



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES**

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

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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## YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1990

## MEMBERS PRESENT

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

## ITEM 1: PRAYER

--Prayer

**SPEAKER (Hon. Richard Nerysoo):** Orders of the day for Friday, February 23, 1990. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

## ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

**Ministers' Statement 18-90(1): Federal Portfolio Assignments**

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Mr. Speaker, I rise to make an emergency statement, with your concurrence, respecting changes to the federal cabinet, announced today. Mr. Speaker, changes have been announced in the federal cabinet a few hours ago in Ottawa. I will table a press release today, providing details, but I can outline the significant announcements now.

Mr. Speaker, as far as new appointments are concerned: the Hon. Bernard Valcourt has been appointed Minister of Fisheries and Oceans; the Hon. Marcel Danis has been appointed Minister of State, Youth, and Minister of State Fitness and Amateur Sport; the Hon. Harvie Andre has been given new responsibilities as Government House Leader. He has been appointed Minister of State to assist the Prime Minister within the Prime Minister's portfolio, and he will retain his responsibility for the Canada Post Corporation; the Hon. Thomas Siddon has been appointed Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development; the Hon. Benoit Bouchard has been appointed Minister of Industry, Science and Technology; the Hon. Douglas Lewis has been appointed Minister of Transport; the Hon. Frank Oberle has been appointed Minister of Forestry; the Hon. Pierre Cadieux has been appointed Solicitor General of Canada; the Hon. Pierre Blais has been appointed Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and he will retain his responsibilities as Minister of State, Agriculture; the Hon. Shirley Martin has been appointed Minister of State for Indian Affairs and Northern Development; the Hon. Mary Collins, associate Minister of National Defence, has been designated Minister responsible for the Status of Women; the Hon. Kim Campbell has been appointed Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada; the Hon. Jean Corbeil has been appointed Minister of State, Transport, in addition to his continuing responsibilities as Minister of Labour; the Hon. William Winegard has been sworn in as Minister for Science within the Industry, Science and Technology portfolio; and the Hon. Tom Hockin has been redesignated as Minister of State, Small Business and Tourism, to assist Mr. Bouchard.

There are other assignments of political responsibility, the details of which I will table shortly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

for Nunakput.

**Ministers' Statement 19-90(1): Update On Aids Program, February To April, 1990**

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to present an update on the AIDS program. Mr. Speaker, globally AIDS is still a rapidly growing health problem. To date, eight individuals with HIV infection have been reported in the Northwest Territories but the number of infected persons is probably far greater than the number reported. The World Health Organization estimates that for every known case worldwide, that there are probably between 10 to 100 other infections. Each new infection is a personal and community tragedy because AIDS is still a fatal disease for which there is no cure. However, prevention of HIV infection is possible if everyone understands the risks and knows how to avoid or reduce those risks.

The department has, from the beginning, maintained the practice of keeping absolutely confidential all information concerning HIV infected persons. All persons who present themselves for testing, or for whom testing is proposed by their nurse or doctor, are counselled both before and after the test, to be entirely sure that the infection and its consequences are fully understood. To make this process quite clear, guidelines for health professionals were first developed in January, 1988 and revised in January, 1990. The new package includes guidelines for testing, counselling and infection control.

Since 1987, persons in the Territories known to be infected have generally been entirely responsible in their behaviour, thus presenting virtually no risk to others; therefore, for those who act responsibly, the policy of confidentiality will continue to be scrupulously maintained.

Mr. Speaker, the high rate of sexually transmitted diseases, the young age of our population and the small size of the communities, puts the Northwest Territories population at special risk. In order to protect the greater public, the department in some cases, is considering other alternatives. Public education and action to prevent HIV infection must remain pro-active. Last year at this time, I announced the allocation of \$600,000 toward a territorial campaign to highlight information concerning the prevention of AIDS and the hazards of tobacco use. Mr. Speaker, the campaign will soon be getting under way, and where feasible, will be delivered to individual households throughout the Territories. It is my intention to provide this Assembly with further details in the near future.

December 1, 1989, marked the second annual World AIDS Day and the current theme "AIDS and Youth" underlines the importance of starting AIDS education early. Youth need programs that will effectively assist them to learn what they need to do to prevent infection in themselves, their friends

and the whole community. To help them do so, youth are asking for factual and explicit information about HIV infection.

Toward this end, the Departments of Health and Education have collaborated once again in providing information through the purchase and distribution to each high school in the Territories of a video production, "AIDS: The New Facts Of Life". This video, produced by the Canadian Public Health Association, not only gives the facts but also helps young people to deal with situations they may encounter. This information is being presented to our youth by staff from the Department of Health's AIDS and family life education programs. As a result of the increased awareness on how to prevent AIDS, school boards, in some cases at the request of students, are examining the need to make condoms accessible to students who are sexually active. When our youth take a step toward preventing this disease from spreading, like requesting condom machines in schools, they are acting in a socially responsible manner.

The Department of Health promoted World AIDS Day through the release of a radio drama, "Charlie's Homecoming". Charlie is a Dene youth with AIDS who came back to his home community. This drama is a unique territorial production because it was written and produced by the native theatre group, performed by native broadcasters and initially released in the Territories. Work is now in progress to create a similar Inuit production.

Mr. Speaker, we have a responsibility to live up to the slogan on our posters, "Stopping AIDS Is Up To All Of Us". The Department of Health will continue to work with the communities of the Northwest Territories to prevent the spread of HIV infection. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Ministers' Statement 20-90(1): Study Will Identify Training Needs In Tourism Industry**

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Mr. Speaker, the tourism industry holds a great deal of economic potential for the Northwest Territories. Although there are a number of successful tourism operators in the North, many residents are not able to find jobs in the industry because of a lack of training. To help these people, and to help employers find trained Northerners to work for them, the Department of Education is co-operating on a study to determine training needs in the tourism-hospitality industry.

The department is administering a grant of \$215,000 to conduct the study. It is being done in co-operation with the key tourism and training organizations in the Territories: the NWT Tourism Industry Association; Canada Employment and Immigration Commission; Industry, Science and Technology Canada; the Department of Economic Development and Tourism; Arctic College and the advanced education branch of the Department of Education. One of the goals is to reach consensus on training needs from these organizations so that it can serve as a blueprint for future negotiations for tourism education and training.

A grant of \$71,000 has been given to the Tourism Industry Association to participate in the study and to establish a co-ordinating group for the purchase of indirect training. The University of Guelph, in association with the YWCA of Yellowknife, has been awarded \$128,000 to conduct the study. The remaining \$16,000 will be used for related costs.

The study, including a forecast of the industry's labour needs, an analysis of potential workers and the priority for training was completed in February. A survey of tourism business

operators is presently under way. The study team is consulting extensively with employers and other members of the tourism industry to ensure that the training program will serve the needs of the NWT tourism and hospitality industry.

Mr. Speaker, the success of the tourism industry in the Northwest Territories depends on a well-trained work force. This study will ensure that any future training programs will meet the needs of tourism operators and will allow NWT residents access to the kinds of jobs that they want. Thank you.

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

#### **ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

##### **Member's Statement On Sir Alexander Mackenzie Bicentennial Canoe Race**

**MR. GARGAN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the community of Fort Providence hosted the Sir Alexander Mackenzie bicentennial canoe race last summer, from July 3rd to July 21st.

It was the world's longest canoe race, running for 1700 kilometres, or 1200 miles, Mr. Speaker. The longest paddling day was 15 hours. During the race we experienced some bad weather. That forced delays and made it necessary for the escort boats to tow the paddlers to different points, in order to maintain our schedule. The worst part of the race was between Aklavik and Inuvik where the rough water and numerous channels caused further delays after some paddlers got lost. However, Mr. Speaker, we did reach Inuvik without any serious mishaps. The most serious problem for the paddlers was the long hours of paddling. A lot of people got blisters on their hands – and on more tender places.

The race would not have happened, Mr. Speaker, without the racers. I want to thank them for taking part. I also want to thank the communities along the way for the great reception we received; the community feasts and celebrations they put on. Each community, in its own remarkable way, had something unique to offer. Further, I would like to thank the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, and the Minister, the Hon. Gordon Wray, for their support. I would also like to thank the many sponsors for their generous contributions, and also Canada Employment, for their contribution toward the construction of the canoes. Finally, Mr. Speaker, my hat is off to the people of Fort Providence, the co-ordinators and officials, for a job well done.

Mr. Speaker, I do not think this is the last time you will hear from me about such a momentous event. I am hoping the people of Fort Providence will host more events like this in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

—Applause

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

##### **Member's Statement On Federal Budget Cuts**

**MR. LEWIS:** Mr. Speaker, since Mr. Wilson brought down his budget on Tuesday, Canadians have been outraged in the way that the burden has been passed onto other people to provide the services that they value.

