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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1990

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

--Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Richard Nerysoo): Orders of the day for Tuesday, February 27, 1990. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Ministers' Statement 21-90(1): Science Institute, Information And Education

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as Minister responsible for the Science Institute, through whom the Science Institute of the NWT reports to this House, I wish to take this opportunity to underline the importance of the Science Institute of the Northwest Territories.

Before doing that, however, I want to announce what I believe is significant recognition of the importance of the Northwest Territories in monitoring polar research and advising on polar research priorities.

Prime Minister Mulroney announced in Moscow, on November 24, 1989, the establishment of the Canadian Polar Commission. The commission was created to develop a new co-operative ethic with our northern allies and neighbours. Canada is a major Arctic nation and is a world leader in polar research and knowledge. The Prime Minister believes, as I do, that better institutional support to maintain and improve polar knowledge to properly manage Canada's polar interests is required. There is a great need for international participation in understanding the many scientific, environmental, cultural, socio-economic and technical polar issues important to Canada as a circumpolar nation. The commission will monitor the development of, in Canada and elsewhere, polar knowledge, and provide information about polar research matters for Canadians and Canadian institutions.

The commission will consist of 12 commissioners, appointed for a term of four years. The composition of the commission will reflect the geographic, ethnic, linguistic and regional diversities of the Canadian polar research community. There will be an executive officer and secretary in Ottawa, and full-time officers in Yellowknife and Quebec City. The commission is to be established by an act of Parliament. It will be at arm's length from the federal government and report to Parliament through the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the Canadian Polar Commission and the recognition of the importance of the NWT in this new initiative demonstrate that the Science Institute of the NWT is working toward its objective of ensuring that scientific research is relevant to the needs of our environment and our economy. One of the important elements of the Science Institute's agenda is the information and education program. The genesis of the program was the Science Advisory Board when, in November, 1976, members identified science awareness and literacy as important undertakings for the board. The

information and education program has continued to be a cornerstone since the Science Institute was formed in 1984.

In the past three years, the Science Institute has prepared and put in place a number of activities and publications designed to increase the level of science awareness throughout the Northwest Territories. In the main, the programs have been aimed at school-aged children because the Science Institute believes this approach will have the greatest impact in the long run.

Science fairs have been one of the major instructional tools to date. The institute has encouraged and supported science fairs by arranging participation at the national level through the Youth Science Foundation and by providing supplies and funds. A variety of exciting materials and aids have been prepared for teachers and students. In addition, in 1989, we established a cross-cultural science camp, called "Going Fishing", which brought together groups of aboriginal and other children ages nine to 13 to learn about the ways of observing and understanding the world around them from both the western scientific and the native perspectives. The camp was designed to complement the students' participation in science fairs. A similar camp will be offered to the same age group in the Eastern Arctic in June or July, 1990. Further, each year the institute sponsors one student at a science-entrepreneurial summer workshop called "Shad Valley", which is offered at several universities in Canada. The institute also helps to arrange a work term with a northern business for the student.

The Science Institute also uses radio and television to promote science and technology. "Simply Science" is a series of short radio scripts on science topics broadcast on the CKNM network. They are also published in the Yellowknifer. The series is available to other radio stations and newspapers throughout the NWT and other areas. The institute intends to publish the articles in book form for distribution as a teaching aid in the schools. The institute recently aired a short series on natural history and hunting on the CBC television "Aqsarniit" program from Iqaluit.

Each year the institute applies to Industry, Science and Technology Canada for funds to mount a science awareness campaign. In 1989, the moneys allowed the institute to prepare a large number of science fair kits called "Why Do Walrus Turn Pink?" In 1990, the institute will produce and distribute a newspaper insert on science and technology in the North.

To help keep residents of the Northwest Territories advised of our activities, a summary of all Science Institute licensed research in the NWT is published annually in a compendium. It has wide distribution throughout Canadian universities, governmental agencies and the public across the North and the whole of Canada. In 1990, the intention is to include wildlife related research in this publication. This type of research is licensed by the Department of Renewable Resources. In addition, the institute shares information about its licensed research with the Arctic Institute of North America which adds it to its data base, the Arctic science and technology information system.

Mr. Speaker, the mobile planetarium program was a great success. A portable planetarium exhibit from the Edmonton Space Sciences Centre was brought to Yellowknife in November 1989. The free demonstrations were very well received by students and the general public alike. The Science Institute will now be investigating the possibility of arranging visits of similar exhibits to other territorial communities in the future.

As a final example of our activities, Mr. Speaker, I must make mention of the information requests which the institute regularly receives. The questions are fielded by the staff and answers are found. Mr. Speaker, I believe that there is ample evidence that the Science Institute is reaching out to the public and to school children at a level never before achieved in the NWT. I believe this Legislature should note with pleasure the variety of ways in which science awareness is being promoted by the Science Institute of the Northwest Territories.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise you and the Members of the names of the chairman, the members, and the executive director of the Science Institute of the NWT. They are: Mr. John H. Parker, chairman; Mr. Robert L. Hanson, vice-chairman; Dr. Kaye MacInnes, an environmental scientist; Dr. A.E. Pallister, an engineer in the field of resource management; Dr. Brian Postl, a medical doctor and head of the Department of Community Health Sciences at the University of Manitoba; Ms Sally Kusugak, who is currently working in land-use planning; Ms Joanne Barnaby, who is the executive director of the Dene Cultural Institute; and Ms Elizabeth Crawford, who teaches at the Samuel Hearne Secondary School in Inuvik. The executive director of the Science Institute is Mr. Douglas Heyland. Mr. Heyland, prior to moving to the NWT, was the head of technology enhancement programs at the Canada Centre for Remote Sensing in Ottawa and has considerable experience in northern wildlife research and remote sensing. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Just prior to continuing and proceeding with orders, I would draw the attention of all honourable Members to the chairman of the Science Institute and all the board members seated in our gallery.

---Applause

Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Kivallivik.

Ministers' Statement 22-90(1): 1990 Arctic Winter Games

HON. GORDON WRAY: As Members know, Yellowknife will be hosting the 20th anniversary of the Arctic Winter Games in March of 1990. Cultural performers and athletes from Greenland and the Magadan Peninsula in the USSR will join groups from Alaska, the Yukon, Northern Alberta and the Northwest Territories in providing an extravaganza not yet seen at the Arctic Winter Games. Seventeen sports are involved in the games with nearly 1200 athletes and officials participating. New sports include: Dene games; junior dog mushing; junior wrestling; and open women's hockey. In addition, new categories were established in several sports. Among the highlights are the following: skiing now includes a marathon of 120 kilometres and an overnight camp; curling has a mixed category; the categories in biathlon have been expanded; and the triathlon has been individualized to include a 15 km run, 20 km skate and a 25 km ski race. The Government of the Northwest Territories is working closely with the Yellowknife host society and has provided over \$300,000 toward games funding.

Mr. Speaker, regional and territorial trials this year were the biggest ever in the history of the games. There were 2410 athletes representing 51 communities in the Northwest Territories participating in the regional trials, while over 1200 athletes representing 43 communities moved on to competition at the territorial level. The logistics and organization of an event of this magnitude are incredible. Organizers and volunteers are to be commended on a job well done.

Members will also like to take note that the Legislative Assembly will break during the games. I would like to take this opportunity to invite all of you and the public to attend the cultural and sport programs put together by the Arctic Winter Games host society. These will be the biggest games ever. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Ministers' statements. Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Tu Nede.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Snowdrift Trip For Interns Of Ontario Legislature

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This past weekend, on February 23 and 24, 1990, I had the opportunity to take four interns from the Ontario Legislative Assembly out on the land to experience first-hand our people's way of life.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ernest and Emily Boucher for their great hospitality. They were very open in accepting us and went out of their way to make the interns, as well as myself, feel right at home in their cabin on the Snowdrift River. I would also like to thank Mary Rose Catholique for organizing the trip. Without her assistance none of this would have been possible.

I would also like to congratulate the interns, Jackie Lines, Marianne Goodwin, Deirdre Hilary, Christopher Jones, as well as Professor Graham White, on their hardiness. They were able to survive their short stay with us without a murmur of complaint. These hardy, joyful souls slept in a tent at minus 45 degrees weather, witnessed a caribou hunt and participated in ice fishing. They were very open-minded and friendly people. I wish these five individuals all the best in the future and I hope they will always remember this experience and think about supporting the Dene/Metis way of life in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Members' statements. The honourable Member for Pine Point.

Member's Statement On Government Use Of Recycled Paper Products

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to commend the Minister of Renewable Resources and the cabinet on the action that was taken to make sure that our concerns about the pollution of our rivers was addressed during the hearings on the issue of pulp mill construction in Northern Alberta. However, everyone has to realize that it is the demand for high quality white paper that is causing these companies to want to increase pulp and paper production. We have the opportunity, as individuals and as government, to cut down on the demand for high quality white stationery in our daily lives.

I would suggest to the government that most residents of the NWT would be impressed by our government if it took some real action to curtail the demand for high quality white paper products. This could be done by using recycled paper for

government business wherever possible. In addition, we could advertise the fact that we are using recycled paper by printing that fact on the outside of all envelopes which are sent out in the mail. Our government should set an example in this area so that corporate firms and other large users of high quality white paper might follow suit.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the Minister responsible for Government Services to look into the possibility of doing this. There are firms in Yellowknife and other places in the country that supply recycled paper that could be used for this purpose. Thank you.

