



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1990

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Richard Nerysoo): Orders of the day for Thursday, March 1, 1990. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Slave River.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Ministers' Statement 26-90(1): International Women's Day

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker and honourable Members, one week from today is International Women's Day. International Women's Day has been celebrated around the world for over 80 years. It commemorates women's struggles for better working conditions, for the right to vote and for peace, in the early years of this century. In 1977, the United Nations passed a resolution calling on countries to celebrate an annual day for women's rights and international peace. Celebrations are held each year across Canada, including the Northwest Territories.

Here in the North, it is an opportunity to recognize the contribution women are making to community life. Currently four out of the 27 chiefs and subchiefs of the Dene Nation are women; six out of the 13 Metis local presidents are women; six out of the 44 municipalities have women mayors. Nearly one fifth of all municipal councillors are women. There are two women MLAs; both of us serve on the Executive Council. In addition, the Member of Parliament for the Western Arctic, Ethel Blondin, is a woman.

---Applause

Currently, women make up close to 40 per cent of the membership on housing association boards and a full 50 per cent of the membership on divisional education and school boards. While these numbers show that women are still not fully equal partners in the political life of our communities, they are improving. More and more women are taking on leadership roles and I wish to commend them for their hard work and important contribution.

This year, women in a number of NWT communities will be holding events to celebrate International Women's Day. In Pangnirtung, the Kittaq women's group is holding a craft and traditional clothing display including games and tea and bannock. In Arviat, there will be a special dinner for women in the community. In Iqaluit, there will be a weekend workshop about women and the discussion will focus on the social effects resulting from the presence of the military in the North. In Hay River, the women's resource centre will be holding an open house. They will also be hosting a performance of a play on family violence by the Toonooniq Theatre Group from Pond Inlet. And here in Yellowknife, there will be four celebrations involving groups such as the Native Women's Association, the YWCA, the NWT Council for the Disabled and the NWT Advisory Council on the Status of Women.

There will be other celebrations as well, and I encourage all Members to promote events in their own communities, as a way of recognizing the valuable contribution women make to northern society. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

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

Ministers' Statement 27-90(1): Dene/Metis Boarding Home

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, an important component of the health delivery system in the Northwest Territories is the system of boarding homes. These are utilized by the many patients who must leave their home communities to access needed medical or hospital services.

I am pleased to announce to the Assembly that the Dene/Metis boarding home in Yellowknife will shortly be in operation. This medical boarding home is dedicated primarily for the use of Dene and Metis patients who have to travel to Yellowknife to receive medical care. The official opening of this facility will take place on Friday, March 2, tomorrow.

The Dene/Metis boarding home project is an excellent example of what can be accomplished through local initiatives. The Yellowknife B Band is to be congratulated for its successful efforts in this endeavour. This project is also representative of successful collaboration among the Yellowknife B Band and the Departments of Health and Public Works. The boarding home will be operated by the We Le Dai Corporation, which is the development arm of the B Band, under contract to the Mackenzie Regional Health Services. The boarding home will become an integral component of the medical referral system, and its staff will work closely with the Yellowknife medical transportation referral unit.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident that Dene and Metis residents who are required to travel to Yellowknife for medical treatment will find a caring home-like environment at this new boarding home. I am equally confident that the services provided at the boarding home will prove to be extremely beneficial to both the users and the NWT health system.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased also to see that the person who was instrumental and the driving force in this project, Mary Jane Goulet, who is the vice-president and manager of the We Le Dai Corporation, is with us today. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Amittuq.

Ministers' Statement 28-90(1): Trapline Lifeline Video Receives National Editing Award

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to inform this House today of an honour recently given to Mr. Gary Milligan, an eight year member of the staff

of the Department of Culture and Communications, for the work he did in producing and editing the video "Trapline Lifeline". Mr. Milligan has lived in Yellowknife for 33 years and demonstrates the unique quality of people that are raised in the Northwest Territories. The award is shared with Mr. Bill Stewart, a former member of the department.

The International Television Association's judges' choice award is the first that the department has received from this festival which honours excellence in Canadian non-broadcast video productions. The video "Trapline Lifeline" was one of 300 entries from across Canada. The judges praised the video and its editor for his "great sensitivity", complimenting the manner in which the video was edited to create a realistic view of people dependent upon the trapline for their survival and heritage.

As Members know, the program "Trapline Lifeline" is part of a travelling museum exhibit touring southern Canadian cities to educate people about trapping life. It provides an opportunity for people to see through the misinformation that has been spread about trapping and to hear directly from northern people.

I am particularly pleased with the creativity of Mr. Milligan in producing a film that is trilingual, with Slavey speakers having their comments subtitled in English and French. Besides the important message relating to the fur issue, use of aboriginal language throughout the video emphasizes the pride and vitality of aboriginal life in the NWT.

I am sure that all of the Members share with me in my congratulations to Gary Milligan for his fine work on behalf of the people of the NWT.

With the co-operation of the Speaker of this Legislative Assembly, I have arranged for the video "Trapline Lifeline" to be playing in the lobby this afternoon so that visitors to the Assembly are able to see this fine production.

I would also like to note that the video staff of Culture and Communications have been awarded a number of other national and international awards over the past few years for their video productions. "Rivers Of Faith", produced in association with Pido Productions of Yellowknife, and "They Look a Lot Like Us - A China Odyssey", produced with Kudluk Productions, both received the prestigious Gabriel Award from the United States-based National Catholic Association for Broadcasters. "They Look a Lot Like Us - A China Odyssey", also received the red ribbon from the American Film and Video Association, as well as the Gemini Award, the top award from the academy of Canadian cinema and television in the category, best children's program.

I am very pleased to be able to recognize the accomplishments of the highly talented radio and television staff of the Department of Culture and Communications. Thank you.

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

Ministers' Statement 29-90(1): Role Model Posters

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to inform the House about our newest affirmative action role model poster which continues the "Northerners on the Move" series featuring Constable Merle Carpenter of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Constable Carpenter, who is in the gallery, is from Sachs Harbour. He completed his high school education in Inuvik and initially joined the force as a special constable serving in

Inuvik and Aklavik. In January 1988 he went to Regina for training at the RCMP Academy for six months. He graduated as a regular member and is now assigned to the Yellowknife detachment. Merle Carpenter is to be congratulated on achieving his career ambition and I know we all wish him well as he proceeds in this challenging career.

--Applause

The "Northerners on the Move Series" has been very successful in promoting affirmative action target groups for employment and for providing inspiration for our young people to persevere in obtaining their education so that they, too, can achieve their career ambitions.

I am particularly happy with this poster because it truly was a joint venture between my Department of Personnel, the Department of Justice and the RCMP working together. During the last budget session, the Minister of Justice received a lot of advice from the Assembly about native representation in his department and in the RCMP. He took your comments and advice seriously and his department and the RCMP have made progress, particularly with the RCMP special constable program.

In recognition of his initiative, I am pleased to present the Minister of Justice with the first framed role model poster of Constable Merle Carpenter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. After that statement I just wanted to draw the honourable Members' attention to the presence in our public gallery of Constable Merle Carpenter.

--Applause

Ministers' statements. Ministers' statements. Item 4, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

ITEM 4: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On International Women's Day

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Next week, March 8 will be the 88th anniversary of International Women's Day. Because the House will be in recess, I chose today to recognize and acknowledge the great achievements made by women around the world to establish even the most basic rights and freedoms now enjoyed by men. Every March 8, International Women's Day events in North America and around the world continue to express the concerns of women and to address social, economic and justice issues. The struggle for even the most basic rights has always been closely linked with the general struggle for social justice and world peace.