Provincial governments are being asked to take up responsibility for taxing. The money that is given in transfer

payments is, in fact, the taxpayers' money, that they have a right to. I find it, however, even more devastating that a government could really deny that basic principle that democracies look after their minorities. The minority in this country which has been in the forefront of our consciousness for some time has been the aboriginal people. To take away their voice as this government has done, I believe, will eventually prove to be one of the most controversial things that they have done, as people become more and more aware, that although on the surface it looked like only a \$23 million cut, what they have really done is to cut off the people who have for so long been at the margin of our society, and who have demanded to be recognized for the rights they have and for the place they would like to have in this Confederation. So Mr. Speaker, I hope in the next few days that that outrage which is now spreading throughout the country will enjoin this Assembly to tell this government what we think of it. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Members' statements. Members' statements. Item 4, returns to oral questions. The honourable Member for Amittuq.

#### ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Speaker, I have a return to a question asked by Mr. Morin on February 16, 1990, regarding technical assistance for the community of Fort Resolution. In 1985 and 1986, departmental staff assisted the people of Fort Resolution and Fort Smith in establishing the Hook Lake bison management committee and in preparing a draft management plan. This plan was forwarded to the Department of Renewable Resources in the spring of 1986. In August 1986, the federal government expressed concern over the disease status of the bison in the region, and the draft plan was put on hold. This draft plan did not consider the issue of disease, in the management of the Hook Lake bison herd. Throughout this time, departmental staff have been working closely with the communities to address their concerns regarding bison. The assistance provided by Mr. Gary Bohnet to the Fort Smith Hunters and Trappers Association for the Hanging Ice Bison Ranch is a case in point. That work is finished and the proposal is in the process of being implemented.

After the release of the report of the environmental assessment review panel on northern diseased bison in May of this year, we will be in a position to reconsider the management of the Hook Lake bison herd. As this herd is part of a larger population of bison, its management cannot be independent of the management of the regional bison population. As in the past, we will work closely with the communities. We agreed last year during the committee of the whole to make one of our staff available to provide technical assistance to Fort Resolution for the development of a management strategy for the Hook Lake bison herd and we are still willing to do so. The management of this herd can now include the findings of EARP and consequently will be based on the most current information which will ensure that this resource will be available for future generations. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Returns to oral questions. The honourable Member for Inuvik.

##### Return To Question O157-90(1): Land-Use Permit For Equipment Into Moraine Bay

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to respond to a question asked by Mr. Gargan on February 21, 1990, regarding land-use permits in the case of the Moraine Bay situation. The Hon. Nellie Cournoyea, Minister of Public

Works, has asked me to reply to this question since it pertains to the topic of land-use permits. The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs co-ordinates land management matters within our government.

Karl Mueller Construction applied for a federal land-use permit on February 9, 1990, to construct a winter road from mile 93, kilometre 150, of NWT highway 3 to the existing fish plant at Moraine Bay on Great Slave Lake. The road is required to move equipment into the fish plant for a wharf reconstruction project.

In acknowledging receipt of the application, the Yellowknife district office of the federal Department of Indian and Northern Affairs requested that comments and/or recommendations be submitted to their office by February 22, 1990. However, under section 21.3.1(b) of the Dene/Metis agreement in principle, the Dene/Metis are guaranteed at least 30 days notice before such a permit will be issued in order to carry out their own assessment and make their concerns known. In this instance, the 30 day period will expire on March 16, 1990.

To date the only comments submitted have been from the highways division, Department of Transportation of the GNWT, which advises that the contractor must also apply for and obtain a routine highway access permit before proceeding with any construction of the winter road. This can be obtained quickly from the Department of Transportation. It is my understanding that the land-use permit may be issued immediately upon receipt of the Dene/Metis comments, or else when the 30 day notice period has expired. Unfortunately, because the federal government still has the mandate for land-use permits outside of community boundaries, our government does not have the final say as to when the permit will be issued.

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

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On February 16, 1990, a question was raised by Mr. Pudluk with regard to the musk-ox in High Arctic. Within the boundaries of the High Arctic riding, there are three communities and six musk-ox management areas each with a quota assigned to one or more communities. Grise Fiord has access to quotas of 20 musk-oxen from two areas on Ellesmere Island. Grise Fiord can also harvest four musk-oxen on Devon Island. Resolute Bay can harvest seven musk-oxen on Devon Island and 12 on Prince of Wales Island. Arctic Bay has access to a quota of four musk-oxen on Devon Island. As well, Sachs Harbour and Holman can harvest 12 musk-oxen from Melville Island, and Spence Bay has a quota of five from Prince of Wales Island.

A new musk-ox management area has been recommended for Bathurst Island with a recommended quota of five animals for Resolute Bay. This change will be put into law shortly.

A musk-ox survey was done on southern Ellesmere Island in July 1989. Translations of survey results have recently been sent to Grise Fiord and discussions have taken place with the regional hunters and trappers committee. On the basis of this survey, the two existing quotas on Ellesmere Island can be increased and a new musk-ox management area near Fram Fiord can be created. If adequate resources are available, the department will do a musk-ox survey on Devon Island in the summer of 1990.

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

**Return To Question O19-90(1): Renewable Resources Surveys In Fort Providence Area**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Speaker, I have a return to oral question asked by Mr. Gargan on February 8th, regarding a lynx study in the Fort Providence area. The Member for Deh Cho requested information about the lynx study in the Mackenzie Sanctuary. This research on lynx is an essential component of the NWT lynx management program. We must be able to demonstrate that we are trapping lynx within the limits of sustained yield. There is evidence and a great deal of concern that there is overharvest in the provinces. Most southern jurisdictions have imposed restrictions and quotas on lynx trapping. Obviously we cannot afford unnecessary restrictions here in the Northwest Territories.

The biologist in question frequently consulted with the Fort Providence Hunters and Trappers Association regarding the reasons for the study and the location of the study area. This consultation has continued as the study progresses. The HTA has approved and supported the research from the outset, and has agreed that no one would trap inside the study area.

Attempts were made to locate the study where no trappers were working. The only active trapper whose trapline the study overlaps, Mr. Art Look, has co-operated fully with the study. He has closed down part of his line; all this with no requests for any form of compensation. We are now starting the second year of a four year study. There was no concern expressed last year.

The individual you mentioned, Mr. Gilbert Bouvier, according to our records has not trapped in the area of study since 1982. Thus, although the HTA was fully informed and consulted during the start-up of the study, Mr. Bouvier only recently became aware of the study because it has been so long since he had used the area. Mr. Bouvier has recently stated he would not oppose the study.

The radio-collars used in the research do break off some of the guard hairs around the neck but other than that they do not appear to affect the animals. Three lynx originally collared in March and recaptured in November, all had either gained weight or maintained their weight. These types of collars have been used in similar studies conducted in the Yukon and the United States.

This study is of importance to all NWT lynx trappers, since failure to demonstrate that our lynx populations are healthy could ultimately result in lowered pelt prices, restrictions on the number of lynx which can be trapped, or both.

This record indicates that the Department of Renewable Resources has put considerable time and effort into consultation with the community of Fort Providence. In fact, this is a co-operative study which is being jointly managed by the department and the Fort Providence HTA. I see no basis for compensation. The study could be relocated but I do not think that would be in the best interest of the people of Fort Providence or trappers in general. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Return To Question O147-90(1): Funds For MLAs To Travel With Minister Of Renewable Resources**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Speaker, I have a return to a question asked by Mr. Pollard on February 20, 1990, regarding funds for MLAs to travel with the Minister of Renewable Resources to Edmonton. The funds for MLAs to travel are being provided from the conservation education and resource development division. These are part of the funds

that were granted to the Department of Renewable Resources in Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1 to provide support to the fur industry. Thank you.

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

**ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS**

**Question O187-90(1): Government Leader's Plans To Shuffle Cabinet**

**MR. LEWIS:** Given the boldness, the courage and the vision of Mr. Mulroney in making 15 cabinet changes in only one year since being in office, and given the barely shuffled deck that the Government Leader has shown us since October, is he now planning to give us new faces on the other side, rejuvenated, full of life, as Mr. Wray was yesterday, by giving them new responsibilities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Return To Question O187-90(1): Government Leader's Plans To Shuffle Cabinet**

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am not sure that change, for its own sake, is always healthy. I think there are also some virtues in continuity and consistency. Having said that, Mr. Speaker, I believe that this House has given me the prerogative to make reassignments of cabinet portfolios as and when I see appropriate. I will continue to retain that responsibility and exercise that option as I see fit. The Member asked if I am considering any dramatic shuffles; certainly not in the middle of a budget session, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Hay River.