---Applause

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

Member's Statement On Difficulties Faced By Hunters In NWT

MR. NINGARK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is hard to get things in the North, especially for hunters. Employees are paid over a yearly basis, either in the government or their own businesses. Their money gets a little larger as time passes but the hunters' wages are getting smaller and smaller. The businesses and the government employees make a lot more money than the hunters do, but the hunters and the carvers or people who make a living off the land have to constantly work outside and they face more dangers. We Inuit hunters know that it is a very hard job to be a hunter, especially when there are so many dangers. Everything that we need for making a living is costing more and more. I think we should invite those people and Greenpeace, who oppose fur trading, to the NWT, not only to Canada, to show them how we live off the land and how the hunters make their living and what it is like to go out camping and go out hunting. We do not go hunting only in the summer, we go out hunting in the winter too. We just do not follow the warm weather; we have to also go out hunting in the winter. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Members' statements. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

Member's Statement On Voting For TFN President

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday in the NWT we went through a very good experience, a happy experience, concerning voting for native organizations. Mr. Speaker, as an Inuk person I am happy that I am given this power of voting, having the ability to vote, but I am sorry that yesterday I could not vote when there was the election for a Tungavik Federation of Nunavut president. This was very hard for me to take. In our communities the people were able to have a vote and I think that we are going toward Nunavut. I do not want to hurt the people who are from TFN but I would like you to know that next time there is a TFN vote the people of Yellowknife will be able to vote. There were a lot of us who should have been able to vote but we were unable to. I would like you to know that, in the future, I would like the voting to be better organized. Thank you.

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

honourable Member for Amittuq.

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

Return To Question O20-90(1): Authority In Communities Over Animals And Land

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Morin on authority in communities over animals and land.

The Wildlife Act makes provision for communities to form a hunters and trappers association, HTA. These associations are recognized by the Department of Renewable Resources as its primary contact point with communities on wildlife related matters.

If no HTA exists, the council of a band, within the meaning of the Indian Act, or another local organization recognized by the superintendent, can serve as the department's contact for that community's normal hunting area.

The Department of Renewable Resources is presently recommending an amendment to the Wildlife Act. This would allow the Minister to recognize a hunters and trappers association, or a band council or a local organization that represents a community's normal hunting areas such as Inuvialuit hunters and trappers committee. Thank you.

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

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to a question asked by Mr. Lewis on February 16th. Mr. Lewis asked what was being done to protect people from those engaged in fortune telling and black arts. In a supplementary question he asked more specifically about the type of people who could be found guilty of an offence.

Section 365 of the Criminal Code sets out an offence for those engaged in fraudulently exercising or using any kind of witchcraft, sorcery, enchantment or conjuration, or fraudulently telling fortunes for money.

The main element of the offence is the fraud, so that the mere telling of a fortune is not illegal in itself. For an offence to be committed, the victim must be dishonestly deprived of something. Each situation would be judged upon its circumstances. The Code therefore protects those who are victimized instead of prohibiting specific types of activities.

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

Return To Question O23-90(1): North Warning System Training

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, I have a return to a question asked by Mr. Gargan on February 12, 1990. The Government of Canada has agreed that every reasonable attempt should be made to realize the greatest northern benefits possible from the North Warning System project. Target levels have been established for each of the four

components of the project and contractors are required to meet them as part of their contract terms.

The Government of the Northwest Territories participates in monitoring this project by making sure that contracts are honoured. Each contractor is required to submit six month action plans and to report on their success in meeting employment, training and northern benefits targets, and to date contractors have met the contract target levels established. In addition to monitoring the project, the Government of the Northwest Territories also assists in identifying personnel to participate in training.

Frontec Logistics has a contract for one component of the North Warning System project, which is operations and maintenance. A number of electronic technicians, former employees of Canac-Microtel, were taken on by Frontec when Frontec was awarded this contract. The technicians required further training due to the nature of the job and the requirements and standards set by the Department of National Defence. One of the standards is a mark of 85 per cent in the required Department of National Defence weather observers course, and all those taking this course are given three opportunities to write the test.

Two of the electronic technicians, who are Mr. Gargan's constituents, were each given the opportunity to write the test on three separate occasions and, unfortunately, they were not successful. The Government of the Northwest Territories does not have any say in the establishment of standards for training in this area. The Department of National Defence requires the course and sets the standards. As a result, Frontec had no choice but to terminate the employment of these individuals. Thank you.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I have two returns to questions asked by the honourable Member for Natilikmiot on February 16.

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

The Member for Natilikmiot asked about funding for community rescue committees. This government is presently considering amendments to the current policy on contributions for community-organized searches for missing persons. The policy presently provides \$500 for gasoline and oil expenses for each search event. This is the extent of funding available and it is intended to support community-organized searches which complement a public search conducted by the RCMP.

Return To Question O105-90(1): Emergency Measures Program

The second question dealt with the same issue. The Member for Natilikmiot asked if any assistance is available to support community search and rescue committees. The Emergency Measures Organization of the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs can offer assistance to communities in establishing a search and rescue organization. A visit to Spence Bay has been organized for mid-March and appropriate officials from my department will be conducting a workshop on organizing a search and rescue committee and establishing search procedures. We have heeded the Member's advice and this workshop, which was originally planned as a community session for Spence Bay, has been expanded to an area workshop to include Gjoa Haven and Pelly Bay. My department is able to support this workshop by paying transportation costs for the delegates from Gjoa Haven

and Pelly Bay.

I have also provided the Member with a copy of the relevant sections from the GNWT programs and services manual which describe the emergency measures programs available through our government.

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

Further Return To Question O217-90(1): Federal Budget Cutbacks To French Language Newspapers

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, I have a return to Question O217-90(1), asked by Mr. Pedersen on February 26, 1990, regarding funding from the Secretary of State for newspapers. Officials of the office of the Secretary of State have advised that the Secretary of State does not have programs which directly fund newspapers, other than the native communications program which has recently been cut.

The newspaper that has been questioned in the House, the French language paper, L'Aquilon, is not funded directly by the Secretary of State. Rather, it is produced by the Franco-Tenoise Federation as part of its community development program. Franco-Tenoise Federation does receive funding from the Secretary of State in the form of a grant which it spends on programs which meet its priorities. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Returns to oral questions. Returns to oral questions. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Deh Cho.

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question O229-90(1): Department Of National Defence Standards For North Warning System

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education regarding the two members of my constituency who on three occasions tried to pass, and who did not pass, the 85 per cent mark. Mr. Speaker, the two gentlemen that I have referred to are both graduates of grade 12. I would like to ask the Minister, is this the requirement across the North for high tech electronics? I would like to ask the Minister whether or not this is just an isolated incident or are we getting more northern students geared toward failure due to the stringent requirements of Frontec...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan, you have already posed your question. The honourable Member for Sahtu.

Return To Question O229-90(1): Department Of National Defence Standards For North Warning System

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, I thought I answered the question earlier. The standards are set by National Defence, not Frontec.

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

Supplementary To Question O229-90(1): Department Of National Defence Standards For North Warning System

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, with regard to the two members of my constituency failing the requirements, I would like to ask the Minister whether or not this is an isolated incident or are there people in other constituencies who are in that same situation where perhaps they do not meet the requirements, and there is less of a

commitment on the part of contractors to meet their obligations?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: I will take the question as notice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The question has been taken as notice. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre.

Question O230-90(1): Tabling Document Re Social Assistance Food Scale

MR. ZOE: Mahsi cho, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister responsible for Social Services. On Thursday, February 22nd, the Minister indicated that there is a document that her department has been working from, in regard to the food scale. Could I ask the Minister if she could table that particular document this week? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Slave River.

Return To Question O230-90(1): Tabling Document Re Social Assistance Food Scale

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The document that the Member is referring to is a document that is available to every individual. It comes from our bureau where we basically get the knowledge in regard to any type of statistics pertaining to the NWT. So therefore the document, as I had said, is available to all residents in the Territories and I am sure if the Member had gone to the particular department he would have been able to obtain the document.

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

Supplementary To Question O230-90(1): Tabling Document Re Social Assistance Food Scale

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Minister indicated in her response that this document that she was making reference to, that is where she was getting the figures from. I do not believe that Statistics Canada has these particular figures, especially when she is saying that the program is going to cost our government between three million dollars to eight million dollars.

Now, I am asking the Minister for that particular document that she has been referring to. She did not exactly answer my question so I would like to repeat my question. Could I ask the Minister to table in this House, this week, that particular document?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Slave River.

Further Return To Question O230-90(1): Tabling Document Re Social Assistance Food Scale

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, no, I will not table the document because the document is available to all territorial residents. I am sure if the Member goes to the Bureau of Statistics he will be able to obtain the same document. Thank you.

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

Question O231-90(1): Marble Rock In Cape Dorset Area

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Economic Development regarding the marble rock near Dorset. There is a really good source of marble available near that area and when you see this magazine you could see a lot of it here. I wonder if Economic Development could see if they could have a study as to how big this area of marble is and also where we can market it. When we are trying to promote this area we would like some assistance. My question is, can you assist us in studying these marble rocks in the Cape Dorset area? Thank you.

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

Return To Question O231-90(1): Marble Rock In Cape Dorset Area

HON. GORDON WRAY: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be able to reply. The work that Mr. Arlooktoo is talking about is, in fact, under way. A joint committee of Indian Affairs, Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources and Economic Development is presently compiling the deposits across the Territories, including that deposit. Some work has been done to identify just how big that deposit is.

Secondly, we are assisting with studies on the potential uses of that material. As you know, the department has contributed heavily to the beautiful work that was done by the carver in Lake Harbour, the statue that some Members have seen. We contributed in a major way, financially, to that project, and as well to bring people in to teach how to work that stone. That stone has a potential to be used not just in crafts but in other processes. So a lot of that work is already under way and a substantial amount has been expended. It is anticipated that more money will be spent on the marble in that area.

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

Supplementary To Question O231-90(1): Marble Rock In Cape Dorset

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is probably not a supplementary. Since I was elected to represent that area I would like to be informed of any kind of study or anything that is happening in my constituency. Thank you.