The events of the first women's international day came from women, the articulation of women's experiences, and from women's aspirations of rights and equality for all. Every year since 1908, Mr. Speaker, women all over the world have celebrated this day. In that year, some 30,000 women demonstrated in the streets of New York City for better wages, a 12 hour working day, improved working conditions, child labour laws and the right of women to vote. Their slogan was "bread and roses", symbolizing their struggle for economic security and a better quality of life. Some facts, Mr. Speaker: women are only 13 per cent of the 295 Members of Parliament; only two out of 24 Members of this Assembly are women; only five women have ever been elected to the territorial council and the Legislative Assembly in its entire history; most women earn only two thirds of what men earn; most single-parent families are headed by women; many

women experience domestic and sexual violence at some point in their lives; women need quality child care in order to fully participate in the workplace and in society in general.

It was not until 1918 that women were given the right to vote federally, and not until 1920 could they even be elected to the House of Commons. In 1973 the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women was established, and in 1985, women who had lost their status under the Indian Act, through marriage to non-status spouses, were able to regain their status as treaty Indians. Mr. Speaker...

MR. SPEAKER: Order. Your time has expired for Members' statements. Members' statements. The honourable Member for Baffin South.

Member's Statement On Rights And Privileges Of Members

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand here today to say that since I became a Member, as a Member my rights have been taken away from me at times. When I am told, "If you do not support my motion I will let the people in my community know," my right here has been taken away because I am being told what to do. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to go against that. I stand here today, Mr. Speaker, to say that by my colleagues I am sometimes manipulated to vote for or against some particular motions. I would like to exercise my privileges as a Member when we are voting on any motions. I wanted to voice this concern to my colleagues in the House. Because we are elected by our people, we are not supposed to be manipulated by other Members or Ministers, as when it is said, "You will have to give us support, if we ask for any support then you can give us support, or vice versa." Thank you.

--Applause

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

Member's Statement On International Women's Day

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As has been mentioned twice today, it is one week before International Women's Day. I would like to share with you some observations and some information of particular women.

Mr. Speaker, being born in Denmark I was brought up in an environment which quite naturally accepts women and men as equals. When I moved to Coppermine I therefore felt very comfortable with the Inuit's acceptance of women's equal importance to the traditional way of life. In my region women have always played a key and a leading role in our society. This is still so today and I am grateful for that.

Now for the information. You may know that it was in 1929 that women in Canada were deemed to be persons and, as such, they were therefore eligible for appointment to the Senate. Mr. Speaker, I have here some newspaper clippings from 1929 and 1930, from Ottawa, Detroit and Toronto newspapers, which show that an Inuk woman from the Northwest Territories, from my home town of Coppermine, was a candidate for appointment as Canada's first woman senator. That woman was Aetna Masiana, daughter of Charles Klengenber and Helen Kemnik and the wife of Ikey Angutitiak Bolt. Aetna passed away in 1987 at the age of 90. She was a much-beloved lady who was our trusted midwife who brought more babies into the world than anyone before or since. Her niece, Helen Kemnik Adamache, is the regional director in the Kitikmeot Region and her grandniece, Edna

Elias, is the principal of our school in Coppermine. Both have served on the NWT Advisory Council for the Status of Women and I know that Aetna had a great impact on both of them.

The Ottawa Citizen, on the 16th of January, 1930, wrote about Aetna and I quote, "The northland has a woman whose service to the Arctic community is equal to that of any woman in Canada. A woman of refinement, education and demonstrated ability." Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege of knowing Aetna Bolt for over 30 years and I tell you those words were true indeed. We should all be proud of the achievements of the women in our society. Thank you.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. I wish to draw the honourable Members' attention to the Member of Parliament for the Western Arctic in the House of Commons, Ethel Blondin.

--Applause

I also wish to draw to the attention of Members to the presence of students from the administration studies program, Nunatta Campus of Arctic College, Iqaluit.

--Applause

Members' statements. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre.

Member's Statement On Government Commitment To Sustainable Development

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I note that my colleague from Kitikmeot West did get away with talking about one subject but still able to bring in a reference to his country of Denmark and I would like to do the same with regard to my country. This is St. David's Day and on this day I think of a country that I was brought up in, but I think of it in terms of the environment, Mr. Speaker. It was a country which was devastated by coal mining. It also suffered because in those days iron mills were set up without thinking very much about their future impact. As I travelled throughout the Northwest Territories with the special committee on the northern economy, Mr. Speaker, we were struck with what a beautiful country we really did have and that it was still something that we could be proud of and thankful for.

The SCONE report recommended that the government confirm its commitment to sustainable development and to establish a round table on the environment and we were all very, very pleased when Mr. Wray made his strategy known to us for economic development, and when the Government Leader announced the government's commitment to these two ideas, we were very pleased. Although we do not have big industries in the NWT, Mr. Speaker, we can learn from what has happened elsewhere in developing an economy. Sustainable development, Mr. Speaker, is careful development. It means that we examine every project which has a significant impact on our environment on a case-by-case basis. We then decide on a case-by-case basis whether the gains from development can be sustained without creating environmental damage that is irreparable.

Mr. Speaker, this House should commit itself to this principle of sustainable development, which has been announced by the government, and I shall be moving a motion later in this session to that effect. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement On Recognition Of Women In The Home

MR. NINGARK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize the women in the North who have performed good deeds, especially those women who stay at home as homemakers. They are the ones who give love and keep the family together, and they are the ones who are child care givers. If you are out of town on business, you tend to miss them. Sometimes when you are living with them you do not notice these things, but you start noticing such things when you are separated from your family for long periods of time. The mothers look after their children when they are sick. I would like to recognize the women that are loving and caring, and I would like Members to recognize this. Thank you.

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

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

Return To Question O139-90(1): Contingency Plans For Disposal Of Hazardous Waste

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, this is a response to a question asked by Mr. Whitford on February 20, 1990, concerning contingency plans for chemical spills and large fires. The Department of Renewable Resources' pollution control division maintains two programs to deal with the proper disposal of hazardous wastes and to effect actions that prevent or minimize the effect on the environment of a spill of hazardous substances. The first program, land protection/waste management, includes the monitoring and evaluation of hazardous waste storage and movements. The second program, land protection/spills response, provides training to individuals in communities to deal with spills and assists communities and industries to develop spill contingency plans.

The spills response program was made pursuant to the Working Agreement on Government Response to Spills in the Northwest Territories, October 1985, to minimize environmental damage from spill incidents. The parties to this agreement include the northern affairs program of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Environment Canada's environmental protection service, the Canadian Coast Guard, Canada Oil and Gas Lands Administration and the Government of the Northwest Territories. The agreement sets out in detail the co-ordination of the various agencies, depending on the location of the spill.

The Department of Transport regulates the transport of hazardous goods pursuant to the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act. A new Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act will be introduced and enacted this session. The new legislation will enable the Department of Transport to require companies transporting dangerous goods to establish plans for the clean-up of chemical spills.

In the case of a major fire, the local fire department must determine the extent of the fire. If a fire is beyond the capacity of a local fire department, the chief of the department contacts the mayor or chief administrative officer who then contacts the Emergency Measures Organization, which is part of the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs. EMO mobilization, in the case of a large fire, will normally include assessment by the office of the fire marshal. The fire marshal will advise on the type of equipment and trained personnel required to fight the fire and will take steps to obtain equipment and personnel.

At the present time, there are no fire departments or personnel

in the Northwest Territories trained or equipped to fight a major spill or chemical fire. Such a response would require utilization of encapsulated suits by personnel trained in spill or chemical fire fighting. In the event of such a spill or fire, equipment and personnel would have to be acquired from southern jurisdictions and, depending on the extent and effect of the spill or fire, evacuation of the population would be the sole means of safeguarding lives until such time as equipment and personnel could be moved into the area. Thank you.

