looking at new options for business development at the local level; developing an import replacement strategy; concentrating on product development within tourism; we are not concentrating on regional development, but we are building on community strengths; options are being looked at for improving community financial services; and, we are targeting additional support for arts and craft businesses.

In addition to this, however, we are proposing the creation of a new development corporation, a SELF fund for businesses, the consolidation of grants and contributions, and improvements to the business loan fund.

Mr. Chairman, as you can see, our departmental strategy is detailed and well thought out. Changing our course will not be easy, but I believe this strategy and budget represent a first step in this transition. Not all the programs and policies are in place, but we are setting the framework for development in less prosperous areas.

Because we lack many of these tools, our proposed budget for the coming fiscal year is modest. We are requesting your approval of \$4.3 million in new O and M program funding and \$1.9 million in forced growth. With the sunset of the Venture Capital Program and the reduction in the EDA this amounts to a slight decrease. We are, however, committing substantial resources to the capital budget. This year's proposed capital budget is nine million dollars, a 175 per cent increase over last year.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to close by saying that we need your commitment, support and advice. How you respond to

our budgetary requirements in this and in future years will largely determine our success or failure. But I believe you all realize the immensity of the task and that you will support the initiatives I have outlined. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

---Applause

Department Of Economic Development And Tourism, Deferred

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Does the committee agree that we defer the Department of Economic Development and Tourism? Agreed?

---Agreed

Department Of Safety And Public Services

Thank you. We will now proceed to the Department of Safety and Public Services. Mr. Kakfwi, are you prepared to make your opening remarks?

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Assembly, I am pleased to present the 1990-91 estimates for the Department of Safety and Public Services for your consideration.

The total amount budgeted for 1990-91 for operations and maintenance for the department is \$5,355,000, an increase of \$507,000 over last year. Approximately half of this increase is due to salary increases and increments, and the other half is due to increased costs for providing additional rental officer services to the regions. The total amount for capital budgeting is \$110,000, up from \$69,000 in 1989-90. The entire increase in capital planning is accounted for by new occupational health and safety laboratory equipment and new mine rescue equipment.

Last year this department was created to reflect this government's desire to take a pro-active approach to safety issues in northern workplaces and to emphasize the importance this government places on safety and public services issues. The challenge for the new department was to meet its objectives in an atmosphere of fiscal restraint.

When a new government department is created, a period of adjustment may be expected for new procedures and policies to be tested until a degree of equilibrium is reached. Despite this period of adjustment, the Department of Safety and Public Services has managed to increase its rate of safety inspections and the rate of regulatory activities generally over last year.

One of the most important projects this department will be involved in, in the new fiscal year, is the drafting of a completely new Mine Safety Act. New legislation was recommended by the Bardswich Commission in 1985. This new act will enable the NWT to modernize regulatory and inspection standards, comparable with other jurisdictions. The legislation will also be aimed at developing more co-operative efforts between mine companies and employees to improve working conditions and practices. Draft legislation will be distributed to industry and labour for consultation prior to developing a draft bill for approval by this House.

Members will recall that the labour standards law review panel was created to review labour standards legislation in the NWT. The present labour standards legislation is a patchwork of antiquated clauses dating back to the 1960s. The review is well under way and the panel will report its findings to me at the end of March. A review of lotteries was commenced early in the new year, in

response to concerns raised by individuals and groups about the number of bingos held in the communities, the amount of money being spent on lotteries and other associated issues. As part of this review my department is examining the legislation from other jurisdictions, as well as canvassing interested groups and individuals. The review will be completed by late spring and may result in recommendations for changes to lotteries legislation and policy.

The projects I have just spoken about are very important and focus on specific areas of need. The department also has a number of major objectives which I will inform you about briefly.

Directorate

The directorate will work to increase public awareness of safety, labour and consumer legislation and programs throughout the NWT. The department has established an internal committee to develop more effective ways of promoting public safety through the media. This committee will continue its work toward educating the general public about public safety at minimal expense. Public information in aboriginal languages and French will be initiated by developing firm linkages with the Department of Culture and Communications for assistance in designing and distributing materials to the public on a timely basis.