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

Further Return To Question O231-90(1): Marble Rock In Cape Dorset

HON. GORDON WRAY: Absolutely, no problem, Mr. Speaker. I will keep the Member completely informed as to what is going on and I will make sure that he is given an update on what has taken place up until today.

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

Question O232-90(1): Clarification Of Request For Resignation Of Workers' Compensation Board Member

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board. Last year when we amended the Workers' Compensation Board, the seven member board, I had recommended a Mr. Mike Mercredi to have a seat on that board. He was

accepted to sit on that board, to represent people, and after that he was no longer employed in the Northwest Territories and he had to look for work in the South. He was asked to resign from the board because he was no longer a resident of the Northwest Territories. Mr. Minister, is it correct that he was asked to resign because he was no longer a resident of the Territories? Thank you.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, I will have to take that question as notice. I know it is urgent but I will have to take it as notice.

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

Question O233-90(1): Family Counsellor Positions

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Social Services regarding the question I was asking a few days ago, which I did not finish. Would I be correct in saying that in the Northwest Territories, regarding assistance for counselling services, there is only one family counsellor, who is here in Yellowknife?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Slave River.

Return To Question O233-90(1): Family Counsellor Positions

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, there is a Family Counselling Service that is established here in Yellowknife, if that is what the Member wanted to know. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O233-90(1): Family Counsellor Positions

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is that one person, she or he, a counsellor for the whole of the NWT?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Slave River.

Further Return To Question O233-90(1): Family Counsellor Positions

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, I would imagine that particular organization, if I recall correctly, tries to deal with as many referrals as they can, not only pertaining to Yellowknife itself, but also to other communities. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O233-90(1): Family Counsellor Positions

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My last question is, how many positions do you have for counsellors?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Slave River.

Further Return To Question O233-90(1): Family Counsellor Positions

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, if I recall correctly, last week the Member had asked who did family counselling in the other communities and I had indicated that family counselling was one of the additional responsibilities that our social workers take upon themselves in the smaller communities. In order to indicate to the Member the positions identified particularly for family counsellors only, there are none. However, there are many social workers in the Territories that try to address this need for family counselling. Thank you.

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

Question O234-90(1): Taxation Of Home Boarding Payments

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister of Education. The Minister is aware that at the moment there is an issue brewing in Fort Simpson concerning students that are boarding in homes. I have just received a copy of a letter written to the Minister dated February 19, 1990, and it seems that parents who have been boarding students have now been told that they must pay income tax on the moneys received. As you can appreciate, parents are quite upset that they were not advised about this matter before. Since it appears that there is some fault on the part of departmental officials in not properly advising the parents about the tax implications of taking moneys to board students, would the government and the department now pay the income tax for these parents?

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

Return To Question O234-90(1): Taxation Of Home Boarding Payments

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, my information is that the people in Fort Simpson were advised a number of times that there was a problem with taxes on income like this, and that it is the federal law that says that they must pay taxes on this income. I think that anybody who accepts income has to face the fact that there would probably be tax on it. I have asked the department to see if there is some way we can help the individual families in Fort Simpson with their paperwork so that whatever tax they pay can be reduced by doing the necessary paperwork. I am not sure how many receipts and other documentation the individual members have. That was the direction I had given. I have no mandate to help people pay income tax on income we provide to them.

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

Supplementary To Question O234-90(1): Taxation Of Home Boarding Payments

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister would really double-check with his officials because his departmental officials will tell him that there was a letter sent back on April 9, 1987, addressed to home boarding parents which tells the parents that they can deduct expenses for income tax purposes; but parents in Fort Simpson say that they have never seen this letter before. So I wonder if the Minister would double-check with his officials to see if maybe there is some cover-up, some way whereby officials now are

trying to cover themselves in saying that they told the parents when, in fact, parents categorically state that they have never seen this letter.

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

Further Return To Question O234-90(1): Taxation Of Home Boarding Payments

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, I can check on it again. The letter was sent way back then and a copy filed. It was sent. Whether the people received it or opened it or threw it in the garbage, I have no idea; but the fact is that the federal government expects them to pay tax. Since we have no control over the tax laws of Canada, they are still ultimately responsible. This government cannot accept responsibility for the laws that Ottawa passes. If they change all of a sudden, we are still not responsible.

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

Supplementary To Question O234-90(1): Taxation Of Home Boarding Payments

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, this matter, of course, is very serious in the eyes of parents in Fort Simpson and they state in their letter to the Minister, "We are not prepared to accept the T4 slips for 1989. Many home boarding parents will return these children in short order if this matter is not resolved immediately. We feel we were kept in the dark purposefully so that we would not withdraw our services." Obviously these are threats to withdraw homes from the students and not continue with the services they are providing. Does the Minister have any contingency plans in the event that parents carry through with their stance?

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

Further Return To Question O234-90(1): Taxation Of Home Boarding Payments

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, I do not have contingency plans. I think when the arrangements were made for the home boarding of these students, it was done through a committee of people representing the village, the Metis local and the band. This committee selected what they thought were good homes and good people to assume responsibility for the students that needed home boarding for the duration of a year. As far as I am concerned, they accepted the responsibility for those children for the duration of a year. That is my position, I guess. If the children are out in the street tomorrow, then of course we will have to find some way to make sure they finish the school year. But I have difficulty in accepting the suggestion that because they did not know the tax laws of Canada and they find that the notice was too short, or they did not know beforehand, all of a sudden they are going to turf these children out in the street because it has become a tax problem. I guess this is a different kind of an issue. I am not sure how to address that, but surely they are not going to throw the kids out tomorrow. If they do, perhaps we will have to put them in a hotel. Something has to be done for the children.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Nahendeh, final supplementary. A new question. The honourable Member for Tu Nede.

Question O235-90(1): Residency Requirements To Sit On Boards

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Government Leader. Has the government policy changed? Just to refer back to the question I have asked Mr. Kakfw, Minister responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board. I do know the answer to that question. Mr. Mercredi was requested to tender his resignation when he was no longer a resident of the NWT, and I completely agreed with that. I completely agree that you should not sit on any boards or commissions, especially the WCB, when you are not a resident of the NWT. Is that a policy, Mr. Government Leader? How do you come to make that type of decision, to ask for the resignation of a board member who is not a resident of the NWT? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

Return To Question O235-90(1): Residency Requirements To Sit On Boards

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I think that the approach of the government would vary depending on the type of board, the requirements of that board, whether it is a complicated board with very specialized jurisdiction. It is very hard for me, Mr. Speaker, to answer a general question like that about all the boards and agencies in the Northwest Territories. The policy of encouraging northern residents to participate on boards would obviously apply to some boards, such as community education councils, or regional and divisional school boards, but might not be appropriate for other boards where we require certain expertise to enhance the abilities of the board to consider various issues. Mr. Speaker, I find the Member's question to be difficult to answer in the abstract. I would also say, Mr. Speaker, that to my knowledge, there is no government policy that would provide me with any assistance in answering that question. The government does not have a policy per se on how we make appointments to boards and what qualifications are expected. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Supplementary To Question O235-90(1): Residency Requirements To Sit On Boards

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to the Government Leader. I will be specific. The Science Institute of the NWT. I notice that one person for sure on there, that I know of, the chairman, Mr. John Parker, is not a resident of the Northwest Territories. If the Government Leader is saying to me that what he just previously said is that for certain boards you have to find people because it takes such an extreme level of expertise, are you saying that you cannot find anybody that is a resident of the NWT or an aboriginal person to chair the Science Institute of the NWT? Especially a resident.

MR. SPEAKER: Despite the fact, I will allow the honourable Member to answer the question. The question being asked is a new question and not associated with the original question asked. The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

Further Return To Question O235-90(1): Residency Requirements To Sit On Boards

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I would not say

that it would be impossible but I would say in answer to the honourable Member's question that, in my opinion, and I am responsible for that appointment, it would be very difficult to find an individual from the Territories with the particular range of private and government experience and knowledge of all parts of the Northwest Territories and experience in broad issues respecting all aspects of government and industry in the Northwest Territories as the present chairman of the Science Institute brings to that job.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I note, Mr. Speaker, as well, that if one looks at the history of the Science Institute, and before that, the Science Advisory Board, that body has been enriched by the participation of nationally, if not internationally, respected people of the calibre of Dr. Solandt and others, over the years, who have contributed enormously to building the credibility of the Science Institute. Mr. Speaker, I think that place of residence should be a factor in considering these appointments but I think that we would have been deprived of significant contributions if we had made that a condition of appointment for that body. Thank you.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Good speech!

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

Supplementary To Question O235-90(1): Residency Requirements To Sit On Boards

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to the Government Leader. While you are trying to enrich and enhance the Science Institute of the NWT, why do you not try to do that right at home and put an aboriginal person in as chairman, or a resident of the NWT? I am sure, Mr. Patterson, that you never lost too many nights' sleep or you never looked that hard to find a resident of the NWT but rather, Mr. Patterson, I think it is -- I do not think I am allowed to say it, but I do not think you looked that hard.

MR. SPEAKER: Again, just a reminder to Members, the questions, like answers, should not provoke debate. The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

Further Return To Question O235-90(1): Residency Requirements To Sit On Boards

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Well, Mr. Speaker, with the greatest of respect to the honourable Member, I think that his questions are potentially disparaging the reputation of one of the most respected and best-loved former residents of the Northwest Territories that I know. I am not, for a minute, going to stand in this Legislature and apologize for the appointment of a person of the calibre of the present chairman of the Science Institute, who happens at the moment to be resident in a place that is far closer to the territorial capital than many communities in the Territories. I am not prepared to discuss in this House, Mr. Speaker, who might have been considered or not considered. I think the quality of the appointment speaks for itself. I am frankly appalled that the honourable Member would choose that example to make his point that only territorial residents should be appointed to territorial boards. I would say, surely, he could have picked a better example than someone who, I believe, is so obviously well-respected by all people of the Northwest Territories, aboriginal and non-aboriginal alike.