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

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, this is in response to a question asked by Mr. Gargan on February 27 with regard to the Department of National Defence standards for the North Warning System. The Government of the Northwest Territories is satisfied that the contractors involved in the North Warning System project are meeting the targets for training Northerners, and the targets for other northern benefits outlined in their contract terms.

The training has just begun on the North Warning System operations and maintenance contract with Frontec. Seven trainees were employed by Frontec and were taking the weather observers course, one of the first courses included in the training program. As I have stated earlier, part of the training required by the Department of National Defence for electronic technicians is a weather observers course. All trainees must achieve 85 per cent on this course, and they are all given three opportunities to write the test. Two of the seven trainees were from the Northwest Territories, one was from Labrador and four were from southern Canada. The employee from Labrador passed the course, as well as three of the employees from the South. The courses in this program are demanding and it is common for trainees to drop out or leave because they cannot meet the standards set for the course exams.

The two trainees from the Northwest Territories failed to meet the 85 per cent standard in this training program, and their employment was terminated. One of them did write the test three times, but his final mark was 83 per cent and, as a result, Frontec was forced to terminate his employment. Frontec, however, is prepared to consider this individual for other job opportunities. The other trainee from the Northwest Territories wrote the test once and when given the opportunity to rewrite, decided to leave the company without notice and return to the Northwest Territories from Winnipeg. Frontec located him one week later and, after discussing this situation with him, terminated his employment.

Forty-eight per cent of the work force employed by Frontec Logistics is northern, and 23 per cent of their total work force is native. Frontec will be seeking two trainees in the Northwest Territories to replace the two individuals from the Northwest Territories who are no longer in the electronic technician training program. Thank you.

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

Return To Question O57-90(1): Government Responsibility For Defaulted Loans

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Pollard on February 13, 1990. As of March 31, 1989, the long-term debt of public agencies for which the government is liable includes: the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation, \$95,742,000;

NWT Power Corporation, \$20 million, for a total of \$115,742,000. In addition to this long-term debt, the government has a loan outstanding to the Power Corporation totalling \$48,150,000 and loans to municipalities and school districts totalling \$33,295,000.

The debt figures for the Housing Corporation and the Power Corporation can be compared to their net assets. The net assets of the Housing Corporation, defined as total assets less current liabilities, are valued at \$136,964,000, while the net assets of the Power Corporation are valued at \$138,895,000.

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

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, this is in response to a question asked by Mr. Morin on February 27, 1990. The Member asked if Mr. Mike Mercredi was asked to resign from the Workers' Compensation Board because he was moving to southern Canada. My understanding is that Mr. Mercredi's appointment had been approved by cabinet; however, he withdraw his name of his own accord stating that he had found a job in southern Canada and was therefore unavailable.

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

Further Return To Question O211-90(1): Terms Of Contract With Bob DeLury

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a response to a question asked by Mr. Lewis on February 26, 1990, regarding the contract with Mr. DeLury. The contract with Mr. DeLury is paid from the Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat. At the time the DeLury contract was signed, we could not identify uncommitted dollars in the Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development budget to fund the contract internally. Because Mr. DeLury's services were urgently required and the Legislative Assembly was not in session, a special warrant was approved.

In 1990-91 the contract with Mr. DeLury will be funded from the Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat activity. The funding level for this activity reflected in the 1990-91 main estimates is sufficient to pay the contract until it expires. Thank you.

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

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question O259-90(1): Privacy For Medivac Patients On Common Carriers

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Health. Madam Minister, when we travelled to Edmonton about a week ago we noticed on the plane a medivac out of Inuvik. The lady seemed quite ill, but she did not seem to have any privacy at all on that plane. Some seats were put down and she was put on a stretcher. Is there any way possible that you could ask Canadian Airlines, Air Canada, or whoever takes medivacs, to arrange a curtain with maybe some hooks so that people can have a little bit more privacy when they are being medivaced out? Thank you.

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

Return To Question O259-90(1): Privacy For Medivac Patients On Common Carriers

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: I thank the Member for bringing that to my attention. Yes, I will deal with Canadian Airlines.

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

Question O260-90(1): Deficiencies Of Mobile Homes In Fort Resolution

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Housing. Mr. Minister, recently some residents of Fort Resolution were able to buy mobile homes from the South, but they are having problems with those. They do not seem to meet the standards of the northern climate. They paid an awful lot of money for these new homes, and I wonder if you have an inspector who could see that the mobile homes meet all CMHC standards as they should when the factory is selling them to these people; they should have guaranteed that they met all CMHC standards and that they have such basic things as a vapour barrier. Could you send an inspector in to check this out?

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

Return To Question O260-90(1): Deficiencies Of Mobile Homes In Fort Resolution

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I am not aware personally of the concern raised by the honourable Member, but I will convey it to Mr. Beaulieu in Hay River and ask him to address it in the most expeditious manner possible.

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

Question O261-90(1): Report On Food Scale

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be directed to the Minister of Social Services. Could I ask the Minister if she will provide me with the cost analysis of the food scale that her department has formulated?

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

Return To Question O261-90(1): Report On Food Scale

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: As I have indicated to the Member, Mr. Speaker, I will be able to provide him with how we were able to come up with the methodology that we used.

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

Question O262-90(1): Layoff Notices For Native Press Staff

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Culture and Communications. I do not know if the Minister is aware that tomorrow, March 2nd, the Native Press will have to issue layoff notices to their staff in order to comply with labour laws. My question is, is the Minister aware of this situation and is his department going to

do anything in order to prevent the layoff of the seven people there?

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

Return To Question O262-90(1): Layoff Notices For Native Press Staff

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, yes, I am aware of the Native Communications Society having difficulty financially. This afternoon my officials will be discussing the scheduling of our meetings with the Secretary of State. I am also informed that members of the Native Communications Society and members of my department, as well as Economic Development and Tourism, are working on a proposal that might alleviate the problem.

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

Question O263-90(1): Presence Of Public Servants In The Gallery

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Government Leader. I have noticed that in this Assembly you do have many staff behind you, and the gallery is usually full of civil servants as well. I understand that the Department of Education does have its budget coming up today, and they could be here, but with the rest of them, what is it, a lack of work? What is the reason for their being in the gallery all the time?

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

Return To Question O263-90(1): Presence Of Public Servants In the Gallery

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I would have thought the honourable Member would be delighted to have public servants hearing the valuable advice provided by Members of this House about how they can better perform their duties.

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

Supplementary To Question O263-90(1): Presence Of Public Servants In The Gallery

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, a supplementary. Mr. Government Leader, I am sure in any job application you advertise, one of the things that people should be able to do is to read, and they should read Hansard to get our valuable advice. I am also well aware that one hour to half an hour after question period anybody can get a copy of the unedited transcript of Hansard from downstairs. Due to the fact that we are under restraint, Mr. Government Leader, do you not think they may be more valuable at their desks?

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

Further Return To Question O263-90(1): Presence Of Public Servants In The Gallery

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Well, Mr. Speaker, I do not think that the gallery has an undue proportion of public servants. I think that the public servants who are in the gallery have business in this House or they have business in connection with departments where issues are being discussed by this House. As far as the ministerial staff is

concerned, Mr. Speaker, I think we have a relatively modest group of people assisting Ministers. They are, by and large, political staff whose most appropriate position is usually pretty close to the Minister. They are here quite appropriately.