**Question O188-90(1): Transfer Of Inland Fisheries From Federal Government**

**MR. POLLARD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Minister of Renewable Resources. Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister could tell us how the negotiations with the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans are going in respect to the transfer of that responsibility to this government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Return To Question O188-90(1): Transfer Of Inland Fisheries From Federal Government**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Speaker, the negotiations of the inland fisheries management have been at the officials' level only at this point. This cabinet has not dealt with the issue, although I believe that it is on our agenda. After discussing this with my colleagues, I should know more about what direction we should be taking in this area. Thank you.

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

**Question O189-90(1): Location Of Baffin Cultural Centre**

**MR. PEDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Minister of Economic Development, to clarify something which we were not all clear on yesterday. Could the Minister tell me precisely where the Baffin cultural centre, in his budget, is being built?

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

**Return To Question O189-90(1): Location Of Baffin Cultural Centre**

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you. It is in Iqaluit.

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

**Question O190-90(1): Musk-Ox Study On Somerset Island**

**MR. PUDLUK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Renewable Resources regarding the response he gave me regarding the musk-ox. Why are there no studies being conducted in Somerset Island to see if it would be feasible to get musk-ox from there? Thank you.

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

**Return To Question O190-90(1): Musk-Ox Study On Somerset Island**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the HTA in Resolute wants to know if we can hunt musk-ox on Somerset Island, they would have to make a proposal or write a letter to Renewable Resources from the HTA. It would be good if you could also give me a support letter. Thank you.

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

**Question O191-90(1): Empty Government Staff House, Spence Bay**

**MR. NINGARK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Government Leader. Do you know, or are you aware that in Spence Bay there is a government staff house that is not being used by the staff? I was advised by the housing association of this. As we all know there is a shortage of housing in the communities. Can he tell me if, once there is an empty staff house, can it be rented to anybody in that community? Thank you.

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

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Mr. Speaker, the Member's question will require some looking into. There is no simple answer to the question, in that sometimes a vacancy may occur in staff housing because, for example, a teaching couple is hired who only requires one house. However, if that teaching couple should leave, were we to give away the staff house for a long term, then we might well be short a house for a single teacher that might be hired the following year. So Mr. Speaker, it depends very much on the circumstances in the particular case.

Mr. Speaker, the question will be answered by the Minister of Personnel, who is not able to be in the House today, so I will, with your indulgence, take that question as notice for the Minister of Personnel. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The honourable Member is taking the question as notice. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre.

**Question O192-90(1): Ministerial Response Re Water And Sewer Subsidy Program**

**MR. ZOE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs with regard to the water and sewer subsidy program. The Minister promised to respond to us this week. Is the Minister going to be making a response to us later on today? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member for Inuvik.

**Return To Question O192-90(1): Ministerial Response Re Water And Sewer Subsidy Program**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** No, Mr. Speaker. I looked for the honourable Member just prior to the session convening to indicate to him that I am not satisfied with the response that has been developed. I took the question as notice and I will be responding when I am satisfied with the answer. To answer the Member's question, the policy is planned to be implemented on April 1st.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Hay River.

**Question O193-90(1): Tenders Accepted From Outside The NWT**

**MR. POLLARD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Minister Responsible for the Housing Corporation. Does the Housing Corporation solicit and sometimes accept tenders from outside the Northwest Territories? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** I have difficulty understanding the question. Maybe I am thick this morning, but we tender -- how does the Member mean, do we solicit tenders? I am not quite clear on what he is getting at. Maybe he could enlighten me.

**MR. SPEAKER:** If the honourable Member could clarify "soliciting" for the honourable Member for Inuvik.

--Laughter

**MR. POLLARD:** I noticed some strange goings-on on a street corner in Edmonton last Sunday. Mr. Speaker, what I was meaning was, are companies from outside the boundaries of the NWT, physically in other provinces, allowed to tender on NWT contracts? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Return To Question O193-90(1): Tenders Accepted From Outside The NWT**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Hay River, supplementary.

**Supplementary To Question O193-90(1): Tenders Accepted From Outside The NWT**

**MR. POLLARD:** Mr. Speaker, that does not occur in Quebec or in Alberta. Quebec and Alberta have lists of people and



companies within their own provinces, and only those people that are on a preferred list get tenders from the funds expended by the province and CMHC in those provinces. I would like to ask the Minister, why do we not do that in the Northwest Territories, Mr. Speaker?

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

**Further Return To Question O193-90(1): Tenders Accepted From Outside The NWT**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, it has been done in the NWT on, I believe, two occasions and the result of that tendering has brought, from CMHC and the Treasury Board, a suggestion that in those shared contracts that if we apply our business incentive policy then we could risk paying for the whole contract. That is the condition under which the joint contracts are accepted.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Oral questions. The honourable Member for Hay River, supplementary.

**Supplementary To Question O193-90(1): Tenders Accepted From Outside The NWT**

**MR. POLLARD:** Perhaps I did not make myself clear enough, Mr. Speaker. What I was saying is that Alberta and Ontario have a list of people to whom they send proposals in order that they will receive a quote back from them. They do not put it out generally, sir. They only send it to people who are within their provinces. So what I am saying to the Minister is, why do we not just send proposals to people in the NWT, who are in that business of supplying lumber, supplies and housing units, and so on and so forth? Why do we not just keep our lists to people who are in the NWT?

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

**Further Return To Question O193-90(1): Tenders Accepted From Outside The NWT**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, I will look at that suggestion, but the honourable Member must be aware of the conditions under which we share our funding with the federal government.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Hay River, final supplementary.

**Supplementary To Question O193-90(1): Tenders Accepted From Outside The NWT**

**MR. POLLARD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Quebec and Ontario are also funded by CMHC, Mr. Speaker, and they do not seem to have a problem, so what is good for the provinces, why is it not good for the Northwest Territories? I should add, sir, that my question to the Minister would be: Will he not pursue this and see if we can get the same treatment as the provinces? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Further Return To Question O193-90(1): Tenders Accepted From Outside The NWT**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question O194-90(1): Community Consultation Re Policy On Water And Sewer Services**

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs a question concerning a letter I received from my community of Cape Dorset by fax machine yesterday about the policy regarding water and sewage that will come into effect on April 1 of this year. My question is: Were the communities consulted when you were drafting this particular policy? Cape Dorset is on the utilidor. Some of the houses have flush toilets and some have honeybuckets. Because of that they will not be able to follow the policy. This is the reason why I am asking the Minister, were the communities consulted when you were drafting this particular policy? Thank you.

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

**Return To Question O194-90(1): Community Consultation Re Policy On Water And Sewer Services**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, the policy is not being changed, as I understand it, but the accounting guidelines that are related to the policy are. The policy was put into place some three years ago to provide water and sewer services to all the communities at a reasonable rate and on an equitable basis. The department has not consulted the communities before developing the guidelines, but they have developed these guideline changes because this year, as you will see in your supplementary estimates, we have had to find another \$1.2 million and we are projecting next year that, if the same accounting guidelines are in place, we would have to find another \$1.7 million. These accounting guidelines which the department is suggesting be put in place would not reduce the quality of service that is currently being enjoyed by the communities but make it more effective.

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

**Supplementary To Question O194-90(1): Community Consultation Re Policy On Water And Sewer Services**

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand your answer and I am grateful for your reply. Even if the communities are against these particular guidelines, are you just going to implement these guidelines, or are you going to defer the implementation of these guidelines? Thank you.

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

**Further Return To Question O194-90(1): Community Consultation Re Policy On Water And Sewer Services**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, if the current accounting guidelines remain in place we are looking at finding somewhere, \$1.7 million. The guidelines, I admit, may have not been explained at the community level to the extent that they should have been. That is why I am delaying my response to your colleague Mr. Pedersen's question with regard to those changes, because I want to ensure that there is no misunderstanding. I think there is a misunderstanding in the communities of what these accounting guideline changes are going to do. I think there is a fear in the communities that there is going to be a reduction in service. I think it is incumbent upon the department and myself to prove and to leave in the communities' minds that this will not occur. This is why I am delaying my response. I have asked

that the regional offices ensure that, when they are sitting down with the communities, there is a thorough discussion and understanding of what these new accounting guidelines will mean.

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

**Supplementary To Question O194-90(1): Community Consultation Re Policy On Water And Sewer Services**

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not wish to debate on this matter, but the hamlet foremen had a workshop regarding this and then the mayors looked into this matter too. I believe it would be the best procedure to follow when you consult with the communities, or have you already done that?

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

**Further Return To Question O194-90(1): Community Consultation Re Policy On Water And Sewer Services**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, I think the honourable Member's suggestion is a good one, that consultation and discussions and an understanding by the hamlet foremen and the senior officials of the hamlets is extremely important. If a meeting of the nature that the Member has suggested is the best way to do it, then maybe that is the way. I am not sure what discussions have taken place. I would assume that community visits have occurred in all communities affected and that there have been extended discussions at the community level.