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

Member for Tu Nede, supplementary.

MR. MORIN: Mr. Speaker, the Government Leader is saying that I am questioning the credibility, or whatever, of John Parker. I was not doing that. I was questioning whether the Government Leader was capable of doing his job or not, properly.

MR. SPEAKER: That is just a comment. One has to add a sense of humour to this discussion. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Question O236-90(1): Government Employees' Dental Plan

MR. WHITFORD: A sensible question, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have a question to direct to the Minister responsible for Personnel. Recently the Minister's department sought proposals for the administration of the employees' dental plan. Can the Minister advise me on the status of this request for proposals, as I am of the understanding that the date has already passed for its closing?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Slave River.

Return To Question O236-90(1): Government Employees' Dental Plan

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, yes, I recall that we did ask for a proposal on the employees' dental plan. It is currently being reviewed and being requested to be placed again on the cabinet agenda for consideration. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O236-90(1): Government Employees' Dental Plan

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the northern preference policy apply in this particular proposal?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Slave River.

Further Return To Question O236-90(1): Government Employees' Dental Plan

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

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

Supplementary To Question O236-90(1): Government Employees' Dental Plan

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the Minister advise me as to when this decision will be made?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Slave River.

Further Return To Question O236-90(1): Government Employees' Dental Plan

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, I cannot let the Member know exactly when. I did request that the issue be placed on the cabinet agenda for consideration and I can give him, possibly, a time frame of up to a month to see if we

can get it on the agenda and dealt with. Thank you.

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

Question O237-90(1): High Cost Of Food, Trout Lake

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, a number of weeks ago I wrote to Minister Butters concerning Trout Lake and their high cost of food. I asked in the letter to the Minister whether he would consider providing a subsidy to the good people of Trout Lake. They have a winter road now but for eight months of the year they do not have a cheap means of getting food into the community.

I have just been sent a list of food prices in their little store, Trout Lake Mall, and I am aghast at the price that the people have to pay there. I wonder when the Minister is going to deal with this very important matter.

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

Return To Question O237-90(1): High Cost Of Food, Trout Lake

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, the government, to date, has subsidized food in those communities which do not have cheap access either in the summer or in the winter – those communities, I believe, being Pelly Bay, Colville Lake, and there is a program of assistance to Fort Franklin for the same reasons. There is no intention at this time to look beyond providing freight subsidies for any other than those three communities.

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

Question O238-90(1): Food Subsidy For Trout Lake

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I wonder then if the government – I do not know which department would be responsible or be able to assist, perhaps Economic Development. The community has a store which they have just built as a result of various programs. They do have a winter road but I do not believe that they have the financial resources to bring in food in the winter to last most of the year. So I am wondering if the government, perhaps one of the departments or one of the Ministers, would care to state whether there is an agency or a department that would be able to help the people of Trout Lake get food in so that they can have cheap food year-round.

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

Return To Question O238-90(1): Food Subsidy For Trout Lake

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to inform the Member that as part of the new economic strategy and the new part of the Business Loans and Guarantees Fund, a program will be made available for special things such as inventory financing with a schedule of repayment over the course of a year. If, indeed, the problem is that Trout Lake does not have enough money to buy all of their food at once to bring in on the winter road, we will be more than pleased to sit down and look at a system. Thank you.

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

Question O239-90(1): Departmental Report On Food Scale Subsidies

MR. ZOE: Mahsi cho, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, following the instructions of the honourable Member for Slave River, I got the document that she has made reference to. Mr. Speaker, in this particular document I cannot find the reference to the three million to eight million dollars for the food costs that the Minister has been working from. All this tells me is the food price indexes.

For example, I will use Trout Lake, as my colleague here has been mentioning how costly it is over there. For every \$100 that food costs here in Yellowknife, it costs \$168 in Trout Lake. It gives me that type of information from the statistics. Now, I would like to ask the Minister, where do I find the estimates that she has been referring to? I cannot find them. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Slave River.

Return To Question O239-90(1): Departmental Report On Food Scale Subsidies

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What I had indicated to the Member is the fact that if we increase the food prices, the total increase would escalate to the amount of an additional three million dollars which would have to be absorbed by the Department of Social Services.

In order to obtain that price, not only taking the food price indexes – if the Member would look at the first few pages in the book, it also indicates the number of cases that the Department of Social Services has, in addition to being able to look at the statistics quarterly report. However, there is another book, that probably the Member did not secure, which has the food price surveys in the Northwest Territories. My department was able to come up with an estimate of an additional three million dollars which would have to be absorbed if we were looking at an increase in the food prices. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O239-90(1): Departmental Report On Food Scale Subsidies

MR. ZOE: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, could I ask the Minister if she could table that second document that she has? The Bureau of Statistics did not have that particular document.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Slave River.

Further Return To Question O239-90(1): Departmental Report On Food Scale Subsidies

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, I would like to reiterate my suggestion that I made earlier that the Member go to the Bureau of Statistics and obtain the food price survey document. Thank you.

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

Question O240-90(1): Changes To Wildlife Act

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister responsible for Renewable

Resources. Mr. Minister, in your answer to my question today you stated that the Department of Renewable Resources presently recommends an amendment to the Wildlife Act that will allow the Minister to recognize hunters and trappers associations or band councils, or a local organization that represents communities' normal hunting areas. When will you make this change to the Wildlife Act? Will it be during this session?

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

Return To Question O240-90(1): Changes To Wildlife Act

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, we are presently looking at the changes for the fall session.

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

Question O241-90(1): Dene Language Standardization Project

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, a question for Mr. Allooloo. My information is that back in 1987 there was a Dene language standardization project established which involved a specialist from each of the major Dene languages. I believe the work on this project has been completed and that a report is ready. I am wondering if the Minister would file the report, or certainly the conclusions of the project.

Also, does the Minister intend to continue this process of getting Dene language specialists together on a regular basis in the future? With the emphasis on languages, would he give this group official status?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. I would just remind Members again that a single question should be posed to a Minister. The honourable Member for Amittuq.

Return To Question O241-90(1): Dene Language Standardization Project

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, the Member is correct that the Dene language standardization project has been completed and the final report will be submitted to our government. The planning committee recognizes that a body to oversee the implementation of its recommendations is necessary. As a result, in 1989, the Dene language committee was formed and terms of reference and the mandate were set out. I cannot say at this point that I can table the report yet.

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

Supplementary To Question O241-90(1): Dene Language Standardization Project

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, if the Minister cannot at this stage state whether he can table it, is there a possibility in the future? Obviously, work has been done. It is of no use in the circles of government. It ought to be made public and available to this Assembly and the public in the North. At some future date, then, is there a possibility that the report could be made public and tabled in this Assembly?

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

Further Return To Question O241-90(1): Dene Language Standardization Project

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, the Dene language

standardization project that occurred developed a new standardized writing system for all the Dene languages in the Northwest Territories. That writing system is new to the people in Denendeh. Also, the planning committee as a body is overseeing the implementation of the recommendations of the standardization committee. Once our government has approved the plan and the writing system, yes, I will be willing to table it in this House.

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

Question O242-90(1): Additional Person Year For Pelly Bay

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am a practical man; I am going to ask a practical question of the Government Leader. Since we do not have an economic development officer in Pelly Bay, nor do we have a renewable resources officer in Pelly Bay, I would like to know if the government has any plan to place a position there within a year. Thank you.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I am afraid, Mr. Speaker, I would like to be able to answer that right now, but I will have to take a look into it and get back to the honourable Member, and take it as notice.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The question has been taken as notice. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre.

Question O243-90(1): Food Scale Document From Bureau Of Statistics

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Government Leader. Mr. Speaker, since the Government Leader is responsible for the Bureau of Statistics, could I ask the Minister if he could provide me with the document that the Minister of Social Services made reference to, since she is not willing to provide it to me? Thank you.

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

Return To Question O243-90(1): Food Scale Document From Bureau Of Statistics

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, if it is too much trouble for the honourable Member to go, I believe, across the street to the Bureau of Statistics, then I will make arrangements to have the document delivered to him. Perhaps I will do it myself at the break. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

—Applause

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

Question O244-90(1): Expenditure On Advertising For Economic Development Agreement Program

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is directed to either the Minister of Economic Development or the Minister of Personnel. How much has been spent by this government and the federal government on advertisements for the Economic Development Agreement program?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for

Kivallivik.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will have to take the question as notice. This is a joint federal-territorial program, so I would presume that we will have to get most of the information from Ottawa. I will take it as notice and get back to the Member.

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

Question O245-90(1): Test Fisheries

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. Yesterday when the Minister of Renewable Resources was at the witness table I was trying to ask him questions about fisheries and lakes, about those fishing opportunities. When a community wants to start up a fishery, they have to obtain people who would research the matter. They have to have a study before a fishery can be opened. How can an organization or anybody ask for a study before they try and open up a fishery? Thank you.

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

Question O245-90(1): Test Fisheries

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are a number of ways. Test fisheries are usually the responsibility of Fisheries and Oceans Canada. However, our government has started undertaking small test fisheries because Fisheries and Oceans have failed to do it and because of this, we are being held back in development. Quite frankly, it is not an area that we want to get heavily involved in, in terms of money, because a test fishery is an extremely expensive project. I guess the other question that should be asked is why should we do the Government of Canada's job for it? We have already been asked to do a lot more with a lot less. Just because they will not do their job, why should we have to pay for it? I guess the bottom line is, in some cases we have. We have done some test fisheries this year: in the Inuvik area, and a test fishery in the Netilling Lake area, near Pangnirtung, which was not very successful. If a group wants a test fishery, I would suggest that, through their local hunters and trappers association or through a regional body, they approach the superintendents for Economic Development, or the superintendents for Renewable Resources, or if there is a Fisheries and Oceans representative in their region, approach them, and let their wishes be known. That would probably be the best way to do it.