Mr. Speaker, I think if the people in the gallery were identified and analysed as to what they are here for, one would find that each one of them has a specific purpose, to do with ensuring that the interpreting facilities are being properly addressed, to provide the government with legal opinions, to assist with press relations, and in some cases, yes, to directly monitor the operations of this Assembly, rather than having to wait for the time delay that production of Hansard requires, in order that we can promptly address the honourable Members' concerns from the moment they are raised in this House. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O263-90(1): Presence of Public Servants In The Gallery

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to the Government Leader. I, for one, do not mind waiting a few more minutes for my answers that I do ask. What I am wondering is if you could look at restructuring or reorganizing so that you can save the government some money, possibly even spend that money in the communities. Thank you.

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

Further Return To Question O263-90(1): Presence Of Public Servants In The Gallery

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I am always open to advice on how we can restructure and save money. Most of the advice from the honourable Members is about how to spend money, so any advice we can get about how to save money is very well received. I will pay good attention to it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question O264-90(1): Ministers' Executive Assistants

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On the subject of saving money, Mr. Speaker, to the Government Leader. I note that the two women that are in the Executive Council each have two executive assistants. Does this mean that they work twice as hard as everybody else and have twice as much work to do? Or can we put another interpretation on the need to have two people on those staffs?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

Return To Question O264-90(1): Ministers' Executive Assistants

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: You can put another interpretation on it, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O264-90(1): Ministers' Executive Assistants

MR. LEWIS: I think the Government Leader should be ashamed of having to put another interpretation on this. Does this mean that they need twice as much help as everybody else?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

Further Return To Question O264-90(1): Ministers' Executive Assistants

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, that may be the honourable Member's opinion, but it certainly is not mine. Thank you.

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

Question O265-90(1): Information On Taxation Of Home Boarding Payments

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I had a chance to read the answers that the Minister of Education gave me on Tuesday regarding the home boarding parents in Simpson. I have a few concerns. What is at issue here is that parents are alleging in a letter that they have written to him that they were not advised by his departmental officials of the tax implications of the moneys being paid to them for looking after students and secondly, that the superintendent of education in Simpson explicitly told parents last fall that they would not be taxed. There is some suggestion that the departmental officials may have intentionally withheld from parents information regarding tax so they would not refuse to take in students. These are, of course, quite serious allegations. I am wondering, could the Minister look into these allegations and report back to the Assembly after the spring break? Would the Minister consider having a system where tax is deducted before moneys are paid to parents? Thirdly, would the Minister consider increasing the moneys that are being paid to parents, since now part of the moneys being paid to parents for looking after the kids is being paid to the federal government in taxes?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Just a reminder to the honourable Member that a single question should be posed. However, the matter is on record. The other thing is that for the oral questions being asked of the Ministers, Ministers should reasonably be presumed to have the information at hand. However, the honourable Member for Sahtu may answer.

Return To Question O265-90(1): Information On Taxation Of Home Boarding Payments

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, yesterday a person who also took a student to his own home under the arrangements here in Yellowknife indicated to me that, even if he was not advised about the tax implications of the money he was accepting to board the child, he never saw it as a business arrangement; it was a community service and that the costs would be covered. I suppose if we accept the argument that ignorance is a way to get away from paying taxes, then nobody really needs to pay any. The fact is it is an income and no matter what you are told about income, you have pay some of it back to government. If people felt that they were misled, then they should not always rely on people who are not tax experts for advice. You have a lot of people every year who have their income tax returns done by good friends who, with the best of intentions, do a very poor job.

I do not know that anything was done intentionally here. I think, as far as I know, and I have asked my department to check, all the parents except one were told of the tax implications. Where there may have been a misunderstanding and the suggestion that there was perhaps a possibility that it might not be taxable, depending on the response from Revenue Canada, is that people in the region working for the department had inquired a second time to see if there was any possibility Revenue Canada would change its mind, and perhaps there was a mistake in suggesting that there was a

very real possibility it would not be taxable.

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

Supplementary To Question O265-90(1): Information On Taxation Of Home Boarding Payments

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I do not like to get into the situation where I get information from my constituents who say one thing and the Minister gets information from his department officials who say otherwise. The issue here is that obviously there is a difference, the information is quite different. My constituents say, and write in a letter, that they were not advised by department officials. These people who have signed this letter are serious, trustworthy people: Jane Antoine, Rita Cli, Pat Waugh, and there are a dozen parents here in Fort Simpson that have signed their names to this letter who categorically say that they were not advised by officials. My understanding is that there was some discussion with your officials who even advised them that the kids would be considered in a similar situation as children to foster parents, and in that category apparently these people do not pay taxes.

I am just wondering if the Minister would go the distance and really, thoroughly check into this. It is so easy when you are a Minister to simply take the information given to you by your officials and to believe it. That is the easiest thing in the world to do. We have a situation where there is conflict of information from his officials and from the people in Fort Simpson. So all I am asking the Minister is to take a personal interest in this matter, not to just sluff the people of Fort Simpson, the parents, off and to really have someone from his department that he trusts go to Simpson and check this information out and eventually come back with a report, and report to our Assembly. This is all that I ask and I wonder if the Minister would do that.

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

Further Return To Question O265-90(1): Information On Taxation Of Home Boarding Payments

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, if the department staff misled the people in Fort Simpson, then, yes, I will do something to reprimand them. To get back to the original point, the income went to the respective individuals and it is their responsibility to handle their income. If it is taxable, then they have to pay the tax; we are not going to get into creating an illusion that there is a possibility that we are going to compensate them for not understanding the implications of taking in additional income. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O265-90(1): Information On Taxation Of Home Boarding Payments

MR. SIBBESTON: My last try today, Mr. Speaker. If the Minister is saying that he really cannot do anything because money is paid and these people have to pay taxes, that is a reality that I accept, too. But what is more of an issue is what really happened in terms of his officials and whether they purposefully misled the parents in this case. I think that is the issue that the Minister has to deal with.

Apart from that, will the Minister take steps with respect to the future as to whether he will increase the amount of money paid to parents since, obviously, all the money that is being paid to parents does not go toward food and to pay for the

lodging? A third, a quarter or a half of it goes toward tax. This being the case, will the Minister consider paying more money to the parents so that they can properly look after the students, because at the moment not all of the money is going to parents or to the kids? Some of it is going to the federal government. So I am asking whether he would consider setting up a system where tax is taken off before the parents are paid; secondly, whether he would increase the amount of money that parents get. I think that is something for the future and I ask the Minister whether he would consider that.

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

Further Return To Question O265-90(1): Information On Taxation Of Home Boarding Payments

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, I think the first suggestion, of whether we can look at increasing the amounts that we pay to people for home boarding students, is a fair one. If people in certain regions feel that it is not adequate or, even more far-fetched, if they think it is too much, then we would be willing to make adjustments.

As I have said in an earlier statement, we feel the home boarding program has worked really well. It has worked especially well in Fort Simpson despite this kind of hiccup. So that is something that I am very open to looking at.

The second one, being no tax expert myself, I could not even begin to suggest that deducting tax from a small income that fits into an overall income of the household would benefit those recipients if we start to deduct before they even get it. I am not sure, but it is one suggestion that we could look at and, perhaps, some general, simple letters of advice could be sent to people who take students in for home boarding, and just general tax advice and where to get advice would be useful. Perhaps the appropriate Ministers of this government would look at that. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Just a reminder to Members that despite the fact that I allowed some leniency with regard to the honourable Member for Nahendeh, that preambles should not really be included in supplementary questions. They should always lead up to the original questions but preambles are not necessary for other supplementary questions to be asked. I just wanted to remind the honourable Members of that. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

Question O266-90(1): Wages For Mayors In Communities

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of MACA. The paper that I tabled in February, Tabled Document 30-90(1) -- I am pretty sure that he read this paper. My question is, in some communities, whether they are big or small, the mayors stay in the office all day long. What is the salary or the wage of the mayors? Are they making regular wages or are they just honorariums?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Inuvik.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I am not sure if I can answer the question specifically. If he had asked me a specific question with regard to a particular community, I do not know if I could answer that either. I will take the question as notice and get back to him on how mayors are recompensed in hamlets and other settlements.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. May I try again?