Consumer Services Division

As I mentioned earlier, rental officer services will be expanded to make the services provided under the Residential Tenancies Act more accessible to the regions. One or more rental officers in each regional centre will be appointed to conduct formal mediations and/or hearings on an "as required" contract basis, and a full-time administrator and a full-time secretary will be hired for the Yellowknife office.

The consumer services division will review all regulations of the medically-related professions to ensure the fee structure is in line with other jurisdictions. This division will also review the Business Licence Act and the Pharmacy Act, both aged statutes, with a view to preparing legislative proposals to bring these statutes up to date. A consumer package for children aged 12 and over will be developed, to introduce them to the market place. As a result of the enactment of the Real Estate Agents Licensing Act during the Norman Wells session, standards and procedures will be developed in order to license real estate agents and sales persons.

Safety Division

The safety division will continue to pursue enhancement of safety services for workers and the general public. In response to recommendations made by the 1989 review panel report on the Workers' Compensation Board, the division will continue to work with the Workers' Compensation Board to identify accident occurrence data, and to use this information as a basis for enhanced enforcement and safety education activity. The safety division will also produce a video in English and Inuktitut on the hazards of soapstone dust. This production will signal a diversification of occupational health and safety education, aimed at workers employed in the indigenous arts and crafts industries in the NWT.

Fire Safety

The office of the fire marshal, with the support of the Department of Education, will increase fire prevention awareness in all regional schools, kindergarten to grade eight, through implementation of the comprehensive "Learn not to Burn" program. In accordance with the department's emphasis on public education, the office of the fire marshal

will produce two videos, one for the Western Arctic and one for the Eastern Arctic, focussing on fire safety for the public. The video for the Eastern Arctic will be made in Inuktitut and the video for the Western Arctic will be made in English and dubbed into the aboriginal languages of the Western Arctic.

Mine Safety Division

In addition to the drafting of new mine safety legislation and regulations mentioned earlier, a comprehensive training program for our mining inspectors will be developed and implemented to enhance their ability to conduct mine inspections. The division will continue monitoring and enforcing the delivery of safety training programs at each mine, to enhance accident prevention. Mine rescue training will be co-ordinated by the mine safety division, which will encourage and, if necessary, require mines to deliver mine rescue courses. As well, mine rescue equipment, supplied by the mine safety division, will be upgraded.

Mr. Chairman, many of my department's activities are heavily dependent on economic activity in the NWT to generate the need for regulatory services. In the current climate of fiscal restraint, my department will continue to delivery regulatory services to safeguard workers and the public, in as economically prudent a fashion as possible.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Mr. Minister. I wonder if the chairman of the standing committee on finance would like to make opening remarks.

Comments From Standing Committee On Finance

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess we just had one problem with Safety and Public Services, Mr. Chairman. It dealt with the allocation of funds. When reviewing supplementary appropriations, the standing committee on finance, Mr. Chairman, approves specific funds for a specific activity. Members were disturbed to see funds approved under Supplementary Appropriation No. 1, appearing under a different activity in the revised estimates for 1989-90, which brings us to our recommendation number 20: "The committee recommends that the Department of Safety and Public Services explain in writing how funds approved under one activity are shifted to a different activity." I think we are interested in the process there, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Minister, do you wish to bring your witnesses to the table? Does the committee agree?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister, would you introduce your witnesses for the record?

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, I have with me on my right, the deputy minister of Safety and Public Services, John Quirke; on my left the director of finance for the same department, Henry Dragon.

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

Safety Training For Young Mine Workers

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I noted in a very recent edition of the Financial Times that the whole issue of safety in the workplace is under very close scrutiny because of the tremendous costs to business, and especially to compensation funds, for those people who are hurt in the

workplace and so on; a general feeling that the costs are becoming so high that governments, industry and businesses should be looking at some of the root causes here. It is such a big problem that some of the compensation funds are now hiring specialists to actually examine these cases in great detail because of the tremendous burden on these compensation funds for accidents that take place in the workplace. My concern, Mr. Chairman, in examining this department is to find out whether we do have a system in place that is not going to be a heavy burden on these compensation funds for workers.