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

Question O246-90(1): Shrimp Studies

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) I know that this is difficult and also expensive, but I was told by Renewable Resources that it was Economic Development that is responsible so I will consider this a bit more. One of my communities wants to do some work on shrimp, but it would have to be studied first. Perhaps if I could ask Renewable Resources instead, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Amittuq.

Return To Question O246-90(1): Shrimp Studies

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The studies done in the lakes and oceans are

different from each other. Yesterday you asked me about shrimp harvesting. This is the responsibility of Fisheries and Oceans, the cod fish and the other. Regarding shrimp, the study is done by the federal government as to how much there is in order to see if they could be harvested. But the fish that go up to the lakes, arctic char, Economic Development and Renewable Resources do some studies if we do have the funding available to do it. Renewable Resources sets the quota for the harvesting of char. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O246-90(1): Shrimp Studies

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can you clarify to me, if anybody wants to do some studies on harvesting shrimp, whom do we contact or do we have to go to you? Where do we go to apply for a study?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Amittuq.

Further Return To Question O246-90(1): Shrimp Studies

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The federal government officials in Iqaluit could be approached. The superintendent for Renewable Resources in Iqaluit and also the Economic Development superintendent, if you let them know, they can start doing something about a study.

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

Question O247-90(1): Birthing Clinics In The Keewatin

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have really been dying to ask a question to the Minister of Health. I watched a program on Focus North last night, on birthing clinics and midwifery in Spence Bay, with great interest and great determination. I would like to ask the Minister if she could indicate to this House the government's complete blessing with regard to this proposed birthing clinic, and could she indicate that her department will give complete approval to birthing clinics in the Keewatin Region?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Nunakput.

Return To Question O247-90(1): Birthing Clinics In The Keewatin

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, the honourable Member did not die asking that question, after all.

---Laughter

However, the Executive Council Members are Ministers, but they are government Ministers and not necessarily ministers that give blessings. I do not think I have been mandated to bless anyone, as much as I would maybe like to. However, in terms of the work that Spence Bay has done, and certainly the Keewatin area, the department is committed to help see that process through, so eventually the communities will be able to realize their objective of having the children born in their communities or region. We are committed to that. I would like to assure the honourable Member, but please excuse me for not being able to bless the subject. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. That question and that answer put an end to this question period. Time period for questions has expired. Item 6, written questions. The honourable Member for Tu Nede.

ITEM 6: WRITTEN QUESTIONS**Question W17-90(1): Non-Residents Sitting On NWT Boards**

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A written question for the Government Leader. Can the Government Leader table in this House the names of all non-resident persons presently sitting on boards that are established to serve Northwest Territories residents? Thank you.

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

ITEM 7: RETURNS TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Speaker, return to Question W4-90(1), asked by Mr. Morin, of the Minister responsible for the NWT Housing Corporation, concerning the total cost of construction projects.

Return To Question W4-90(1): Total Cost Of Construction Projects

Hon. Tom Butters' return to Question W4-90(1), asked by Mr. Morin on February 14, 1990, regarding total cost of construction projects: The NWT Housing Corporation estimates the following expenditures are made on the categories listed; they are: design, headquarters, 1.4 per cent; project management, headquarters, 0.8 per cent; project inspections, regions, 2.5 per cent; total headquarters, 2.2 per cent; total regions, 2.5 per cent; for a total of 4.7 per cent.

The assumptions being used to determine the above percentages are: total estimated costs to employ one staff member, \$100,000 per year; total budget capital costs of all projects, 1989-90, \$63,845,000 per year.

"All projects" refers to all capital projects administered by the corporation including the following programs: home-ownership assistance program, HAP; home improvement program, HIP; senior citizens repair program, SCRP; modernization and improvements, M and I; emergency repairs program, ERP; warehouse program; public housing, PH; and special projects.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Returns to written questions. Returns to written questions.

Item 8, replies to Opening Address. Replies to Opening Address. Item 9, petitions. The honourable Member for High Arctic.

ITEM 9: PETITIONS

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Petition 4-90(1), on student financial assistance, submitted to me by students of Arctic College. They are from the following communities: Fort Smith, Spence Bay, Cambridge Bay, Jean Marie River, Hay River, Chesterfield Inlet, Rankin Inlet. The petition consists of 178 signatures of students in Arctic College programs who are making recommendations on changes to student financial assistance. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. 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 Aivilik.

ITEM 11: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 30-90(1), a letter from Repulse Bay, John Kaunak. It is directed to the Legislative Assembly regarding the salaries of mayors; that they are too small. They would like to say that they have a lot of work to do and they are not getting a large enough salary. Thank you.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 31-90(1), Preparing People for Employment in the 1990s. It is an employment development strategy for the NWT. Thank you.

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

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I am sorry I made a mistake. I said John Kaunak but it is Peter Katorka, the deputy mayor of Repulse Bay.

I wish to table Tabled Document 32-90(1), a letter from John Kaunak, mayor of Repulse Bay, regarding local radio stations. They would like to get some assistance from the GNWT regarding their local radio station operation.

MR. SPEAKER: Tabling of documents. The honourable Member for Baffin Central.

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 33-90(1), a letter I have received from Clyde River with regard to the hamlet workers. Usually there are two who work together. In Clyde River their salaries will be cut back and they want more time to study how they could better use the funds that they have.

MR. SPEAKER: Tabling of documents. Tabling of documents. Item 12, notices of motion. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

ITEM 12: NOTICES OF MOTION**Notice Of Motion 5-90(1): Opposition To Exploration And Mining Of Uranium In The NWT**

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, March 1, 1990, I will move the following motion: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Tu Nede, that this Assembly declares its unequivocal opposition to the proposed Kiggavik uranium mine; and further that this Assembly declares its unequivocal opposition to the exploration and mining of uranium anywhere in the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Notices of motion. The honourable Member for High Arctic.

Notice Of Motion 6-90(1): Overpopulation Of Harp Seals

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, March 1, 1990, I will move the following motion: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, that this Assembly recommend to the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans that it conduct a study to determine if there is an overpopulation of harp seals in the Eastern Arctic; and further, that any study conducted

examine the effects that overpopulation could have or has had on food resources for the indigenous mammal population of this area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. 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 the Northern Economy Report: Building Our Economic Future, with Mr. Zoe in the chair.

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

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

Department Of Renewable Resources

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): I would like to call the committee to order. We are dealing with the Department of Renewable Resources. Mr. Minister, would you be bringing in your witnesses at this time?

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Does the committee agree?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Sergeant-at-Arms, would you please escort them to the witness table? We concluded yesterday on general comments. We are still on general comments. Mr. Minister, would you kindly introduce your witnesses for the record?

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mahsi cho. We are on general comments. General comments. The honourable Member for Tu Nede.

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, in your opening statement the other day you had made comments regarding pulp mills and water pollution coming from the South. You made comments regarding negotiating a transboundary water agreement. What is the government's and your department's position in this negotiation? How are you handling it? What are you trying to achieve in the negotiations of this transboundary water agreement?

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, what we are trying to do is that the contaminants that are coming into the Northwest Territories through these rivers, or the emission levels, are very low or next to nothing. What we would like to achieve is that a management plan be developed as to where

the monitoring should take place. Also, we would like to be informed on the proposed developments upstream of these rivers and, also, we wish to keep the water quality in the Northwest Territories as clean as possible.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mahsi cho. The Member for Tu Nede.

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, is that not kind of a weak position to take when you enter into negotiations, where you go in there and say, basically, what you just said? Should we not be negotiating the right to be informed of projects and not having the right to intervene? That is the way I would go into negotiations, Mr. Minister. Maybe you can clarify it. Maybe I did not hear you right.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Any comments, Mr. Minister?

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, so far these negotiations have been taking place at the official level. Perhaps, Mr. Chairman, you would allow my deputy minister to answer that question.

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

MR. BOURQUE: Mr. Chairman, as far as the transboundary water negotiations are concerned, we are trying to negotiate water quality and quantity agreements that will specify the amount of water that will come, of course, and it has to be of a quality acceptable to the residents of the Northwest Territories.

As far as the hearings are concerned, we have taken a position, at Alberta-Pacific hearings, for instance, that we are requesting zero emission of any contaminants into the river systems. Our position at the hearings was that we, as soon as possible, embark on a joint water quality monitoring program, with the federal government and ourselves and the Alberta government represented.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mahsi cho. The honourable Member for Tu Nede.

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, when you said that you were requesting to be informed of future projects, are you saying that we have full participation in any environmental inquiries or environmental review panels for any projects in Alberta, BC, Saskatchewan, any province that would affect or pollute the NWT? Or would you just like to be informed? Is that what you are negotiating?

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, on the transboundary agreements we are seeking an agreement for the water quality and water quantity that is coming into the Northwest Territories.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mahsi cho. Mr. Morin.

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, in this process how do you fit in the native organizations, the Dene and Metis, to participate in this transboundary agreement? What is their participation to date?

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, so far this has been government negotiations between the provincial government, our government and the federal government.

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

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, due to the fact that this government does recognize aboriginal people as having an interest in water, when and how will you bring the native organizations into the process in a meaningful manner?

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, the way we have been negotiating, as I said, is between governments to this point. We have requested that the native organizations be involved. As far as we can figure out that has not been accepted by other parties. The way we involve the native organizations is through our government.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. The Member for Tu Nede.

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, so you do, through the government, sit down and meet with the Dene, Metis and Inuit organizations to come up with a common position to take to the table and then your people represent those people at the table after you have had your consultation and everyone agrees on what you are negotiating? How does that work?

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

MR. BOURQUE: Mr. Chairman, I guess at a bureaucratic level we work on the assumption that we serve in a public government, sir. As a public government we negotiate on behalf of the people and we inform the people as negotiations occur.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mahsi cho. Mr. Morin.