MR. SPEAKER: Just to remind the honourable Member that the question has been taken as notice. A new question can be posed but not a question with regard to the same issue. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Question O267-90(1): Programs For Checking Vehicles For Firearm Violations

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question I would like to direct to the Minister responsible for Renewable Resources. It is not on trees, it is on guns. Last week I asked, in a written question, about the number of charges laid for unlawful use of firearms in the Northwest Territories from the year 1987, including 1988 and 1989. The written response was three, in, what I calculate to be 480 working days. Either we have improved in our education or we are missing something.

I have a question to the Minister as to whether or not there are any programs that his game wardens use to stop vehicles for checking during peak periods of the year, during peak hunting periods of the year, peak use of firearms during the year, for checkstops to see whether or not the people carrying the guns in vehicles are in fact abiding by the laws.

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, we have patrols patrolling the winter roads during the open season for the caribou, when the caribou are close to the Yellowknife area. I think that is what the Member is referring to, the peak hunting time, when the Bathurst caribou are down near Yellowknife around Gordon Lake. We have renewable resources officers patrolling the winter roads. I could get back to the Member with more precise information, but I am told that during the peak season we have full-time patrolmen patrolling the winter roads.

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

Question O268-90(1): Update On Constitutional Alliance Activities

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister responsible for Aboriginal Rights. Mr. Minister, can you tell this House what the Constitutional Alliance is working on and where they are now in developing a constitution for the Western Arctic?

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

Return To Question O268-90(1): Update On Constitutional Alliance Activities

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Constitutional Alliance really skidded into a graveyard about two years ago. In October we gave it one last chance to climb out by convening a meeting in Norman Wells. It was agreed there that we have nothing to talk about and nothing to work on until the Dene/Metis and the TFN resolve the boundary dispute they have between the two claims areas. We should all give those that put great effort into keeping the process going over the last two years some medals for just being plain outright stubborn and determined to keep a dead animal alive. I cannot tell you more than that. It is something that a group of very determined political leaders started back

in 1981. I think the people that started it had the vision of what they wanted to see in the Northwest Territories.

I must say that it is our view that we no longer know what the Dene Nation and the Metis Association together want for self-government here in the North. Because of the lack of a vision and a plan and clear goals and objectives there is no particular use in trying to keep it going even at an academic discussion level. But once the boundary is resolved, then other things will kick into place. One will know that there will be a renewed push for a plebiscite to decide whether or not there is enough support for division, to divide the Territories; we will know that the Inuit are even more determined; that there is even more of a real possibility that Nunavut will be created and that the Dene and Metis will find themselves in a position where they would need to start to articulate what type of a government they envisage in exercising their right to self-government and their right to self-determination in the western part of the Territories. In the absence of a boundary, we can no longer keep the discussion going because there is really nothing to talk about. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O268-90(1): Update On Constitutional Alliance Activities

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to the same Minister. Mr. Minister, since the Constitutional Alliance seems to be in a grave or is a dead horse, as you referred to it, is the Minister considering any other alternatives for aboriginal participation in the development of a constitution in the Western Arctic? Thank you.

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

Further Return To Question O268-90(1): Update On Constitutional Alliance Activities

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, as a government, we have tried to engage the Dene/Metis in a discussion about what to do with community self-government. Over a period of months, we have tried to at least agree on a process to discuss and possibly negotiate community self-government. As you know, the political structure of the Dene and Metis, particularly the Dene, is that we first have to deal with the Dene national office before we go to a community. It has been a slow process. We still have no agreement on the process. There are also suggestions from some of the chiefs that they want to discuss self-government directly with the federal government, that they do not want the territorial government involved in the process at all.

We are open to doing whatever we can to help communities and the aboriginal people of the North develop processes, some agreement by which they are going to negotiate forms of self-government. But it is agreed to by everyone that it is not the prerogative of the territorial government to tell the Dene what kind of government they should have. We, by and large, have to wait for the president of the Dene Nation and his vice-presidents, the president of the Metis Association and the vice-presidents, to come forward and say, "Here is what we think our people want," whether it is a measure of self-government that could be obtained through participation in a public system of government, or whether we are going to go for a reserve style of government, or some form where the Dene/Metis could possibly exercise exclusive self-government on exclusive Dene/Metis land. As far as I know it has never been articulated yet.

The best that was done and the latest that was done was

back in 1984 and 1985 when the Dene Nation and, I am not certain about the Metis Association, but the Dene Nation approved in principle, for discussion only, a document called the Denendeh document which suggested that the Dene/Metis should pursue a form of self-government that would be created partially through the institutions and the agreement in principle that sees management boards and the institutions that are going to be exercising responsibility and jurisdiction in a public government, such as management boards in the wildlife agreement, land-use planning, the environmental boards, those type of things, and that we guarantee ourselves participation in them. We would look at things like guaranteed representation in public government, like this Legislature, and perhaps on the Executive.

That was as far as we got away back then. Since then nothing else has come forward so the best we can do is wait and hope somebody will come up with a document shortly. Thank you.

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

Question O269-90(1): Funding To Franco-Tenoise Federation

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Further to a question that I asked on funding for newspapers, to the Minister of Culture and Communications. Mr. Speaker, he advised that the French language newspaper did not get any grants directly but was operated through the Franco-Tenoise Federation. Mr. Speaker, this is identical to the Native Press which also does not receive grants directly but gets them through the native communications program which has been eliminated in total.

Mr. Speaker, I would find it intolerable that aboriginal languages would be treated in a manner less generous than the French language in the Northwest Territories. Could the Minister, therefore, advise me if the sponsoring group, the Franco-Tenoise Federation, indeed has received any cuts in their grants from the federal government?

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, I do not have that information with me. I will take the question as notice and get back to the Member as soon as I can.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The question has been taken as notice. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Question O270-90(1): Status Of Outstanding Appeals To Union Of Northern Workers

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question I would like to direct to the Minister responsible for Personnel. The Minister had replied to a written question and I had a question on that. The question is that since the Union of Northern Workers has withdrawn from the appeals process and there is no mechanism to allow the appeals process to continue to conclusion, what is the status of the 34 outstanding appeals?

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

Return To Question O270-90(1): Status Of Outstanding Appeals To Union Of Northern Workers

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, they are

currently held in abeyance. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O270-90(1): Status Of Outstanding Appeals To Union Of Northern Workers

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Speaker, can the Minister indicate how long these appeals can be outstanding without being resolved?

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

Further Return To Question O270-90(1): Status Of Outstanding Appeals To Union Of Northern Workers

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, for any positions that are appointed to the public service, positions can be filled for up to a year in accordance with the Public Service Act. How long they can be outstanding would be basically either until the union decides to come and participate in the appeals process, or until cabinet decides to change the regulations which would not require the union to participate. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O270-90(1): Status Of Outstanding Appeals To Union Of Northern Workers

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Union of Northern Workers are not participating. They have withdrawn from the process. Is the Minister working toward encouraging the Union of Northern Workers to get back to the table so that these things can be concluded?

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

Further Return To Question O270-90(1): Status Of Outstanding Appeals To Union Of Northern Workers

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am always encouraging groups to work together. Yes, I have been working with the union to try to resolve this issue.