I am particularly interested, Mr. Chairman, in the gradually developing interest that I see in the NWT in the mining sector. This is an industry which over a long period of time has struggled with this problem of safety in the workplace. In fact, much of the compensation that is paid is paid on behalf of people who work in mines, because this is still a fairly high risk industry, there is a fair degree of personal danger involved in working below thousands and thousands of tons of rock.

What I am really interested in though, Mr. Chairman, is not just in an industry that has been established for a lot of people for a long time, but because many of us who worked on the SCONE report could see that such a large part of our territory did have mineral potential that clearly mining was going to be one of the things that over the long term would provide some non-renewable place. Many young people beginning at the recently opened Neptune Mine are becoming more interested in this as a way of making a living, in a way that we have not seen since the days of the Rankin Inlet mine when many Inuit had their first introduction to the mining industry.

What I would like to know, Mr. Chairman, is what steps are being taken to make sure that these young people, who are in fact being increasingly attracted to working in some of these mines -- and it has taken a long time and I do not expect it just to happen overnight -- but I do see many more young people being attracted to it simply because many of these new mines are now open pit mines. You do not have to go down to 5000 feet; you can get employment with the heavy duty equipment and all kinds of work. But simply because it is not underground does not mean to say that this industry still does not pose some personal threat to people. You are working in a workplace where a lot of things are happening. There are hazards that people have to be aware of. I wonder to what extent young people, particularly native people, who have begun to examine this as a career possibility at Colomac Mine, are being prepared for work in that environment. It is not really a traditional kind of pursuit, although I do see it as being an area which over a long period of time people could get involved in, simply because they live close, or at least within a reasonable distance of where deposits are found and where mines are developed, and because of the fact that they know the country and they are used to working outside and have had some experience with equipment. We must take steps to make sure that these people are given some proper training before introducing themselves into a new work environment which may in the future have some potential for us. Just those couple of comments, Mr. Chairman. There were a couple of questions, but maybe if we leave it to the Minister to decide whether they were questions or not.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, when we talk about who is going to take responsibility for trying to attract young people and workers to the mining field, I would say it falls somewhere in between probably the Minister of Economic Development and the Minister of Education. I think I would

leave it to them to address that question when their departments come up.

For mining safety in general, as you know, the intent here, by creating a department, was to assure the public and people who work that there is a single department that is set up specifically to make sure that, wherever possible, the government enforces the legislation and regulations that relate to promoting safety and ensuring that everyone exercises safety precautions. The department also ensures that work conditions are set up for the safety of the workers, and that wherever we have aging legislation that we will look at revising the necessary legislation to keep the government and the department as up to date as all other jurisdictions in Canada, even internationally for that matter. I think that was the general overall objective when we set up this new department.

Previously, as the Member knows, some of the responsibilities were, you might say, not buried, but they were somewhere within the Department of Justice and I think everyone felt, rightly so, that safety should have its own Minister and should be a portfolio on its own. Thank you.

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

MR. LEWIS: Thank you. I realize that the whole issue of preparing people properly for any kind of industry, including training, so that they can operate safely in that environment is not this particular department's responsibility. But it is certainly a concern that you do not simply have people just taken off the street and put into that environment without making sure that they are properly prepared and that their security is somehow assured by giving them proper training.

Safety Of Older People

The issue I want to raise now, Mr. Chairman, is the issue that I raised this morning about old people. I raise that particular concern in this forum because it seems to me that in our kind of democracy it is very often the weakest people that have the weakest voice in trying to get things done. Very often if you are a woman or if you are an old person, or if you are very young, people tend to ignore you as someone who does not have a good clear understanding of the nature of a technical problem. If you are old you are kind of set aside as really bellyaching and really not having a grievance or concern. People who complain that things are not right very often are not treated well by those people in the ruling class. I consider this group of people to be the ruling class. That is what you are. You are making laws and everything else. There is a tendency for people to be a bit irritated when you are asked to come and look at something because you are worried that maybe your life is in danger or your safety is, to some degree, being imperilled.