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

**Question O195-90(1): Natural Regrowth In Woodlot**

**MR. WHITFORD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will just wait until the Minister responsible for Renewable Resources takes his seat. He is there now. The question I had for the Minister, Mr. Speaker, was dealing with the reforestation program and plans that the Department of Renewable Resources announced a little while ago.

The people of Yellowknife and Fort Rae depend on a woodlot about 150 kilometres west of here, an old burn. There has been natural regrowth there for years, Mr. Speaker, and I have wanted to know, for quite a while now, whether or not Renewable Resources are going to do anything with that natural regrowth in the next little while?

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

**Return To Question O195-90(1): Natural Regrowth In Woodlot**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Speaker, I fail to see the reason why he is asking me whether there is a management plan for natural growth. At the present time we have no plans to do anything about the natural growth.

Mr. Speaker, the paper that he is referring to is a program that my department developed to make sure that the companies who harvest trees in the Northwest Territories – that the growth is maintained or growth is developed where they logged. That program is directed toward those companies who log trees. At the present time, Mr. Speaker, we have no plans to do anything about the natural growth that is occurring where fires have occurred a number of years ago. Thank you.

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

**Supplementary To Question O195-90(1): Natural Regrowth In Woodlot**

**MR. WHITFORD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is one of the problems with the Department of Renewable Resources. In its short-sightedness, it is looking at big companies, it is looking at big, big stuff. Natural regrowth requires help and I have maintained, for a while, that these trees are too thick, they need to be pruned. Small industries, in the area of woodcutting, depend on that area and what I am getting at is whether or not Renewable Resources are going to consider the small businesses as well, by assisting in reforestation of a natural area. That is what I am asking, whether or not you are even going to look at some of the suggestions that these ordinary Members have made before?

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

**Further Return To Question O195-90(1): Natural Regrowth In Woodlot**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned earlier, we have no plans, at this point, to do anything about the natural growth that is occurring where the fire had occurred a number of years ago. But, Mr. Speaker, in light of the Member's advice and other Member's concerns on this problem, or what is perceived to be a problem, we will look at the problem. Thank you.

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

**Question O196-90(1): Involvement Of Band Council In Lynx Study**

**MR. GARGAN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Renewable Resources with regard to the lynx study that is occurring in my area, specifically close to Falaise Lake. The band council has written a letter to the Minister with regard to the application for a permit to do a study in that area. I understand they did not receive anything. The normal practice through the years, Mr. Speaker, was for different outfitters or tourism, for whatever potential, that band councils were consulted for their approval. I would like to ask the Minister why, in this case, the local hunters and trappers association were consulted, but not the band council. Is it the government's intention not to consult with them any more with regard to permits?

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

**Return To Question O196-90(1): Involvement Of Band Council In Lynx Study**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Speaker, our link to communities as a department and as the wildlife managers in the NWT is to go through the hunters and trappers association, which is elected by the hunters in the local community. Thank you.

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

**Supplementary To Question O196-90(1): Involvement Of Band Council In Lynx Study**

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Speaker, with regard to the Minister's answer, then the department has no intention of consulting the

band councils, who are also elected?

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

**Further Return To Question O196-90(1): Involvement Of Band Council In Lynx Study**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Speaker, if the Member wishes, we could contact the band council in that particularly community, but our main focus in consulting with the communities is to go through the hunters and trappers associations.

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

**Question O197-90(1): Hiring Of Local People For Housing Projects**

**MR. NINGARK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister responsible for the NWT Housing Corporation regarding tendering by contractors. Some of the contractors who are building the houses in the communities are not hiring local people. They usually hire workers from the South. When you select contractors, perhaps the community council or housing association could be involved in the selection process. A lot of money is used to bring contractors from the outside and they do not hire too many workers from the local community. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member for Inuvik.

**Return To Question O197-90(1): Hiring Of Local People For Housing Projects**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, I agree with the situation described by the honourable Member. It is one which we, in the Housing Corporation, would like to see changed. We would like to see a great deal more labour from the communities employed and used in the construction of Housing Corporation houses, both public housing and on other projects that we may have.

The current process is one whereby consultation does go on with the community and the contractor at the beginning of a contract to identify and determine what local labour resources exist in the community, so that the contractor is familiar with the resources available, and an attempt is made to have the contractor employ as much local labour as possible. However, our contracts, as currently established, do not specify that a certain amount of local labour be used. We choose the successful tenderer on the basis of his ability to do the job at the lowest possible cost.

The corporation has recently, on the basis of extremely high tenders being provided us, withdrawn some tenders and acted as our own general contractor with four communities, two in the West and two in the East. In doing that, the intention was that we would work with the bands in the West and the communities in the East to develop...

(Technical problems with sound system; House recessed to rectify problem)

---SHORT RECESS

**MR. SPEAKER:** I would like to call the House back to order. The Honourable Member for Inuvik.

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, when we broke there was some suggestion that my answer to that point was too

long so I will conclude very briefly. We accept the Member's concern and we are attempting to address it. We have entered into contract arrangements with four communities; Fort McPherson, Snowdrift, and the work has been carried out there and has gone very, very well. We are looking at doing the same thing in Pangnirtung and Coral Harbour. So we are trying to move in the direction that the Member has suggested that we consider and pursue.

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

**Question O198-90(1): Biologist Involvement In Lynx Study**

**MR. GARGAN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Renewable Resources. Mr. Speaker, there is a lynx study being carried on, for the next three or four years, by biologists in the Falaise Lake area. I would like to ask the Minister whether or not his intention is to have this biologist carry out the study for the next three or four years in that particular area, or are there any intentions to expand from Falaise Lake to other regions? I do not think that the lynx population is only in that specific area.

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

**Return To Question O198-90(1): Biologist Involvement In Lynx Study**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Speaker, I am informed that at the present time we will be studying the lynx in that area for four years. We will have to make an assessment of the study, in order to do more study in other areas, to find out whether the study needs to be done in other areas from the ones we are studying now. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The honourable Member for Deh Cho, supplementary.

**Supplementary To Question O198-90(1): Biologist Involvement In Lynx Study**

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Speaker, the biologist who is doing the study in that area; I would think that biologists are experts in their particular field. I would think that answers could be solved within a year of the study. I would like to ask the Minister why this study is taking so long and why is it only in that particular area?

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

**Further Return to Question O198-90(1): Biologist Involvement In Lynx Study**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Speaker, it takes a while for biologists to determine the population of certain species. In this case we feel that the minimum time of research that should be done in that area is four years. I do not believe that they could do it within a year. Thank you.

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

**MR. LEWIS:** Mr. Speaker, in light of all the interruptions I would like to get unanimous consent to extend question period.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Unanimous consent is being sought to extend question period. Are there any nays? Unanimous consent has been given to extend question period.

The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre.

**Question O199-90(1): Aboriginal Rights And Constitutional Development, Contract Employee**

**MR. LEWIS:** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister responsible for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development. Because this is the budget session and we are very much interested in value for money and so on, would the Minister confirm that we have a contract employee by the name of Mr. DeLury?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member for Amittuq.

**Return To Question O199-90(1): Aboriginal Rights And Constitutional Development, Contract Employee**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, supplementary.

**Supplementary To Question O199-90(1): Aboriginal Rights And Constitutional Development, Contract Employee**

**MR. LEWIS:** Thank you for that confirmation, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister, in light of this concern that we have about expenditures of funds and so on, could the Minister indicate if Mr. DeLury who, I understand is being paid \$1000 a day with a guarantee of 200 days per year, in other words a total of \$200,000 per annum is, in fact, giving us that value as a benefit to the land claims process?

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not quite sure what level he is paid at, I do not have that detail with me. I would like to take the question under advisement. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member is taking the question as notice. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Tu Nede.

**Question O200-90(1): Great Slave Lake Communications System**

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Justice. Mr. Minister, will you confirm the newspaper report in the Yellowknifer on Wednesday that the RCMP did not follow proper procedures in establishing the Great Slave Lake communications system? They basically made a commitment to buy it and then they stuck our government with the bill before any consultation was made with our government.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I will remind Members again that, in terms of questions, they cannot be asked if reading from telegrams, letters, extracts from newspapers or transcripts of television programs as an opening to an oral question. It is an abuse of the Rules and it is not good parliamentary practice to indicate written allegations to the House and then ask Ministers either to confirm or deny them. It is a Member's duty to ascertain the truth in any statement before he brings it to the attention of the House. This is just a reminder to Members in asking questions. If the honourable Member for Yellowknife North wishes to answer, then that is for him to determine. Honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

**Return To Question O200-90(1): Great Slave Lake Communications System**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think it is a fair question. The process may not be according to parliamentary procedure but I think the question is fair and the public deserves an answer.