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It was nice to hear it from a bureaucratic level, Mr. Minister. Can I hear it from a political level? How are the native organizations involved?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, we like to think that the Legislative Assembly, as well as the government, represents all people in the Northwest Territories whether they are native people or non-native people. The interests of these people are to be represented in our government. As you can see, our government consists of a large number of people who are of native origin and are at the officials level and they have full understanding, I believe, of the native organizations.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mahsi cho. The Chair will take a break at this time and reconvene at the call of the Chair.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): We are still with the Department of Renewable Resources. General comments. Mr. Morin.

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, I will change my line of questioning since we seem to have solved that issue in private. I will go back to the questioning and comments I made yesterday on the department concerning their not providing enough assistance to trappers to continue their trapping in the Western Arctic. There was a program in place to help trappers out in the past; it was of great help and it should continue.

Motion To Recommend Development Of Assistance Program To Trappers For Lynx

I would like, Mr. Chairman, with your permission, to put a motion on the floor. I move that this committee recommend

to the Minister of Renewable Resources and his department that he seriously consider developing and implementing, as soon as possible, a program of assistance to trappers for lynx to replace the old lynx incentive program; and further, that the Department of Renewable Resources consider providing any assistance to the hunters and trappers associations or the wildlife committees.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Morin. Mr. Morin, your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Morin.

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The reason I am putting this motion forward to this committee is basically to give this department, the Department of Renewable Resources, some direction and hopefully some incentive to reconsider their action and reconsider what they are doing to the trappers in the Western Arctic by removing the incentive for lynx. I have tried to resolve this issue many times through personal contact with the Minister and have been unable to do so. It is always fine to cut a program, but to cut such an essential program that is very important to the economy of the fur industry – the trappers need that assistance to get out on the land – and to cut it without community consultation, and also when Members of this Assembly had brought it forward two years ago, the Minister basically said he would look at something else to take its place, and still he does not have anything to take its place.

I commend the Minister on making available for one following year basically the same money, but it is not available this year and it is needed desperately. The trappers in my region, as well as in the rest of the Western Arctic, need this money in order to assist them to continue to live on the land. Trappers should not have to go to Social Services, trappers should not have to be put in a desperate situation when a few dollars to each individual trapper – it is not a lot of money to some people but it is a lot of money to them – enables them to buy gas, groceries and enables them to stay out on the land longer, and enables them to continue their way of life. If we do not do something we will continue to erode the trapping industry.

We heard through the economic strategy that a lot of our strategy is based on tourism dollars coming into the NWT. I do not know how many tourists want to come and see people living in row housing and public housing in the communities on welfare, and that is basically what we are working toward unless we establish and re-establish programs like this. I said a lot on this yesterday, and I think I have talked enough about it. I am sure that my fellow Members in this committee understand the issue.

The Inuit people have been through this before with the sealing, and I am hopeful that you will understand the position that the trappers in the Western Arctic are in. I would not bring this forward unless I was asked by them to do this. They, too, are asking you for your full support. I am hoping that all Members of this committee will vote in favour of the motion and help support the trapping industry. Mahsi cho.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Morin. To the motion. Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, again I sympathize with the mover of the motion. I know it is very important, and I wish I could see more Western Arctic MLAs in the House when we are debating the big issue.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister, speak to the motion. To the motion. Mr. Arlooktoo.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to make a few comments with regard to the

motion. Before I vote for the motion, I would like to find out if the trappers had been stopped from trapping lynx at the time. I would like to find out more about this before I vote for the motion. Are the lynx an endangered species? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Arlooktoo. I guess it is not normal to be asking questions on a motion, but Mr. Minister, would you like to answer?

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, there was an incentive program for the trapping of lynx; that was a subsidy from the government. At present the lynx population is still high, but in some provinces there is a quota on lynx. CITES are the ones that set up the quotas for different wildlife species. They are the ones who set up the endangered species. As of today, the lynx are not in appendix two. At that time if a trapper caught a lynx the government was providing an incentive program so that the CITES would not have to come up and say that we have no right to provide incentive programs to the trappers. The lynx in the Northwest Territories have a high population. We are keeping a close watch on them around the Western Arctic.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): To the motion. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be supporting the mover of the motion. I think I know what he is trying to do. Even though I am from Nunavut I know what is going on in the Western Arctic. Right now, looking at the Members, the majority of them are from Nunavut. Perhaps the Members from the Western Arctic could comment or express their concerns about the motion. Personally, I will be supporting the motion. If the department wants to support the motion they will support it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand now but at that time there was a bounty on the wolf. If you killed a wolf you got paid for it but this program has not been around for a long time. Is this sort of the same program with lynx in the Western Arctic?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): I would like to remind the Members to speak to the motion. Mr. Morin.

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to make it clear to Members that it is not a bounty on lynx. This is not what I am asking for. It is an incentive and it is one way of helping trappers by subsidizing their income and to make their living off the land. It is not a bounty. It is one way of measuring it, through using lynx, or all fur, Mr. Kilabuk, all fur caught. The government gives them 10 per cent on all fur. That is how it is now except for the lynx and I would like the lynx included in that. It is similar to the ivory ban, I guess, in the States. They say that they do not want to allow people to bring ivory into the States because of what they are doing to the elephants but the elephants have nothing to do with that and this is basically the same way that I see it. Because the southern provinces did not manage their fur, did not manage their wildlife well, we are suffering for it. We do manage our fur well; the population of lynx is well established in the Western Arctic and it is doing well. What I am asking for, through this motion, is that the government continue to supply the same level of assistance to trappers that they did last year and many years before that. That is basically what the motion is all about. Thank you.

Motion To Recommend Development Of Assistance Program To Trappers For Lynx, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

—Carried

Thank you very much. General comments on the Department of Renewable Resources. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the 1990-91 plans I would like to ask about wildlife management on page 12.04. I would like to ask exactly what this means. (Translation ends) "To initiate public consultation on the management of polar bears."

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Allooloo.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, there have been ongoing studies of polar bears in each region and area in the Nunavut region, and throughout the Northwest Territories, for the past 15 years. The results are just starting to come in and they have come in, in some areas. There is still a lot of work that has to be done and we feel that, as a department, we know a lot more now than when we set the quota in communities. What we would like to do now, within the next year starting this spring, is to go into each community in the Nunavut region where the polar bears are harvested and talk to communities. Hopefully we will be revising, in some cases, the quota for the community.

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

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What do they do first in the communities? How do they fix the quotas? In our communities we always hear that there is a large population of polar bears and when we hear that in a community we want to get more polar bears. I was wondering exactly how they set the quotas. We hear that there are a lot of polar bears now. We have to wait for a long time before the government sets a new quota. How exactly do you set the quotas? Do you listen to the communities when they request that their quota be increased?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Starting in the spring we will be going to the communities in the Nunavut area to talk about the polar bear management plan. This is the first step that we will be taking since we did the study on polar bears. We will set the quota according to the polar bear management plan and we know the quota will be better than it was. When we first started to set the quota, the GNWT used the formula from the Hudson's Bay — according to the number of furs that were brought to the Hudson's Bay. We used to use that formula, but now, as a result of the study, we will be able to amend the quota.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister how many polar bears there are in the NWT.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr.

Chairman. The population is about 18,000.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) What is the quota of polar bears that can be caught?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) In all of the NWT the quota is 640.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the quota is 640 in the NWT, and considering the growth rate of the polar bears, I am wondering if the quota can be increased over the 640 mark because the people need the food and need to sell the fur.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I mentioned earlier, we are currently under a polar bear management plan process in the NWT. According to that plan we will be setting the quotas. According to the number of polar bears that have been caught already and the number of polar bears that are available now, we will be able to set a new quota after we have talked to the different communities.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) When was the last time the quota for catching polar bears was increased?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: There has not been any overall increase but there have been various increases in certain communities throughout the NWT.

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

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Are the red tags for the polar bears part of the quota of 640, or are they in addition to the 640?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) They are included in the 640.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you. I still have a few questions about the documents. I would like to ask again, because I do not know if I heard it right before, about using rifles or guns. I think Mr. Arlooktoo asked a question about it. It is stated here in the document that...(translation ends) "To implement an expanded firearm safety program."

(Translation) I understand that firearm safety is included in the education curriculum. I believe there are workshops also on firearm safety. I was wondering if the cadets also take these kinds of workshops or studies.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) The students are given an education program about firearm safety, and cadets

are also given that program.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Ernerk.

Danger Of Over-Harvesting Narwhals

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yesterday I talked with the chairman of the hunters and trappers association in Repulse Bay and he asked me about the grizzly bear quota. I told him I would try to get an answer to his question in the Legislative Assembly and he understood that.

The Keewatin Wildlife Federation asked the Government of Canada if the quota for the narwhals in the Keewatin Region could be increased. I was wondering if the Minister is aware of that request. If an increase in narwhal hunting was granted, I was wondering if this would have any effect on the population of narwhals. Has there been a study done so that it would be okay to increase the quota?

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

MR. ERNERK: Let me try to rephrase the question in English. I am going to try and speak Renewable Resources' language clearly. Here I go. Often the Government of the NWT gets requests from people with regard to an increase of quotas in the communities, with regard to various species of animals like musk-ox, polar bears, narwhals, as well as new quotas like grizzly bears. The question that I want to ask the Minister is concerned with a particular resolution that was apparently passed, I believe it was by the hunters and trappers of the Keewatin Region, sometime last October, in which they asked the Government of Canada to increase the narwhal quota within the Keewatin communities. My question was, to the Minister, with requests like this from the communities to increase quotas for certain species of animals, like quotas for narwhal in particular, when you take a look at the birth rate of these particular animals, if you increase the narwhal quota system, do you think that you will get into a problem by catching more animals than the birth rate will allow the animals to increase? Now, I have said it in two languages. Do you understand me now?