The reason I wanted to bring this up in this forum is those old people, beginning Friday, began to try to get someone to come down to their building to have a look and see if their concerns were real. The Minister was right; I could have phoned him at home earlier this morning or late last night but I think this is the kind of issue that should be brought to this forum. When you are at the lowest level, if you like, of the society in terms of your political or economic power, there is a tendency for you not to be dignified by a kind of response or reply that you would like to get for what you consider to be a serious matter.

I agree that sometimes things can be frivolous and that you cannot just jump because someone has said something is bad but, in this particular case, among these old people there were men who had spent much of their lives as tradesmen. They had worked in the mines and they were qualified tradespeople

for 35 to 40 years. When they, themselves, go down to look in the basement of a place where they live, right under their rooms, and they examine something and are shocked by what they see -- we are not just talking about an old person who does not know anything; you are talking about somebody that, in fact, does know something is wrong when he sees it and yet is unable to communicate that to government, however you want to define government, at whatever level -- local, regional, territorial -- and he is not able to get that message through that here are 15 people who feel that their safety is in jeopardy somehow because of some work that was done that really could only be of a temporary nature and they were not assured of that. You know how easy it is, once people begin to get worried about something, for the worry to spread so eventually, for about two and a half days, you get people sleeping in shifts because they are afraid there is something going on that may suddenly result in the building going up in flames.

I wanted to bring that up simply because older people and, as I mentioned earlier, women and younger people tend to be ignored because they are not expected to have the technical understanding of what is safe and what is unsafe. I wanted the Minister to know that publicly. That is something which I have noted in a long period of time. You can talk on the phone in your gruff voice, and you sound as if you are in charge and you understand, "You better get down here," and you may use rough language to get a bit of action and suddenly you get someone to move. But when you are a feeble old person and you get on the phone, it is no big deal. That is the point that I wanted to make by bringing it into the House rather than dealing with it on the phone with the Minister before breakfast this morning. In the daytime they are not going to be sleeping anyway but, hopefully, somebody in fact could respond to what I consider a legitimate request by senior citizens who feel that the place that they live is really not a safe place. I just wanted to make that comment to clarify why I brought up the safety issue today.

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

Corrective Actions Re Boiler Safety

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, I have here some information for the Member. Today at 2:00 o'clock a boiler inspector conducted a special inspection at the senior citizens' home here in Yellowknife. He met with Mr. Langlois, the maintenance manager for the Yellowknife Housing Authority. Routine annual inspections had been conducted on the boilers and equipment on September 7, 1989. At that time, improvements were noted and one deficiency was ordered and subsequently repaired. The special inspection today brought out that on Thursday, the 15th, the underground fuel tank could no longer deliver fuel so there was a cut-off of fuel to the senior citizens' home last Thursday. Emergency steps were taken by the staff of the Yellowknife Housing Authority to provide heat to the building by setting up a temporary fuel tank in the boiler room. The inspection today found that this temporary fuel tank, with its temporary fuel piping to the boilers, required immediate attention to provide a better measure of safety.

a) The inspector ordered that the temporary fuel piping be redone in a more workmanlike manner and that fusible fuel valves and burners be included; b) a fuel leak from temporary piping had leaked a puddle of fuel on the floor in front of a boiler and this was ordered to be cleaned up and repaired immediately; c) the underground fuel tank, as suspected by the owner was found to have broken piping; so the Yellowknife Housing Authority was ordered to remove all fuel from this tank. The order given in regard to this special inspection is to be carried out as of this date; that is, today. It is understood that a representative of the fire marshal's

office was called in to inspect the circumstances by the Yellowknife fire department on Friday, February 16, 1990.

A written, detailed report from the Yellowknife Housing Authority has been ordered into the hands of the boiler and pressure vessels branch within 24 hours. This is the most up-to-date information we have regarding the incident and the complaints from the senior citizens' home.

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

Transportation Of Hazardous Materials

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I must say that I get good co-operation from the fire safety and the safety division itself. The Minister in those areas should be complimented.

This is probably not to do with this particular department, but I am sure it fits in there somewhere, Mr. Chairman, and that is, in Inuvik, Yellowknife and in Hay River, there are a lot of transported hazardous materials. I have raised this with the Minister before. In each of those three locations, Mr. Chairman, there is not a hazardous material vehicle that is owned by this government, nor I think by a municipality nor the City of Yellowknife. Yet, the fire department are the ones that are called out to accidents on the highway, where it may involve hazardous material.