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

Question O271-90(1): Wages Of Firefighters In Communities

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am going to ask a question which I have never asked before. I will direct it to the Minister of Justice and it is regarding the firefighters in the communities. I would like to know how much the firefighters are paid in the communities. They have a hard job in fighting fires in the communities, so I would like to know how much their wages are. They have the very important job of saving lives. So I would like to know how much the firefighters make in the communities. Thank you.

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

Return To Question O271-90(1): Wages Of Firefighters In Communities

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that all the good firefighters that we have in our

communities who stand by to provide this important service to our citizens are volunteers. It is still the tradition, I guess, that they provide the service on a volunteer basis and none of them are paid to do this important work.

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

Question O272-90(1): Reply Requested To Question O141-90(1), Implementation Of Water And Sewer Subsidy Program

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister responsible for Municipal and Community Affairs. Mr. Speaker, the Minister has taken a question that I asked under notice. Since the House is going to be adjourning for two weeks and since the proposed changes to the water and sewer subsidy program is going to be implemented by April 1, could I ask the Minister if he would respond back to that question that he has taken as notice by tomorrow, before the House adjourns?

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

Return To Question O272-90(1): Reply Requested To Question O141-90(1), Implementation Of Water And Sewer Subsidy Program

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I will try to respond to the honourable Member tomorrow. The cost accounting guidelines that were tabled have been amended as a result of an examination of the rationale for developing them. There are changes being made in the guidelines as currently developed. I will try to provide the amended guidelines for the Member tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. With regard to the former question, just to remind Members that until there is a motion formally adjourning this House, the honourable Member is presumptuous in suggesting that we are adjourning. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre.

MR. LEWIS: I would like to move that we extend question period, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being sought to extend question period. Are there any nays? Are there any nays? Oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre.

Question O273-90(1): Establishment Of Public Service Commission

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In light of the fact that the federal government, all the provinces and the Yukon have public service commissions so that there can be an arm's length relationship between the political process and the public service process, in light of the fact that Members yesterday indicated so much concern about the implementation of the policies of this government, and in light of the problems we are having with the unions over the grievance process and appeals process, could the Minister tell me when she will follow the example of all other jurisdictions and establish a public service commission?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Slave River.

Return To Question O273-90(1): Establishment Of A Public Service Commission

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, that is what I often think makes the Territories so unique. We do not have

to duplicate what they do in the South or across the country. I do want to indicate to the Member, as I believe I did at our session in Norman Wells, that I made a statement about a year ago when I said that if we did look at a public service commission, through the process of government, it would take about 18 months to bring forth any type of legislative changes. I do not think my 18 months are up yet, Mr. Speaker, but I can tell the Member that we have had many discussions in cabinet with regard to whether or not we should consider a public service commission, and we have not yet made a decision. Thank you.

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

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had wanted to direct my question to the Minister of Culture and Communications, but he is not present at the moment. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member can pose a question and the process allows for the taking of notice. Do you want to wait until the honourable Member takes his seat? Oral questions. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

Question O274-90(1): Local Radio Station Frequencies

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Culture and Communications. I am sure he is aware of the letter from Mr. John Kaunak, who is requesting local radio service. He would like to get a higher frequency for his community for the local radio station, so I would like to get a response from the Minister of Culture and Communications. Can your department provide what they are requesting? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Return To Question O274-90(1): Local Radio Station Frequencies

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are different kinds of channels that are available for the communities. There are FM and AM channels, and we allocate funding for those communities to provide them with local radio stations. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O274-90(1): Local Radio Station Frequencies

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker, a supplementary. His concern was that the frequency for the local radio station is too weak. I think we should provide them with support and give them a stronger frequency radio. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Amittuq.

Further Return To Question O274-90(1): Local Radio Station Frequencies

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will look into the matter. Thank you.

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

Question O275-90(1): Assistance For Native Press

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. The Minister told the House last week that he would be getting together with officials from the Native Press to see if his department could be of any assistance to ensure the continued existence of that newspaper. Could the Minister inform the House of what has happened since then?

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

Return To Question O275-90(1): Assistance For Native Press

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Officials from my department, Mr. Phil Lee, director of small business, and I believe Mr. Peter Allen, the assistant deputy minister in charge of business development, have met with people from the Native Communications Society. We are looking to see if we can put together a financing package. That is the most up-to-date information I have.

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

Question O276-90(1): Funding Cutbacks To Communities For Water And Sewer Services

MR. NINGARK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. I understand the funding provided to the communities has been cut. Perhaps you could send one of your officials to my community to give them further information on what is going on. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Inuvik.

Return To Question O276-90(1): Funding Cutbacks To Communities For Water And Sewer Services

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the area in which the Member might believe cuts have occurred. There may not have been increases, but I do not believe there were cuts.

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

Supplementary To Question O276-90(1): Funding Cutbacks To Communities For Water And Sewer Services

MR. NINGARK: (Translation) A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I heard that there were cutbacks in the funding that is provided to the hamlets for water and sewage services. I heard there were cutbacks on the funding. I thought that after April 1st, you will be cutting their budget for the sewage and water services. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Inuvik.

Further Return To Question O276-90(1): Funding Cutbacks To Communities For Water and Sewer Services

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There has been a great deal of misunderstanding about the cost accounting guidelines for the water and sewer policy. The honourable Member for Kitikmeot West tabled a document in this House some 10 days ago which was a draft document of the department and certainly not in its final state. Also, what

occurred, too, and Mr. Arlooktoo pointed out, was that there was a seminar in Iqaluit with the mayors and foremen. I believe, rather than illuminating or communicating what was being done, we must have confused the issue, because there is a lot of misunderstanding and concern out there which I do not think needs to exist. There is no intention to cut that program. What is being done is to make it more effective. The cost accounting guidelines that have been in place have had few limits; therefore, the communities have been able to bill back all kinds of costs. What the cost accounting guidelines attempt to do is put in some economic standards so they can be applied across the board. In fact, while a lot of communities are complaining about what they believe is in the cost accounting guidelines, one of the communities, as the honourable Member well knows, that he represents, has written us a letter suggesting that the cost accounting guidelines are excellent and it is about time they were put in place.

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

Question O277-90(1): Communities' Request For Higher Frequency Radios

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to address my question to the Minister of Culture and Communications. This is a supplementary question to the one asked by Mr. Ernerk, regarding the local radio stations in the communities. My question is, if they request a higher frequency radio for the community, can you provide them with that? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Amittuq.

Return To Question O277-90(1): Communities' Request For Higher Frequency Radios

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, if the community would like to get a higher frequency radio, they can try to raise the funds themselves. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O277-90(1): Communities' Request For Higher Frequency Radios

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The frequency on the radio stations -- is it possible to get a higher frequency radio station for the communities? Is that correct? Thank you.

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

Further Return To Question O277-90(1): Communities' Request For Higher Frequency Radios

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The communities, get licences from the federal government, and if they are provided with the licence, they can get what they request. Thank you.

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

Question O278-90(1): Road From Fort Smith South To Alberta

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Transportation. Mr. Minister, are you involved at all in the negotiations with the Alberta government in trying to

establish a road south from Fort Smith?

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

Return To Question O278-90(1): Road From Fort Smith South To Alberta

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we are. We are not directly involved with the Alberta government but we are involved indirectly by funding the town of Fort Smith to conduct a feasibility study to look at the economics of it. Thank you.

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

Question O279-90(1): Effects On CKNM Of Federal Budget Cutbacks

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Minister responsible for Culture and Communications. Mr. Minister, could you tell us if you have been in contact with radio station CKNM, the radio station that does an excellent job in, among other things, broadcasting question period from this House, to ensure that the budget cuts from the federal government will not affect the service that they are providing to us?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Amittuq.