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, we increase or decrease quotas in the NWT based on scientific knowledge, the research that has been done by our biologists, as well as the traditional knowledge based on the aboriginal knowledge that exists in each community. Particularly, we stress the point that a sustainable yield is an allowable level of harvest that we should be striving for. As for the narwhal, because of the knowledge that exists today about the sea mammals, it is possible that the harvest could be more than the population could sustain, due to lack of knowledge. At this point the responsibility for management of the narwhal rests with the federal government.

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

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You partly answered my question. I wonder if you have an idea as to the population of narwhals or approximately how many years the narwhal has been harvested in the Territories.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Right now I do not have the total of narwhal that have been harvested but I could try to get some information and let you know later on.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. According to CITES and the World Wildlife Fund, the study that they did and also the study that was done by the federal government, I think the population of narwhal was near 30,000. Now it has been two years and the total of narwhal that have been harvested -- it is also written in the CITES report -- is approximately 1000. The reason why I was asking is because we like to help our own people and that is why I was asking these questions. If the total was near 30,000 and the growth rate is around five per cent -- because we see these babies of the narwhal in our community and I wonder when we want to increase our animals, because when you kill a narwhal they sink quite quickly. Also the belugas. Would you have an idea how many whales have been lost? I do not think any of us knows the loss that we would get if there were near 30,000 narwhal to start with and the growth rate is only five per cent, and also if we figure in the narwhal that sink. We do not like to see the decrease of these narwhal; we like to see them increase. That is why I am asking these questions. I will not ask any more questions regarding this topic. Thank you.

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

Enforcement Of Wildlife Regulations

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have for some time been working in the area of trying to find some loopholes through which you might be able to implement programs where maybe you are not happy or satisfied with the direction that the department is going in. As far as enforcing the wildlife regulations or the Wildlife Act, you also have not only the wildlife officers but you also have ex officio officers. In one area the presidents of local hunters and trappers are also ex officio members who could enforce the wildlife regulations or the Wildlife Act.

There are approximately 15 communities in the Eastern Arctic, Mr. Chairman, who exempt themselves from that section of the act mainly because it is enforcing regulations. One of the regulations, on which during the coffee break I had a legal opinion and it is still enforced, is the regulation of polar bears, the hunting of polar bears. In this section, Mr. Chairman, it says that the holder of a hunting licence may only hunt polar bears by means of a dog team. As far as the lawyer's opinion goes, this law is still in force. I could see why a lot of presidents of the local hunters and trappers in the Eastern Arctic would like to see themselves exempt from an act that is about 20 years old.

It clearly states what it means, Mr. Speaker, and that means that you cannot hunt polar bears with skidoos, all-terrain vehicles, with vehicles other than with a dog team. I would like to ask the Minister why you have not changed this particular section of the act and your regulations to reflect this section. What you are doing is turning honest people into criminals because they do not know the regulations that are in force.

I would like to ask the Minister whether or not he is aware of it. For that matter, whether his department is aware of it and why they have not changed that particular section of the act.

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, the Member is wrong in stating that GHF holders are only allowed to hunt using a dog team. That act is only geared toward sport hunting.

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

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I am not an expert in the drafting of acts or the making of these laws. I would like to get a legal opinion on that section.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Gargan, you could continue on the general comments and we will ask the Law Clerk to come in. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, with regard to the other section, that the holder of a general hunting licence shall not hunt polar bears in a wildlife preserve. That is the only thing he refers to. As far as the holder of a hunting licence, it does not specify whether it is a general hunting licence, a resident hunting licence or a hobby licence. If I am wrong then I apologize to the Minister but I do not believe that I am.

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, I am a little bit confused as to what the Member is referring to, in terms of polar bear hunting. The polar bear hunting occurs in the Nunavut region and the general hunting licence holders are allowed, if they have a tag that is usually drawn from the community draws and administered by HTA, to go hunting by dog teams or skidoos or on foot if they choose. As far as sport hunting, that is done by dog team.

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

MR. GARGAN: Perhaps, Mr. Chairman, we could get a legal opinion on this section of the act.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ernerk): Perhaps Mr. Gargan could repeat his question.

MR. GARGAN: I was just referring to the wildlife regulations in which the holder of a hunting licence cannot hunt polar bears other than with a dog team. I do not know the specific wording of that but the lawyer has the section on it. I just wanted to get an opinion on what that section means and if it is still in force what it means with regard to hunting licences.

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

LAW CLERK (Ms MacPherson): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have had a brief opportunity to review the wildlife general regulations and the section that the Member is referring to is, indeed, still in force. However, I would like an opportunity to review the other legislation to see if this particular regulation only applies to sport hunting as the Minister has stated. I will be in a position to provide a fuller opinion to this committee later on this afternoon or first thing tomorrow afternoon, during deliberations of this committee.

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, for our legal adviser, I would encourage her to look under the definition of hunting licence as well as the definition of general hunting licence in order to form a legal opinion on this.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ernerk): Madam Law Clerk.

LAW CLERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will certainly take that into consideration in advising this committee.

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

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, with regard to the major objectives of the department, under wildlife management the

department, on one hand, will be conducting public consultation on the Bathurst caribou and the Banks Island musk-ox management plans and, also, will initiate public consultation on the management of the polar bears. In two instances, Mr. Chairman, the department is going to be consulting.

Mr. Chairman, in response to your question, the Minister did say that they will go to each community to consult with them with regard to conducting the management plans. However, with regard to the other plans of the department, the department has decided to conduct major studies on certain species of animals without any real consultation. I believe that the Minister said that he would also look for aboriginal knowledge, scientific knowledge and the department biologists' knowledge, to determine the results of certain studies. Yet this is not what the department's intention is with regard to the studies of the Mackenzie bison herd, the polar bears, Barren-ground caribou, the different caribou, martin, lynx, beavers, waterfowl and mainland musk-ox. Is there any intention to consult with the communities with regard to those studies? Does the department, either through their own regulations or through the federal regulations, require a permit to conduct studies in those areas?

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On every research or study of wildlife we try to consult with all the HTAs that are affected. Even though, as I understand it, we are not required to get a research permit under the law, we get research permits anyway in order to have that much more consultation process in place; to consult with the community. We do consult with the communities and we will continue to consult with the communities, basically with the HTAs.

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

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, in the case where communities decide to exempt themselves from the Wildlife Act, is it still the position of the department to consult those people? For example, in the Delta area, Fort McPherson, Aklavik, Arctic Red River, Inuvik I think, the band councils, as defined under the Indian Act, have exempted themselves from being ex officio. In the Eastern Arctic there are 13 communities plus Fort Smith – I have not got the regulations in front of me but those are some of the communities which exempt themselves from enforcing the Wildlife Act. Is it still the department's intention to consult those people?

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, it does not make any difference whether the community or HTA member is an ex officio member to enforce the Wildlife Act; whether they are part of that or exempt from that, we do consultation with the community.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ernerk): General comments. Mr. Ningark.

MR. NINGARK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is the Minister aware that in Pelly Bay, the HTA start hunting polar bears in December? I wonder if he has heard if the hunters and trappers wanted to start hunting polar bears earlier than December.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ernerk): (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Mr. Chairman, I have

not heard this personally, but once we start visiting the communities to discuss the polar bears and the management of polar bears we will be able to discuss this.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ernerk): Mr. Ningark.

MR. NINGARK: (Translation) Will Renewable Resources be visiting my constituency too?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ernerk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Yes.

MR. NINGARK: (Translation) When will that be?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ernerk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) We do not have the definite dates when we will be in your region. We will be starting in the spring and will try to visit the communities but we are not sure exactly when we will get to Pelly Bay.

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

MR. GARGAN: With regard to the studies that are going to be carried out, to study the Mackenzie bison herd, you have to travel into a 200 square mile area; they go right from Falaise Lake to the Horn Plateau. So it is a large area to be doing research on. If you are looking at the Barren-ground or the Bathurst caribou, you are looking at a large area. Naturally if you are looking at waterfowl it is even a bigger area – 1.5 million square miles, perhaps. Why did the Minister single out the lynx population in one specific area only, and in this case again, I am looking at Gilbert Bouvier's trapline area that he has got some concern about. I would like to ask the Minister why he singled out that particular species only in one specific area. If you are going to get a global picture of the research or the studies you cannot isolate yourself to one particular area in order to get a global picture. The Minister has already said to Mr. Ernerk that the lynx population is still quite high. Why was this restricted to one particular area when, in fact, you should be looking at maybe the sanctuary area as part of it; and you certainly should look into the Cameron Hills area, the Liard Valley area, the Horn Plateau area, in order to get a better picture. If it is the lynx population then I would think that would be the best way of doing it and also finding out more about their feeding habits and migration habits. You cannot restrict yourself to one particular area.

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, we were under the impression that the HTA supported the research that is being conducted in that area. It could very well be that we could go from there to another area to do some more research. The Member is correct in that we are dealing with a very large area throughout the NWT. It is very difficult to do the research throughout the NWT because of the vastness of the area. Nevertheless, the area where we are researching is a representative area and we feel that we could find out a lot more about the animal by studying even in that particular area.

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

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I would hope that the Minister would consider expanding the research from one specific area, and actually going out from that area. I am sure if it is up to a wildlife officer, who says yes, I would like to park on the side of the road, unload my skidoos and then use that specific cutline to do that specific research. I believe that there is

more to it than just unloading a skidoo on the side of the road just because it is accessible. Perhaps the department might consider it appropriate to have research done in that area, especially in view of what the Minister said just now. They are doing a lynx study but he is of the opinion this is where all the lynx hang out. Where does he get that opinion from?

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, when we do research on wildlife we have to start somewhere, and we agree that lynx range throughout the Western Arctic, and that area is one of their habitats. We felt at the time when we selected the area that it was representative of lynx habitat. We also felt that we had the support of the HTA. If it comes to the point where the HTA does not support us, we are willing to look at our research.