I would also point out, Mr. Chairman, that most of the fire departments have been trained in the handling of hazardous material and its identification, but they have not been given any equipment to deal with these accidents when they occur. I would merely ask the Minister if there has been movement in that area. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, we do not have a response to the Member's question, simply because it is not one that we seem to be making much headway on or getting an organized response to. In many of these cases it involves a number of departments and it is going to take us a little while to get everyone agreed on who is responsible for what, and what circumstances would involve which different departments and how the government would respond to them. We will continue to try to be in a better position to answer the Member's question during the course of this year.

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

MR. POLLARD: I recognize that this Minister is not the lead Minister in this particular area, and I know it spans Transportation, I know it spans Renewable Resources and there may be other people out there. I would just draw to the Minister's attention that if something bad happens out there and we do not have the equipment to go and clean it up, we are going to be regretting it. Time marches by. I am sure the Minister is aware that the vehicles travelling between Hay River and Yellowknife right now on the winter resupply is incredible, and I would hope that this issue could be resolved as quickly as possible. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to the department we are dealing with, concerning fire safety, you handle the regions also, right? I was wondering if you deal with the fire departments in the Keewatin Region also.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Quirke.

MR. QUIRKE: Mr. Chairman, this department provides all the technical type support to all fire departments across the Territories; anything from providing training courses to actual operations of how to put out a fire. We do not provide the base funding for the local fire departments, I think that is all from the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs. Thank you.

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

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Yes, I understand. The reason I brought up the question -- and my question has already been answered -- in our region we run into a lot of problems with the fire departments. For instance, anything can happen when it comes to handling fires; it is a very dangerous matter. If mismanaged, everything can go wrong. One example I can give you is that we ran into an incident in Rankin Inlet when we had problems with the oil tanks. My question is, Mr. Minister, looking at my region especially, in our communities I believe we should educate the firemen when it comes to handling fires in the communities. I think you should initiate more programs in these communities because it is a very dangerous matter. I am trying to give a comment and a question so I thank you.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, we put an assistant fire marshal in Rankin Inlet specifically to address the need in the Keewatin for someone to promote the need for the public to be more aware of the safety concerns in the whole area of fire. Hopefully, the presence of an assistant fire marshal will help give a higher profile to the need for the public and everyone else to be sure that the fire safety conditions in the workplace and in the buildings are adhered to, and that there is someone in the region to provide training to the firefighters in the communities.

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

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a couple of brief points. It is about a year, I guess, since the department has really got under way as an independent department. It was a fairly safe year for the mining industry and I hope that some of that is reflected because of the action that the Minister and his officials have taken over the past year in increasing the number of staff they have from last year when they first got started to enforce the requirements or the laws and regulations that apply. If that is the case, then they have certainly had good results already and they are to be commended for that. From a coroner's point of view that is good because it eliminates necessities of tragedies, and things.

Boiler Inspections

I had a comment that I wanted to make on the area of safety, in the inspections of boilers and other things. There has been some concern expressed when it comes to regulating certain types of boilers and heating equipment. For example, I am of the understanding at the moment that domestic hot water heaters, large hot water heaters for hotels and big office buildings, domestic hot water -- they are not regulated under the same act or regulated at all, unlike boilers for the same buildings which, I understand, are operated at almost the same temperatures and the same pressures. If you have a hot water system in a very large building it is called a boiler but, in fact, it does not really boil and it does not create steam but copious amounts of hot water under virtually the same

pressures and the same temperatures as a domestic hot water system of large size. Yet, they are not controlled the same or they are not regulated the same and they are not inspected the same. I wonder if this was done for some reason, or is it an oversight that, requires, because of the changing technology, seems to have been missed when it comes to the same requirements in regulations. I wonder if the officials would be able to address that issue.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, the deputy minister will respond, please.