Return To Question O279-90(1): Effects On CKNM Of Federal Budget Cutbacks

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, I have not been in contact with CKNM personally, but I believe my officials have been in contact with them. Apparently the Native Communications Society works very closely with CKNM in order to produce their program. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O279-90(1): Effects On CKNM Of Federal Budget Cutbacks

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary. The Minister says that the Native Communications Society works very closely with CKNM. Is this different from the native communications program who have had their entire budget cut?

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

Further Return To Question O279-90(1): Effects On CKNM Of Federal Budget Cutbacks

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, yes, that is true.

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

Item 6, written questions. Written questions.

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

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

Item 9, petitions. Petitions.

Item 10, reports of standing and special committees. Reports of standing and special committees. Item 11, tabling of

documents. Tabling of documents. The honourable Member for Sahtu.

ITEM 11: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 39-90(1): Northwest Territories Education, Annual Report 1989, in English and Inuktitut. Thank you.

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

ITEM 12: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 7-90(1): One Minute Of Silence To Express Assembly's Support For Fur Industry

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On Monday, March 19, 1990, I will move the following motion: I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Tu Nede, that this House observe one minute of silence to protest the action of the animal rights activists and to express this Assembly's support for the fur industry and the aboriginal way of life in Canada. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Notices of motion. Notices of motion. Item 13, notices of motion for first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

ITEM 13: NOTICES OF MOTION FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Monday, March 5th, 1990, I will move that Bill 6-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1988-89, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member has already given notice for that bill for first reading. It is on the order paper for first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Obviously I should pay closer attention to the order paper.

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 8-90(1): Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, March 5, 1990, I shall move that Bill 8-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Notices of motion for first reading of bills. Item 14, motions. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

ITEM 14: MOTIONS

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, I wish to seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion now, with regard to the animal rights activists and the aboriginal people.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Unanimous consent is being sought to deal with the motion for which notice was given today by the honourable Member for Aivilik. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, the honourable Member for Aivilik.

Motion 7-90(1): One Minute Of Silence To Express Assembly's Support For Fur Industry

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS animal rights activists are planning to protest militantly at the national Liberal leadership forum this weekend in Vancouver, British Columbia;

THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Tu Nede, that this House observe one minute of silence to protest the action of the animal rights activists and to express this Assembly's support for the fur industry and the aboriginal way of life in Canada.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion.

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As aboriginal people, we have been blamed by the animal rights activists because of our harvesting of animals. The motion that I am making, Mr. Speaker, is that I would like to get some support. I completely disagree with the animal rights activists. I do not like them. The aboriginal people here in our communities live off the fur-bearing animals. I would like to get the full support, Mr. Speaker, so that we could have silence in support of this and also keep in mind the livelihood of the aboriginal people in Canada. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: To the motion. The honourable Member for Tu Nede.

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reason that I have seconded this motion is that I agree that we have to, at every chance possible, bring to the forefront the battle that our government wages against the animal rights movement in southern Canada. We have to try to make sure that we do get press coverage and that we do keep this as one of the top priorities of this government.

As you see, the motion does say that the animal rights activists are planning to protest militantly at this Liberal forum in Vancouver. I do not know if our Member of Parliament for the Western Arctic will be attending this forum but I have met her before in airports wearing a very beautiful fur coat. She does help to enhance and bring the fur industry to the Canadian public and I would hate to see her fur coat sprayed with red paint. I understand this is the action that these people take and, hopefully, by having a minute of silence to think about it, all Members can once again bring to their mind what we are doing here and that we have to continue to fight, continue to think and continue to work hard to protect our people's way of life and battle against these anti-fur activists in southern Canada. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. The honourable Member for Natilikmiot.

MR. NINGARK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Inuit and all of the aboriginal people of Canada were the first ones to live here in Canada and harvest the animals; not only the aboriginal people but the settlers. Our livelihood is slowly being taken away. What we enjoy is being taken away very fast. We have a better life here than in most places. When you are out on the land or when you are hunting, either by dog team or boat or by skidoos, it is a good life. The Inuit depend on country foods because we do not have agriculture where we can grow our own food and we use the furs as

clothing and we do try to make some money with these. Everything is used, the food and the fur. Our livelihood is being slowly taken away. I would be in support of one minute's silence. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. The honourable Member for Sahtu.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, I have some comments regarding the motion. One is that I believe that we should continue to fight the good fight in support of our right to harvest wildlife, our right to trap, and to counter in every way we can the strategy of the animal rights movement across this country and in Europe, in their fight to shut down the business of harvesting wildlife. I believe that in whatever way possible this Assembly should express its support for the aboriginal right to harvest wildlife. Having said that, I cannot agree that I would shut up for one minute for these people.

---Laughter

I do not believe there has been much thought given to this motion and this strategy; that in fact there is no strategy behind this motion. I would like to know if the organizations that we have set up as native people, like Indigenous Survival International, the other national organizations, representatives and spokespersons of hunters and trappers across this country have been consulted in regard to this suggestion. I have to remind my colleagues here in this House that, as with everything else, just because we are right does not mean we are going to win. The animal rights activists that we are fighting are people who spend all their time scheming up ways in which to beat this traditional way of life. That they have money; they are well organized; and they are determined to make sure that trapping and the aboriginal people's right to harvest wildlife is totally wiped out in the near future. When we decide to take action, it has to be in concert with other organizations, other institutions in this country. I sympathize with the Member's interest in trying to do something but I must say that I am not in favour of this motion because I do not think we are doing it together; I do not think it is part of a plan. There should be more thought given to what it is that we are trying to do. For those reasons, I will not be supporting the motion. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. The honourable Member for Kitikmeot West.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The animal rights activists, as the Hon. Stephen Kakfwi just said, are well financed; they are determined; they are fanatical, single-minded; they are very dangerous. When I travelled abroad as the Minister of Renewable Resources, accompanied by my deputy minister, threats on our lives were mailed in to Scotland Yard in England. We are dealing with people who are so anxious to save an animal they would quite willingly kill a human in order to achieve it. Mr. Speaker, I do, like the Member for Sahtu, appreciate and support the intent of the motion to make a protest but to observe one minute of silence, to me, has always meant that you are mourning the death of someone or something, and I am not going to accept or to indicate to anybody that either the fur industry or the aboriginal way of life in Canada is dead. It is not.

I will agree, and I would gladly stand up for a minute with my fist clenched against these people but I will not give them the satisfaction of keeping silent for the minute and giving any indication to them that we are accepting the death of something which is not dead and which is not going to die.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. The honourable

Member for Kivallivik.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Pedersen pre-empted me because I was going to say those exact things. This motion may be great for grabbing headlines and getting some press but the fact is that the ritual of one minute of silence is reserved to mourn the passing away of an individual or an institution that is very important to us. I think it is the wrong symbol to be undertaken to protest the animal rights people simply because we may be saying that we are mourning the loss of the fur industry. I am also not prepared to support the motion because I am not prepared to acknowledge or to give up for one minute the fight against the animal rights people; I am not willing to do anything that will suggest to them that we have given up the fight or that we are now mourning the loss of an industry. Our industry is not lost. We have to fight back. We have to strengthen the industry.