As I told the honourable Member during the debate on the Justice budget, there have been a lot of technical problems with this communication system and I undertook, at that time, to give a report to the House on exactly what has gone on.

What I want to emphasize, though, is that the RCMP, in the acquisition of capital assets, do not recognize either our contract regulations nor our business incentive policy. In the police contract they have full authority to make those purchases. The only authority that our government has, after the fact, if it is in excess of \$100,000, is to decide whether or not to pay for it at that time, in the course of a year, or amortize it over the life of the particular asset. I have asked the RCMP for a full report on this particular matter and once I have received that I will respond to the Member here in the House. Thank you.

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

**Supplementary To Question O200-90(1): Great Slave Lake Communications System**

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, supplementary. So the contract that we do have with the RCMP -- my understanding is that we pay 70 per cent of the cost and they do not follow our policy when awarding contracts or purchasing in the North. As the Minister of Justice and Finance, is that not leaving it open-ended? Is that not a bad way to manage? As an individual, I would not enter into a contract with someone and leave it open-ended so that they could buy \$20 million worth of capital stuff and leave us with 70 per cent of the bill. The only option open to us would be either to pay it out immediately or over many years.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

**Further Return To Question O200-90(1): Great Slave Lake Communications System**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** I totally agree with the Member. I did not negotiate this contract. There are many flaws in this contract and we are in the process now of negotiating a new contract. One of the elements that I will bring forward is that any purchases made by the RCMP fall under our guidelines and regulations. I think the point raised by the Member is a valid one and is one that we will try to deal with in the renegotiation of the new contract.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Hear, hear!

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

**Supplementary To Question O200-90(1): Great Slave Lake Communications System**

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary. Mr. Minister, will you also, when negotiating a new contract, make sure that it is not open-ended so that they can buy anything

and leave us with 70 per cent of the bill?

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

**Further Return To Question O200-90(1): Great Slave Lake Communications System**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** That is correct. What we are going to attempt to do is tighten up the new contract so that we have full protection and also we have a fair measure of control over purchases made by the RCMP, especially when we are expected to pay a considerable percentage of the cost of those purchases.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Tu Nede, final supplementary.

**Supplementary To Question O200-90(1): Great Slave Lake Communications System**

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, final supplementary. Mr. Minister, would you assure this House that since the last negotiators of your department did such a poor job that you would not use those same negotiators? Thank you.

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

**Further Return To Question O200-90(1): Great Slave Lake Communications System**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** The last negotiations took place in a different era. They would have taken place in the late 1970s. I do not think those negotiators are still on the scene, but I can assure the Member that I will ensure that we have good negotiators who will fulfil the obligations of this Legislative Assembly and the people of the North in the next set of negotiations.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I would just like to draw the Members' attention to Mr. Rolf Hougen, who is in our public gallery today. He is the elected chairman of the board of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. He is a long-time and distinguished Yukon businessman, a recipient of the Order of Canada, the founder of the revolutionary Cancom communications satellite system. He serves as a director of a number of business corporations including Cominco Limited and NorthwesTel. He is in Yellowknife attending the Northwest Territories Chamber of Commerce meetings this weekend. Welcome to the Northwest Territories.

---Applause

Oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre.

**Question O201-90(1): Signing Of Dene/Metis Final Agreement**

**MR. LEWIS:** Mr. Speaker, when we were travelling with the special committee on the northern economy, we heard time and time again how important it was that the land claims process be completed so that we can develop socially and economically. My question to the Minister responsible for Aboriginal Rights and constitutional development is this: Does the Minister support the federal deadline of March 31, 1990, for signing the Dene/Metis final agreement?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Member for Sahtu.

**Return To Question O201-90(1): Signing Of Dene/Metis Final Agreement**

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Mr. Speaker, one of the critical questions that the federal government has to ask itself is, how well prepared is it to implement the final agreement should the negotiations of that be completed by the end of March? Our assessment is that if everyone worked 24 hours a day between now and the end of March, there is a remote possibility that we could complete the claim. The possibilities of the wording and the thought that would go into the wording of the different sections being vague and perhaps unclear are substantial, to say the least, and as we know from experience -- in James Bay and even with the Inuvialuit claim -- the problems of all involved parties agreeing to what it is that has been agreed to in the final agreement, and then agreeing on how these could be implemented, are horrendous.

It is the view of some of my officials that no one, except one or two federal Ministers, may be served well by pushing for a final agreement by the end of March. It is our view that, as all parties, we should seriously look at how well the federal government is prepared to implement the claim -- who is going to do it, how much money is it going to take -- along with ourselves and also with Dene/Metis, because that is really the important work that lies ahead of us. Completing the negotiations is important but I think we cannot lose sight of the fact that none of us really have put that much effort into explaining and getting clear in our minds how we are going to implement this claim. I believe that it would take a great deal of work on the part of the Dene/Metis to organize themselves in a way that they can sit down with the specific time lines and objectives so that they also can figure out how we can implement it. The federal government and ourselves should also sit down and do the same. It would be an impossible task if we find ourselves all negotiating in a way that we know we are not going to deliver a good quality package which we can implement. We may spend the years to come trying to agree on what it is that is in the package and how to implement it and find that maybe 10 years from now we still have not implemented a deal simply because we are rushing.

It is my view, I guess, that the last two years could have been put to better use by all parties, but it is hindsight, so to speak. We think that as much as possible should be done by the end of March. Because there is a new Minister in the portfolio as of this morning, I think there is a possibility that he may give more thought to the enormous implications and cost implications that forcing a deal too quickly on the North and on the federal government itself may have on everyone. Thank you.

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

**Supplementary To Question O201-90(1): Signing Of Dene/Metis Final Agreement**

**MR. LEWIS:** Mr. Speaker, deadlines seem to come and go and the word is almost losing any meaning in our language. My question, a supplementary then to the same Minister, is, if the March 31, 1990, Dene/Metis land claim agreement deadline is not met, is the Minister willing to back the federal government by supporting the closure of the land claim and other related processes?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member for Sahtu.

**Further Return To Question O201-90(1): Signing Of Dene/Metis Final Agreement**

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Mr. Speaker, the fact is, the government and the Legislature supports the negotiations and the completion of an agreement in principle. What we do not have is much say in the way that the parties conduct themselves. We cannot tell the Dene/Metis what they should and should not agree to.

It has been pointed out by myself, as a politician, that there are concerns about the quality of the leadership in the native organizations recently. It is because I believe much more could have been done in the last two years to focus the energy of the chiefs and to find ways to improve the provisions in the agreement in principle. I do not think much has been done.

People have pointed out at the 11th hour the great concerns for Treaties 8 and 11 that have arisen. They certainly were not major issues in previous years. If the negotiations shut down, I believe that all of us would have to regroup and decide what is best, given the situation with the native organizations; that is, I think there is a possibility that even if the federal government should agree to continue negotiations or to suspend negotiations, then six months after try to complete, that the Dene/Metis may not be in a mood, or just simply not interested in working together any more. They may not be capable of working together any more.

There is strong support for the agreement in principle from the northern people; that is, in the Sahtu and the Delta, and substantial support in the Dogrib region as well. But it seems that the implication is that if one or two chiefs are not satisfied the whole deal is going to go down the tubes. It speaks to the quality, I think, of the leadership that we are forced to deal with at this time. The whole thing, in my opinion, is really out of control. There is not really much we can do about it. It is as if we are all sitting on a landslide and we are just waiting for someone to kick it to a stop and we do not know when it is going to stop sliding, perhaps the end of March.

I do not think I am going to suggest that we are going to support the federal government and deny people a settlement, but we have to be realistic and wonder whether people are going to be in a position to complete a settlement after the end of March. We will just have to wait and see what is still there when the dust clears and if people are still wanting to work together and if one claim is still the preoccupation of all the chiefs and Metis leaders. Thank you.

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

**Supplementary To Question O201-90(1): Signing Of Dene/Metis Final Agreement**

**MR. LEWIS:** Briefly then, Mr. Speaker, will the Minister confirm that the March 31, 1990 deadline was the agreed-to date between two parties by which this agreement would be concluded?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member for Sahtu.

**Further Return To Question O201-90(1): Signing Of Dene/Metis Final Agreement**

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Mr. Speaker, the deadlines and the schedule were agreed to by the Dene/Metis leadership negotiators and the federal government, that is correct.

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

**Question O202-90(1): Consultation Re Land-Use Permits**

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Renewable Resources. I am not satisfied with the response that he had with regard to permits. Is it the department's intention that every time there is a research permit, a land-use permit, the department will only consult the hunters and trappers association and not the band council?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The honourable Member for Armituq.