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

MR. NINGARK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The communities are not fully informed as to what animals are not to be hunted and they would like this information as soon as possible. Could you provide us with written information as to which birds or animals are prohibited?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) We will be able to provide you with that information and send it to the communities. If the communities would like further information, then they can ask their wildlife officers within their communities.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Ningark.

MR. NINGARK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I ask this question because, especially in Pelly Bay, we lack this information. There is no renewable resources officer in Pelly Bay. We sometimes get one from Spence Bay. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to say to my colleagues from the Eastern Arctic, my intention is not to try to hurt the Eastern Arctic. The intention is that if we do have a bad act that is affecting the Inuit Members, then I think we should try to change it. One thing that the Minister did say with regard to the section on the licence holders -- what is the situation with regard to outfitters that bring hunters to shoot polar bears? The licence holder is the one going out there to shoot the animals. Is the outfitter still required to provide this licence holder with a dog team?

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Yes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. General comments. Does this committee wish to go to the details now? Agreed? Mr. Ningark.

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand we had a plan to adjourn at 4:30 p.m. and there was supposed to be a photo session of the group here. I wonder what the latest is on the photo session. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. The 4:30 p.m. adjournment has been cancelled. If someone will make a motion around 5:00 p.m. we will adjourn then. That is the latest plan. Should we go to details now? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

—Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 12.10, directorate, total O and M, \$1,619,000. Agreed? Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, in the department's objectives they referred to the Inuvialuit land claim and the amendment to the Wildlife Act based on the agreement in principle. Has this process also been concluded for the Dene/Metis land claim?

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, we do not have a settlement act yet respecting the Dene/Metis.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Gargan does not understand your reply. Could you repeat that please?

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, we do not have a settlement act respecting the Dene/Metis at this point. There is no land claim for the Dene/Metis so far. Once that is in place, then we will comply with the settlement act.

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

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, with regard to the department's objectives they did say that they will be making amendments to the Wildlife Act to reflect the agreement in principle of the Inuvialuit. It is no different from what the Dene/Metis are having too, and that is an agreement in principle. Why are those reviews not also being done, based on the agreement in principle for the Dene and Metis?

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: I believe the Member is referring to my response to an oral question asked by one of the Members. I stated earlier that we are hoping to put forward an amendment to the Wildlife Act by next session to recognize bands under the Indian Act, as well as to recognize wildlife committees.

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

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I understood what the response to Mr. Morin's question was. What I am saying, if I may, Mr. Chairman, is that back on page 12.05 it is the objective of the department to draft amendments to the Wildlife Act to address the appropriate provision of the Inuvialuit final agreement. I was just asking whether or not there is a Dene/Metis agreement in principle that is also signed. This should have been in there too. Is this just an oversight by the department?

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, under the Inuvialuit final agreement we are required by law to amend our Wildlife Act. There is not a final agreement yet for the Dene/Metis. Once that is in place, if we are required, under the act, to amend the Wildlife Act then we would have to do it and we will.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): I will ask the Law Clerk to advise us on the legal opinion that was asked by Mr. Gargan.

LAW CLERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have had an opportunity to review the Wildlife Act and the general regulations made pursuant to the act. Mr. Gargan asked

whether the regulations which prohibited the holder of a hunting licence from hunting except by way of dog team applied generally to everybody who hunts polar bears in the Northwest Territories. Having reviewed the act and, in particular, the definition of hunting licence and general hunting licence, I believe that the Minister is right in that there is a distinction between the different types of licences. Therefore, the holder of a hunting licence, which is a fairly restricted sort of licence, could only hunt polar bear by a dog team but the holder of a GHL, general hunting licence, would not be bound to hunt polar bears by a dog team if they were otherwise authorized to hunt polar bears. In other words, they are two very different types of licences and the provision with respect to dog teams applies only to one type of licence.

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

MR. GARGAN: If I may then, Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask if the provision on the general hunting licence, "cannot hunt on a wildlife preserve", does that put any restriction on a general hunting licence holder, or the kind of tools that he uses for hunting?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Law Clerk.

LAW CLERK: Mr. Gargan is correct in that there is a provision restricting the holder of a general hunting licence from hunting polar bears in a wildlife preserve. That would be my understanding, and perhaps the Minister could check with his advisers, but it is my understanding that that would be an absolute prohibition from hunting on a wildlife preserve.

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

MR. GARGAN: For the purpose of this act, what does a "wildlife preserve" mean? Is a sanctuary also a preserve?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Law Clerk.

LAW CLERK: Mr. Chairman, I would have to take that question under advisement. I do not see right in the act a definition of "wildlife preserve". I would have to take that under advisement unless the Minister could help us.

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: I understand that that act does not apply to bird sanctuaries. There are only two types of wildlife preserves where the polar bear population exist. One is the Polar Bear Pass where no one hunts for polar bears; the other one is bird sanctuaries that we have in the Nunavut region.

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

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, for the purpose of this act the department did have a definition for the licence holders; however they do not have one for the definition of a wildlife preserve. Do they have a definition which the Minister views as appropriate for the purposes of this act, or is this an open thing in which they define it as they see fit?

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, the definition for the sanctuaries or wildlife preserves are defined under the regulations.

Directorate, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. I would like to thank the Law Clerk. Page 12.10, directorate, total O and M, \$1,619,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

—Agreed

Wildlife Management, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Wildlife management, \$3,943,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

—Agreed

Conservation Education And Resource Development, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Page 12.12, conservation education and resource development, total O and M, \$5,091,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

—Agreed

Policy And Planning, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Page 12.13, policy and planning, total O and M, \$851,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

—Agreed

Pollution Control, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Page 12.14, pollution control, total O and M, \$695,000. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to "...spill response clean-up and training, include education and research as well as monitoring and regulating activities that impact on the environment", I would like to ask the Minister, exactly what does this mean? Are we going to have a sort of a SWAT team or an emergency team? What does this mean?

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, our wildlife officers, the renewable resources officers, are trained to monitor and regulate activities as well as the response in this area. We also have a team of highly qualified individuals who respond to these possible hazards.

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

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, in this case then, the transportation of dangerous goods – the communities that are en route of it would have to be relying on those individuals that the Minister referred to, as opposed to preparing the communities en route, such as Enterprise, Hay River, Fort Smith, Fort Resolution, Fort Providence, Kakisa, Fort Simpson, to respond. If an accident happened in which dangerous goods are exposed to the air or the ground or the water, then the communities pretty well have to rely on those expert individuals. Am I correct?

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Yes, we would have to rely on these people as well as about 100 people outside the government who are trained, as well, to look after these things.

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

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I do not know who those individuals are. I would tend to have some concerns for the communities en route, which also includes my community, where those individuals have to respond if a situation like this occurred. Are we going to wait for people from Yellowknife to come down, or from Hay River or wherever those experts are? Or should you not also be concerned about the communities and do some training so that they might be able to respond if that type of an emergency occurred?

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, I am prepared to give him a full list of the people that we have trained.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I think I know what Mr. Gargan is getting at. I will give you an instance. The Hay River fire department has been trained to deal with spills, dangerous and hazardous chemicals, so I think that training is available through this government. I would not be surprised, Mr. Chairman, if that may be available through MACA.

The problem that Mr. Gargan will experience is that when he has people trained, Mr. Chairman, they will not have the equipment to go out there and handle the hazardous material that is spilled on the highway or close to the community. I can only assume that if people in Hay River and Yellowknife have been trained, the training would be available to Mr. Gargan's constituency as well. If we take that further, I would ask the Minister, when is the Minister going to supply to those people who have been trained in those communities, equipment to go out and clean up a spill? It is fine to have the trained personnel, but if you do not have the equipment, the hazardous material vehicles, then you cannot do the job and I think perhaps you are endangering the people who are going out to clean up a potential spill. I wonder if the Minister could tell me when he is going to provide capital for those particular kinds of vehicles, strategically placed along the highway system. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Chairman, I believe we have in place caches of equipment en route. I believe there is one in Hay River, Fort Providence and some other communities where the equipment is available.

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

MR. POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, if that vehicle was available to the Hay River fire department, I do not know why they are showing up on the scene of vehicles that have rolled over with diesel pouring out of them, or aviation fuel, without that equipment. Perhaps the Minister does not understand that I am talking about a hazardous material vehicle being made available to the local trained fire department and presumably to the fire people in Fort Providence, once Mr. Gargan gets them trained, so that they can go out and take that vehicle handle a spill. I do not see it at the Hay River fire department, sir, and yet they are the first ones to receive the call to respond and get out there and fix the problem.

Mr. Gargan is correct. The last time this happened, and I have a report on it that I will provide to the Minister, Renewable Resources did not arrive for, I should say, in excess of two hours. They came down on a Buffalo flight from Yellowknife, sir. The Hay River fire department was on the scene with the Department of Highways, who responded

very quickly, and also with the RCMP; and nobody could do anything until Renewable Resources got there and there was no equipment vehicle to do anything with that spill. I would ask the Minister, where is that equipment and how can the fire department get access to that the next time they are called? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ernerk): Thank you, Mr. Pollard. Mr. Minister. No answer. Ms Cournoyea.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I move we report progress.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

—Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ernerk): I have a motion on the floor which is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion to report progress? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

—Carried

I would like to thank the Minister and his witnesses. Thank you very much.

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 Aivilik.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 9-90(1) and Committee Report 1-90(1), and wishes to report progress, with one motion being adopted.

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: Thank you.

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

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Speaker, meetings for February 28: ajauqtit at 9:00 a.m. and a meeting at 10:00 a.m. of the standing committee on finance.

ITEM 20: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Wednesday, February 28th.

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: 3-90(1) and 4-90(1)
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 Wednesday, February 28, 1990, at 1:00 p.m.

--ADJOURNMENT

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