MR. QUIRKE: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. The information that the Member has just presented is not quite accurate. The Boilers and Pressure Vessels Act does apply to such places as hotels, big buildings, etc. The only exemptions that we have under the act right now is any boiler that has less than the strength of three horsepower and any boiler that is used in a private residence and houses less than three families.

When you speak about hotels, big plant facilities, they are inspected by us. It is only the small ones like these exemptions that I just mentioned. There are some technical ones in terms of size or so much volume which are not inspected by us but they are all small. But the big ones are; if they are more than three horsepower, we do inspect them. Thank you.

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

MR. WHITFORD: Are we talking domestic hot water systems, that is, for laundries, the hot water used in showers in hotels and for kitchens in hotels, which have large hot water containers that are oil-fired or propane-fired? They operate at a fairly high temperature. They operate under certain pressure and that is not to be confused by a hot water system that is used for heating such as we find in this building here. As I understand it, the hot water systems, the heating systems, which are commonly called boilers, are governed by sets of regulations and guidelines which are exempt for hot water systems, domestic hot water. That is the information that I have. Are we talking about the same thing here?

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

MR. QUIRKE: It does apply to those types of vessels. That is why the act is called the Boiler and Pressure Vessels Act. Again, the two exemptions that I mentioned to the first question would cover boilers but when we get into pressure vessels there are certain sizes that we do not bother with. For example, a volume of less than .043 cubic metres in volume. Otherwise, they would be covered and, if necessary, we could provide the Member with the exact items that we do cover and that we do not cover at a later date, if it is okay.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. General comments. General comments. Does this committee wish to go to details now? Is that agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Directorate, Total O And M, Agreed

Page 8.09, directorate, total O and M, \$778,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Consumer And Corporate Affairs, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 8.10, consumer and corporate affairs, total O and M, \$721,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Safety, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Page 8.11, safety, total O and M, \$1,858,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Mine Safety, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Page 8.12, mine safety, total O and M, \$957,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Fire Safety, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Fire safety, total O and M, \$660,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Labour Services And Standards Board, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Labour Services and Standards Board, total O and M, \$381,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Details Of Grants And Contributions

Grants, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 8.15, details of grants and contributions. Grants, total grants, \$21,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Contributions, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 8.16, details of grants and contributions. Contributions, total contributions, \$10,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Grants And Contributions, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total grants and contributions, \$31,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Detail of work performed on behalf of third parties, page 8.17, total department, \$130,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 8.08, Department of Safety and Public Services, total O and M, \$5,355,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Detail Of Capital

Safety, Equipment Acquisition, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): We will now go to capital. Page 8.09, detail of capital, safety. Equipment acquisition, headquarters, \$60,000, total headquarters. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Equipment Acquisition, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total equipment acquisition, \$60,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Safety, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total safety, \$60,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Mine Safety, Equipment Acquisition, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mine safety, equipment acquisition, headquarters, total headquarters, \$50,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Equipment Acquisition, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total equipment acquisition,

\$50,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Mine Safety, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total mine safety, \$50,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Department of Safety and Public Services, total capital expenditure, \$110,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Total Department, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Department as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. I would like to thank the witnesses. What is the wish of the Government House Leader?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The government was prepared today to do Economic Development and Tourism. I do not know if the committee wants to debate the report of SCONE. If not, we will be ready to do Economic Development tomorrow.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that we report progress.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The motion is not debatable. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

--Carried

I will now rise and report progress.

ITEM 19: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MR. SPEAKER: Item 19, report of committee of the whole. Mr. Pudluk.

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

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Item 20, third reading of bills. Item 21, Mr.

Clerk, orders of the day.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Speaker, meetings for Tuesday, February 20: at 9:00 a.m., ajauqtit and at 10:00 a.m., caucus.

ITEM 21: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Tuesday, February 20th.

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), Bill 9-90(1), CR 2-90(1)
19. Report of Committee of the Whole
20. Third Reading of Bills
21. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Just prior to adjourning the House I would like to bring your attention to a special day for our honourable Member for Deh Cho. I will let him explain that to you in the privacy of committee rooms or the office.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Happy birthday to you!

MR. SPEAKER: This House stands adjourned until Tuesday, February 20, 1990, at 1:00 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT

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