**Return To Question O202-90(1): Consultation Re Land-Use Permits**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I mentioned earlier, the primary group that we deal with at the present time is the HTA in all of our communities. But since the aboriginal claims are in the process of being settled, are within our reach, there is a provision there establishing a wildlife group in each community. In order to establish them we would have to change some of our acts and regulations to allow wildlife committees to be established. That committee could consist of any person from the community. Once these people are established, then we will go through the wildlife committee from the community. Thank you.

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

**Question O203-90(1): Dying Vegetation In Court House Building**

**MR. LEWIS:** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Justice. A constituent of mine has brought my attention to a sad state of affairs that exists in the court house. Whenever the individual goes into that building he is filled with despair because every plant in the vestibule is dying.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Shame, shame!

**MR. LEWIS:** This is a sad reflection, Mr. Speaker, in some people's view, on the justice system; when those living organisms cannot even survive in that rarefied environment. I would like to ask the Minister of Justice if he is aware of this situation and what does he intend to do about it?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

**Return To Question O203-90(1): Dying Vegetation In Court House Building**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a question that has concerned me greatly, and I have not slept at nights as I contemplated this. I was originally under the misconception that they were merely realistic looking plastic plants.

---Laughter

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** So was everybody else that worked there.

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** That is not the case. I could suggest, perhaps, a solution that will perhaps help the honourable Member for Yellowknife South. He was looking for assistance to business to prune new forest growth in burn

areas. Perhaps if Mr. Whitford could bring some of that pruned new growth to the court house, we would have a new look in the court house. Thank you.

---Applause

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

**Question O204-90(1): Hiring Guides From NWT**

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Renewable Resources. It is with regard to a new regulation forcing outfitters and lodges to hire guides from the NWT. I would like to ask the Minister, when is this regulation going to come into force, and is the government now training people in those specific areas on the different species of animals, fish, et cetera?

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister responsible for Economic Development to answer that question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Excuse me, the honourable Member for Amittuq, are you indicating that the honourable Member for Kivallivik, as Minister, should answer?

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Return To Question O204-90(1): Hiring Guides From NWT**

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No changes have been made. The process that is under way right now is that in January 1990, last month, we sent out proposed changes and amendments to regulations to over 300 outfitters, lodges and various groups asking for their input into changes that we are proposing to make. Essentially what we want to do is ensure that if there are businesses up here which are utilizing the natural resources of the Northwest Territories, then the residents of the Northwest Territories get as much benefit from those businesses as possible. However, our consultation has not been completed. We have had several discussions with various groups and I expect that once the consultations are finished, the department will draft a policy partially based on the public responses, and then a policy will come through to cabinet and that will be prepared for Executive Council consideration. But no changes have been made as yet and we are still in the consultation process. Thank you.

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

**Question O205-90(1): Economic Development's Strategies Toward Native Communication Society**

**MR. WHITFORD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question I would like to direct to the Minister responsible for Economic Development. Yesterday a number of Members asked questions concerning Economic Development's strategies toward the Native Communication Society. I wonder if the Minister has instructed his officials to make contact with the executive of the society to assuage their fears of what is coming down, seeing that it is the weekend.

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

Kivallivik.

**Return To Question O205-90(1): Economic Development's Strategies Toward Native Communication Society**

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you. Yes, instructions were given. In fact, most of the senior officials within the department were here during the debate and the question period because they were waiting to come up before the House. I cannot tell the Member if, in fact, contact has been made yet; I would hope it has. Certainly the instructions have been given and I would expect my officials to be contacting the people today or Monday. Thank you.

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

**Question O206-90(1): Ineligibility Of Unilingual Jurors**

**MR. LEWIS:** Mr. Speaker, my last question was about plants; this one is about judges. I would like to ask the Minister responsible for Justice if he is aware of a case last month in Iqaluit, where a judge from Montreal ruled that 17 unilingual jurors, potential jurors, would be ineligible to sit on a jury since, according to the judge, our Jury Act is ultra vires and he would only accept jurors who spoke English and French? Is he aware of that case?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** I will take that question as notice, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

**Question O207-90(1): Implementing Water And Sewer Subsidy Program**

**MR. ZOE:** Mahsi cho, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am quite concerned by the response that the Minister has given today in regard to implementing the water and sewer subsidy program by April 1st. As the Minister is aware, a number of municipalities have raised a number of concerns which we are expressing on this side of the House, in that corner. Does the Minister intend to ignore the concerns that are being expressed, and is he still going to implement those particular changes by April 1st?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member for Inuvik.

**Return To Question O207-90(1): Implementing Water And Sewer Subsidy Program**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** No, Mr. Speaker, we are not going to ignore the concerns expressed. As I indicated, this House will be advised of those changes and the rationale for those changes. We will be speaking with the municipalities who have raised concerns. I think there is a major misunderstanding with regard to the new guidelines and it is still my intention and expectation that those guidelines will be implemented on April 1st, after the exchange and communications with the communities occurs.

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

**Supplementary To Question O207-90(1): Implementing Water And Sewer Subsidy Program**

**MR. ZOE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Does the Minister think

there are going to be any changes made when he consults with the municipalities?

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

**Further Return To Question O207-90(1): Implementing Water And Sewer Subsidy Program**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** One cannot presume on what will result from these discussions, but I would suggest that a major part of our problem is the misunderstanding when the guidelines were communicated to the representatives from the various communities in the first place. I understand that, as Mr. Arlooktoo pointed out, there was a meeting in the Eastern Arctic at which managers and foremen were present, and I believe that has been the only communication to date and I think misunderstandings arose during that meeting. It would be my intention that such misunderstandings would be addressed and eradicated.

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

**Question O208-90(1): Hay River Plebiscite To Withdraw From Regional Council**

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Government Leader. Mr. Government Leader, yesterday in your Member's statement you quoted section 33 of the Regional and Tribal Councils Act of the Northwest Territories, which provides that a community may only withdraw from a membership in a regional council by holding a municipal plebiscite in which two thirds of the majority of the residents agree to withdraw. Since no such plebiscite has taken place in Iqaluit, I believe that the council's motion to withdraw from BRC has no effect and is not valid.

Mr. Government Leader, could you make available to me the plebiscite that was held in Hay River for the Hay River Town Council to withdraw from the South Slave Regional Council and not participate? Could you please make that available to me? Thank you.

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

**Return To Question O208-90(1): Hay River Plebiscite To Withdraw From Regional Council**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, I guess really I should accept and address that question from the honourable Member. My understanding in the question that the honourable Member has raised with regard to Hay River's participation in the council mentioned, is that Hay River was never officially a member of that particular body. Possibly the mayor, at the time, would be able to inform the...

---Laughter

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The honourable Member for Tu Nede, supplementary.

**Supplementary To Question O208-90(1): Hay River Plebiscite To Withdraw From Regional Council**

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Minister, due to the fact that there was no plebiscite held in Hay River, and it has been brought to my attention that sometimes elected councils do not represent two thirds of the population in what they feel they should do -- they may want to sit on the South

Slave Regional Council and they may want a seat on that council -- will you undertake to instruct them to hold a plebiscite in Hay River to see if the Hay River residents do want a seat on the South Slave Regional Council? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Member for Inuvik.

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, I will take the question as notice.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The honourable Member is taking the question as notice. Oral questions. Honourable Member for Deh Cho.

**Question O209-90(1): Contribution Of Iqaluit Toward New Cultural Centre**

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism with regard to the cultural centre being built in Iqaluit. In Norman Wells they have a historical museum; in Yellowknife they have the Northern Arts and Cultural Centre for which the city raised a lot of money to build; I would like to ask the Minister if Iqaluit would be in the same position to make a contribution toward that particular capital project.

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

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe that Iqaluit has made a contribution. However, I am not exactly sure of the details or how much, so I will take that question under advisement.

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

**Question O210-90(1): Tags For Bison Hunt**

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Renewable Resources. Mr. Speaker, last year when they were distributing tags for the bison hunt there were a lot of people disappointed with the way things were handled. Mr. Speaker, I got a brand new gun too, and I have not used it yet. I would like to ask the Minister what the situation is with regard to the tag allocation this year. Are people pretty well happy with the way the process has gone?

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

**Return To Question O210-90(1): Tags For Bison Hunt**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Speaker, to this date I have not heard of a single problem with respect to the distribution of the tag allocation this year. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Oral questions. Oral questions. Item 6, written questions. The honourable Member for Inuvik.

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, might I have unanimous consent to return to Item 4 on the agenda?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to return to Item 4, returns to oral questions. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Minister, please proceed.



**REVERT TO ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS****Revert To Return To Question O157-90(1): Land-Use Permit For Equipment Into Moraine Bay**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** I thank my colleagues, Mr. Speaker. I may have misled the House unwittingly this morning in my reply. I mentioned that Karl Mueller Construction had applied for a federal land-use permit. I am advised that it is a firm from Peace River and that Sig Phillips from Fort Providence would be doing the work. During that reading of the return, I may have said 90 days instead of 30 days with regard to getting input on the land-use permit. I just wish to correct my reply at this time.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Item 6, written questions. The honourable Member for Tu Nede.

**ITEM 6: WRITTEN QUESTIONS****Question W16-90(1): Direct Or Indirect Benefits To 11th Assembly MLAs**

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a written question to the Government Leader. Has the government signed any contracts with any businesses owned or operated on behalf of an individual MLA which may have resulted in any direct or indirect financial benefit?

Would the Government Leader make available to me a list of business dealings this government has conducted or is conducting with businesses owned or operated on behalf of an MLA or individual MLAs which could result in direct or indirect financial advantage or benefit to an individual MLA?

Have any Members of the 11th Legislative Assembly received grants or loans from programs of the government which may result in direct or indirect financial advantage or benefit to individual MLAs since the election in October 1987?

Would the Government Leader table in this House any legal analysis that he has received with regard to conflict of interest which has allowed for Members of the Legislative Assembly to enter in with contractor agreements with the government or Executive Council?

Have the Executive Council or individual Ministers considered or approved any agreements, contracts or financial arrangements that have provided a direct or indirect financial benefit to a Member of this Legislative Assembly? Thank you.

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

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

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

Item 9, petitions. Petitions.

Item 10, reports of standing and special committees. Reports of standing and special committees. Item 11, tabling of documents. The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

**ITEM 11: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS**

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 28-90(1), a press release from the Office of the Prime Minister, dated February 23, 1990. Thank you.

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

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 29-90(1), a letter that I received from Cape Dorset with regard to land use.

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

Item 12, notices of motion. Notices of motion.

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

Item 14, motions. Motions.

Item 15, first reading of bills. First reading of bills.

Item 16, second reading of bills. Second reading of bills. Item 17, 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; Bill 9-90(1), Appropriation Act, 1990-91; Committee Report 2-90(1), Special Committee on Northern Economy Report: Building Our Economic Future, with Mr. Gargan in the chair.

**ITEM 17: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS AND OTHER MATTERS****Bill 9-90(1): Appropriation Act, 1990-91**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** The committee will now come back to order. What is the wish of the committee? Government House Leader.

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the committee's concurrence, we would like to proceed with the Department of Renewable Resources.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Does the committee agree that we proceed with the Department of Renewable Resources? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**Department Of Renewable Resources**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** The Department of Renewable Resources. Mr. Alloo, would you like to make your opening statement?

**Minister's Opening Remarks**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A few days ago I announced that my department would be taking several important initiatives that will help to build a healthy balance between environmental and economic development concerns in the Northwest Territories. These initiatives include the completion of a sustainable development policy and amendments to our Environmental Protection Act in order to eliminate existing shortfalls and to ensure heavier fines for polluters in the Northwest Territories. It will also play a role in establishing the terms of reference for a Northwest Territories round table to promote conflict resolutions between developers and northern organizations and individuals with environmental concerns.

Mr. Chairman, an improved and proper balance between environmental concerns and economic development projects

is essential. Such a balance is particularly important in the Northwest Territories because of our traditional lifestyles and native cultures which are closely tied to the natural environment. All of us must remember that we are borrowing the land and its resources from our children and that we have a moral obligation to leave the land in a better condition than it is right now.

Mr. Chairman, our principal goals for the 1990s are to promote a healthy environment and the conservation of our renewable resources. One of the most important tools to protect our environment will be the sustainable development policy. We are developing the policy co-operatively with several other departments, particularly Economic Development and Tourism, and Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources. It will be used to guide decisions about the use of our renewable and non-renewable resources. The principles of sustainable development, Mr. Chairman, are recognized as a key component of our government's economic strategy.

I believe we all agree that the health of our economy will depend upon the health of our environment and resources. Because of this, the mandate, programs and activities of the Department of Renewable Resources are fundamental to the success of our government's economic strategy. In addition, the department's proposed budget contains several programs that specifically enhance the renewable resource sector of our economy.

One is the successful renewable resource demonstration project program. In 1989-90, we funded more than 20 projects: In Baffin, new techniques for harvesting clams were tested; Whale Cove experimented with small-scale processing of caribou to sell at Keewatin retail outlets. In the western Arctic, wood is an important source of heat in homes. New wood lots are being planned for Fort Liard, Fort Simpson and Yellowknife. The idea behind this program is to develop new, or enhance existing, harvesting opportunities; to build on traditional skills of residents; and to increase the self-sufficiency of communities.

The production of management plans to guide the use of specific wildlife resources, forests and land is continuing. These plans help to resolve resource use conflicts; identify new resource harvesting opportunities and promote long-term use of resources with long-term benefits for residents. As each plan is developed, many meetings with resource management boards and the public are held to ensure that local concerns or needs are met. This year, the proposed land use plan for the Mackenzie Delta/Beaufort Sea area will be completed, as well as management plans for polar bears and the Bathurst caribou herd.

Mr. Chairman, a new policy is also being developed to guide our fire operations program. A discussion paper issued to seek public input emphasizes the benefits of fire, such as creating new wildlife habitat, while still protecting public property and valuable resources, such as commercial stands of timber and critical wildlife habitat. The fire operations program also provides direct benefits to our northern economy. Each year, hundreds of seasonal workers are hired and northern businesses receive millions of dollars' worth of contracts.

We all recognize that the business of hunting and trapping is an important part of our northern economy. Several programs of the Department of Renewable Resources contribute directly to the improvement and expansion of this economic sector. As in previous years, we plan to allocate almost three million dollars in grants and contributions to support hunting and trapping activities and organizations in the Northwest Territories. In addition, we will continue our trapper education program which concentrates on humane trapping practices

and proper fur handling. We will also continue our fight against the anti-trapping lobby and make representations at every opportunity to ensure the views of northern hunters and trappers are understood.

We also hope to enhance the northern country food trade by developing standards for meat inspection and, through the expansion of our program, to investigate and monitor the levels of contaminants in northern country foods. This program also protects the health of northern residents.

One other critical task assigned to the department is the completion of a report which will outline options for a hunter income support program. Such a program would be designed to maintain and foster the hunting, trapping and fishing lifestyle as a viable part of the wage economy.

To fulfil its mandate of resource management and environmental protection, the department is planning several other initiatives. The equipment and techniques available through the Northwest Territories remote sensing centre allow users to accomplish more with the same amount of funds. Territorial and federal departments as well as northern businesses are taking advantage of the cost-efficient techniques available. The centre has assisted several mines to map surface rock types.

As well, preliminary mapping of forest stands, fires and wildlife habitat can now be done which previously would have been cost-prohibitive. Other uses have included mapping potential borrow pit sources and realigning the road between Yellowknife and Rae. The centre was established on a trial basis through a co-operative federal-territorial agreement. As this concludes shortly, we are requesting funds and one person year to establish the centre as a permanent territorial facility.

Mr. Chairman, in 1989, residents of the Northwest Territories learned that new forms of pollution had come North. In particular, the proposed Alberta-Pacific pulp mill on the Athabasca River caused great concern. Through the Department of Renewable Resources, our government was heavily involved with the public hearing process to investigate the potential environmental effects of the new mill.

As we wait for the panel's report, the department is continuing to work on trans-boundary water agreements which will define and protect our water quality and rate of flow. As well, we are working with federal and Alberta environment departments to improve existing water quality monitoring projects. To continue this fight for clean water, the department is requesting additional funds and one person year for the 1990-91 fiscal year.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Renewable Resources is requesting a total budget of \$41.1 million.

In closing, I would like to stress that being the primary guardians of our renewable resources and one the primary actors in environmental protection are not tasks that we take lightly. We are committed to the concepts of clean air, clean water and productive forests and wildlife populations for the use and enjoyment of all future Northerners and Canadians. Qujannamiik. Mahsi cho.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Qujannamiik. Mr. Ningark.

**MR. NINGARK:** Mr. Chairman, this being Friday afternoon, I move we report progress.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** There is a motion in the House to report progress. This motion is not debatable. All those in favour? All those opposed? This motion is defeated. The

chairman of the standing committee on finance.

#### Comments From The Standing Committee On Finance

**MR. POLLARD:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The standing committee on finance was concerned about pollution control and the committee encourages the department to be aggressive in its approach to pollution control. As part of this effort the committee supports the development of co-operative relationships with the department's provincial counterparts. The committee also strongly supports the development of environmental legislation. Recommendation 19, Mr. Chairman: The committee recommends that the Department of Renewable Resources develop legislation to protect the environment.

With regard to accurate species counts, the committee believes that accurate counts of northern species are necessary for a variety of purposes, including wildlife management, setting of quotas and development of a significant renewable resource economic base. We would like to pass on that belief to the Minister. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. Does the Minister wish to bring in his witnesses?

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Yes, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Is it agreed by the committee?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Mr. Minister. For the record would the Minister please introduce your witnesses?

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Chairman, to my left is my deputy minister, Mr. Jim Bourque, and to my right is the assistant deputy minister of the department, Bob Wooley.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. Department of Renewable Resources, general comments. What is the committee's wish? Mr. Whitford.

**MR. WHITFORD:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. While I have the Minister and his officials here, I probably should take this opportunity to make a couple of comments on what I was alluding to earlier this morning, in question period, dealing with trees. Renewable Resources, of course, has a much broader mandate than trees and I must give my congratulations for, over the last few months, adopting the jack pine as their official tree. That does represent a good symbol for the western part of the Arctic and that, again, is the thrust of what I am getting at here.

#### Providing Firewood As A Small Business

What I was talking about this morning, Mr. Chairman, about harvesting of trees and the reforestation program -- what I was alluding to was that in areas such as Yellowknife there are a few people that depend on wood solely for their heating and there are a lot more that depend on wood for partial heating. I would venture to estimate that there are somewhere between 700, 800 to 1500 cords of wood for potential use in this city. The price is anywhere from \$100 to \$190; it depends on where it is and how it is dealt with or cut up. But we have to go so far for it, and in a country that has a lot of trees the trees are not suitable for wood oftentimes; and we do have to go as far as 150 kilometres, that is to the area of Fort Rae and beyond that toward Providence where there was a burn back about 1973.

A lot of trees have been taken out of there for firewood since that time, Mr. Chairman, and nature has taken its course. Seedlings have sprung up and are very thick, and they are growing at a good rate at the moment, which is typical of that type of tree. After a fire they will reseed themselves, more or less, and if left unchecked they will stabilize and eventually they will become a mature forest which we can harvest.

There is also a problem with their being so thick that they do not grow fast because there are too many. While I was with federal Energy, Mines and Resources we had a look at that and tried to come up with some kind of strategy and a plan to reforest some areas on a test basis. There is a tree there about every six inches, I will venture to say, and they do not have a chance to get the nutrients out of the soil.

I wonder if a test section could be taken and thinned out to get the optimum area for a tree to grow. We might see reforestation in that area relatively naturally within a shorter period of time than it would take naturally. The soil is thin enough as it is, in that area, and if we had some form of reforestation plan maybe we could prove there that it is possible. We do not really need to get seedlings from somewhere else. Maybe in areas where logging takes place, reforestation with seedlings might speed things up because the seedlings would have a chance, naturally, to be free from the cones. In that particular type of pine, you need a fire apparently.

I just wanted to make those comments in that one area of trees and maybe to suggest that they look at other factors here because wood is a small business. It does not reach the same glamour, I guess, as the lumber industry where they cut large trees, make lumber and sell it with NWT labels on it; but the wood business does provide work for a lot of people. It provides a source of fuel which probably is as environmentally safe as anything else. Heat is heat, and you are going to get it out of the wood or oil, so if we have wood available we should utilize it.

#### Involvement Of Corrections Inmates

Looking at the cost of this whole thing, there are other ways of doing it, and I think some of the other Members have touched upon this -- if not in this House, in committee when we were examining the various departments. I will use the example of the Social Services responsibility for corrections. We have a corrections centre here in Yellowknife; we also have one in Hay River. In Hay River they harvest any kind of wood that is available; they cut it, sell it and make money. Here in Yellowknife we have an institution that has almost 200 inmates, a lot of them able-bodied people that probably would love to go out and do something constructive that would get them out of those four walls and into the environment again. Maybe this is an area where you can utilize some, not free labour, but labour that has potential but is less productive because of the circumstances. With a minimum of training, with a minimum of instruction and with a minimum of cost to this government, we probably can get foresters out of that institution who would take some pride in looking at this environment and doing something where they might, in a few years time, look back on it with a certain amount of pride and say, "I had some involvement with that."

It is not complicated work to go and thin out trees, but it might have, in the long run, some return to the environment and to society, using a natural element. We would be using people a little bit better than just housing them, clothing them and feeding them without getting any return from that. That is something for the department to look at. I do not say that we should have chain gangs going out there to cut wood, but let us have that opportunity there if it can be used. It has

been said before, and I just want to reiterate that.

### Enforcement Of Gun Laws And Game Laws

The other area I just want to talk about briefly is the area of enforcement. I think the department on the whole does an excellent job of maintaining the wildlife in the NWT. It is a big job because they have so many different areas to look at. They have everything from A to Z here as far as animals are concerned, and all are of value to the North. In Yellowknife here we are concerned with caribou, as well as everyone else, because they do come in here once a year and there are a number of people that do harvest them. I think we would like to keep that cycle going.

There is also concern about the misuse of that resource. We do have a road going right through caribou country and at times there appears to be a terrible slaughter of animals, and in some cases a waste, as I pointed out here in the last couple of days -- animals being left unclaimed and uncleaned, just left to waste. It may be from a lack of enforcement.

I did mention my concern about the enforcement of the gun laws, and that also applies to the enforcement of the game laws. I think in the old days game wardens used to patrol by dogsled and it took a long time to do, but there were fewer people. Now we have roads and they have vehicles, but we also have snowmobiles and hunters on snowmobiles who can go into the back country, off the roads, and chase game. I think the game wardens should also get on snowmobiles and go into the back country, off the roads, and chase the hunters to ensure that we are managing the game properly; that they are properly licensed and that they are applying as many of the safety requirements as possible; that they are not taking more than they should, and they are not being careless.

Again, with much pride I can say that the game officials are doing a good job, but there is an area where there can be improvement. I have mentioned that in my opinion there was a fluctuation in the numbers of tickets being issued for the misuse of firearms. I speak from personal knowledge on that, Mr. Chairman. When I was a justice of the peace I would see at times a flurry of charges being laid for the careless use of guns, carrying loaded guns in vehicles and in boats, shooting across roads. There were quite a number of things that were coming up, and then there was a slowdown, and I wondered why. Were people abiding by the law or were there just not enough game officials on patrol to make sure that the public as a whole is protected?

Sadly, I think it might be a lack of sufficient game officials. There is just too big a country to cover and too few people to cover it. I am just waiting now for an appearance of poaching, in the chairman's constituency, of the bison up that way. As soon as word gets out that there are a lot of buffalo up there that might be easy to get, without sufficient game officials we might end up seeing something like that; but I hope not.

Those are the only two areas that I have any comments on at the moment and I will leave the floor to someone else if they wish to speak. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Mr. Minister, do you wish to respond to Mr. Whitford?

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Chairman, I believe the Member was more or less making a statement on our department, not so much a question. I would like to respond to a couple of suggestions.

There is always room to improve our status as wildlife

managers and forestry managers. We will take the Member's advice very seriously in the forestry management area and see if we could improve in that area.

As far as the caribou-monitoring patrols in the Yellowknife area, I am informed that during the months of October to January, 1990, this year, we had a total of 124 person days monitoring that area, averaging about three hours per day on vehicle and five hours a day on snowmobiles patrolling the winter road. The level of patrol activities is established on the basis of caribou movement and the expected hunting pressures of that herd.

Mr. Chairman, the Member is correct that we manage a large area and it is difficult to be in all of the areas that we manage at any one time. Thank you.

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

**MR. PUDLUK:** Mr. Chairman, we are dealing with a very important department and there are hardly any Members here. For that reason I move that we report progress.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** There is a motion on the floor to report progress. We need a quorum. Mr. Clerk. The Chair recognizes a quorum. The motion on the floor is to report progress. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. I will rise now and report progress. I would like to thank the Minister and Mr. Bourque and Mr. Wooley.

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

**MR. SPEAKER:** I would like to call the House back to order. Item 18, report of committee of the whole. The honourable Member for Deh Cho.

**MR. GARGAN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 9-90(1) and Committee Report 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 19, third reading of bills. Item 20, Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

**CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):** Mr. Speaker, meetings for Monday, February 26: ajuqtit at 9:00 a.m. and a joint meeting at 10:00 a.m. of the standing committees on finance and legislation.

### ITEM 20: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Monday, February 26th.

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Oral Questions
6. Written Questions
7. Returns to Written Questions

8. Replies to Opening Address
9. Petitions
10. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
11. Tabling of Documents
12. Notices of Motion
13. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
14. Motions
15. First Reading of Bills: Bills 2-90(1), 3-90(1), 4-90(1), 5-90(1), 6-90(1) and 7-90(1)
16. Second Reading of Bills: Bill 1-90(1)
17. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters: Committee Report 1-90(1); Bill 9-90(1); Committee Report 2-90(1)
18. Report of Committee of the Whole
19. Third Reading of Bills
20. Orders of the Day

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Monday, February 26, 1990, at 1:00 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT

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