Like the Member for Kitikmeot West, when I and Mr. Allooooloo went to London last year to lobby against the motion in the British Parliament and were successful in doing so, we had to be given protection by Scotland Yard because of threats against our lives. I will not bow to these people for one minute; I will not give them the satisfaction of thinking they have won. What I would like to do is give them a two-by-four across the back of the head but I will not do that either because that would only be stooping to their level. But I cannot support this motion simply because I do not think it was thought out and I do not think it was quite realized what we would be doing by giving the people the satisfaction of acknowledging that the industry was dead or dying.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. The honourable Member for Baffin South.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I support the motion. As for the Inuit, our livelihood is being taken away, especially with the fur-bearing animals. At this time Fisheries and Oceans is slowly trying to do that in regard to the whales. It seems they are trying to take away the Inuit livelihood. Because of that I will support this motion, but I would like to inform the Members that, let me remind you, when it is New Year's Day, we are thankful, that is why we have silence for a minute. I would like to interpret this the other way, that I support this motion of having a silence for one minute and it would seem probably, in the eyes of other people that we are thankful, just as we are on New Year's.

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

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. People can put their own interpretations on what we mean by silence. Silence can mean many things to many people. I believe the mover and seconder of this motion have purposefully avoided using the traditional two minutes of silence which we use to mourn the passing away of something that we love. I believe that when you make this kind of move in a public forum, in silence, you can pray to the good Lord, you can raise your clenched fist, you can do what you want, in order to signify in a very simple fashion how you feel about people who only seem to see violence as a way of achieving ends. I am not a violent person. I do not believe in violent means. I believe we lose the battle if we take to the streets and try to take on people with two-by-fours. I think we can indicate in a very dignified fashion how we feel about activists by doing exactly the opposite in one golden or silver minute, to bow your head if you want and to thank the good Lord that we do have something that we are prepared to fight for, but in our own way, not violently. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. To the motion. The honourable Member for Aivilik, in speaking to the motion, concludes the discussion on the motion. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. The motion tells the House and the Members of the Legislative Assembly to observe one minute of silence to protest the actions of the animal rights activists in Vancouver this coming weekend. Mr. Speaker, there will be many more animal rights activists demonstrations in the future. One minute of silence would indicate to our aboriginal brothers and sisters in Canada that we care about them, that we want to help them. At the same time, we could also pray in our minds, in our own way, in our own language, quietly, that good guidance must be provided to those militant animal rights activists in Canada, as well as within the international community.

(Translation) Mr. Speaker, we can say a prayer in our minds to show that we are willing to help the other aboriginal people to be safe and to ask that the animal rights activists be given the right mind. That was the intent of my motion; that the Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories want to help the aboriginal people and that we care for them. The people we represent are expecting us to do what they want.

Motion 7-90(1), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: That concludes debate on the motion. All those in favour?

MR. ERNERK: I request a recorded vote.

MR. SPEAKER: A recorded vote was not called. I called for all those in favour. It is not on record. The vote has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

---Applause

Motion 5-90(1): Opposition to Exploration and Mining Of Uranium in the NWT. Mr. Ernerk.

Motion 5-90(1): Opposition To Exploration And Mining Of Uranium In The NWT

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS Urangesellschaft Canada has proposed the development of an open-pit uranium mine, mill and attendant infrastructure west of Baker Lake, to be called "Kiggavik";

AND WHEREAS the great majority of Inuit and other residents of the Keewatin Region strongly oppose uranium mining in the Arctic and have adopted informed, considered and determined positions against the Kiggavik proposal, both as individuals and through their representative organizations;

AND WHEREAS this opposition has been demonstrated by approximately 1700 signatures on petitions circulated in five Keewatin communities, including approximately 600 signatures on the petition circulated in Baker Lake;

AND WHEREAS the Kiggavik proposal is opposed by the Keewatin Inuit Association, the Keewatin Regional Council, the Keewatin Wildlife Federation, the Beverly-

Qaminirjuaq Caribou Management Board, the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut, the concerned citizens' committees which have been formed in Baker Lake and Rankin Inlet, the Northwest Territories Federation of Labour, Ecology North, and Nuclear Free North;

AND WHEREAS the fifth general assembly of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, held in Sisimiut, Greenland, in July 1989 passed a motion stating that the ICC will "support Inuit of the Keewatin Region in opposing the proposed Kiggavik uranium mine";

AND WHEREAS the Inuit Circumpolar Conference also adopted an amendment to its draft Arctic policy which states:

"Mining, milling, reprocessing, or enrichment of uranium and its decay products should be prohibited throughout the Arctic on environmental, health, ethical and political grounds, whether the uranium is being mined for its own sake or is extracted in the course of mining some other substance. Almost all uranium is used for nuclear weapons or nuclear reactors; the tiny amount used for medical, research and other purposes can be obtained from existing stockpiles or produced by other means. The greatest danger to human health and the environment from the entire nuclear cycle lies in the radio-active materials left in the tailings from uranium mining";

AND WHEREAS the Kiggavik proposal is strongly opposed by the Chipewyan and Cree of Northern Saskatchewan, who have lived in the vicinity of uranium mines for more than a decade and have witnessed the effects of uranium mining on their communities and their wildlife;

AND WHEREAS a Dene Nation leadership meeting, held in Fort Franklin in June 1984, passed a motion which stated that "the Dene oppose any uranium development in Denendeh or anywhere else in Canada";

AND WHEREAS on May 21, 1982, the eighth session of the Ninth Assembly passed Motion 14-82(2), moved by William Noah, then the MLA for Keewatin North, which stated that:

"WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories has expressed concern over the impact of uranium exploration in the Northwest Territories on the people in the NWT;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly invited expert witnesses on the subject of uranium exploration and its effects at the winter and spring session of 1981;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly did not fully debate the question of uranium exploration at the end of the testimony of expert witnesses, and did not adopt a position on the subject;

AND WHEREAS, in view of the continued interest in uranium exploration in the Northwest Territories, it is important for the Legislative Assembly to adopt a position on this matter and to convey that position to

the Executive Committee and the Government of Canada so that appropriate controls and conditions can be imposed if mining, exploration and production of uranium is to be allowed to proceed in the Northwest Territories;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Frobisher Bay, that this Assembly resolve into committee of the whole at the fall session of this House to finally determine its position on the mining and production of uranium in the Northwest Territories.;

AND WHEREAS our current Government Leader supported this motion by stating that:

"...we should have no excuse by the fall for not being fully prepared to take a position on this subject. The information is in. I think we have received very complete and exhaustive testimony on all the various viewpoints and interests that bear on this vital subject. I look forward to informed and useful debate, and I believe that the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada can very much profit from any advice we might give, because we are now in a position to make an informed and responsive decision on this issue."

AND WHEREAS Motion 14-82(2) was never acted upon by the Ninth Legislative Assembly, and as a result the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories is still without a position on the exploration for mining of uranium, even though the information presented to the Ninth Legislative Assembly has been verified and reinforced by subsequent research and experience;

AND WHEREAS on June 19, 1986, during the seventh session of the 10th Legislative Assembly, our current Government Leader stated that:

"...the critical ingredient, in nuclear weapons, is uranium and I would like to say here that I am opposed to the exploration and mining of uranium in the Northwest Territories....There is no satisfactory way of dealing with the tailings and the waste that result from the mining of uranium. There is no proven, long-term method of dealing with uranium tailings....The laws and regulations which supposedly prevent Canadian uranium from being used in nuclear weapons have been proven to be entirely ineffective and meaningless....The truth is that Canadian uranium goes into nuclear weapons.;"

AND WHEREAS economic activity which makes a contribution to the production of nuclear weapons and also generates dangerous waste which threatens the health of people and wildlife for thousands of years cannot be considered a form of sustainable development which is acceptable to Inuit and Dene values;

AND WHEREAS the government has stated in "Economy in Transition: An Agenda for Action", Tabled Document 15-90(1), that its economic strategy should be built upon the principle that "Development must be fostered in ways which are acceptable to community values";

AND WHEREAS the Department of Economic Development and Tourism's document, "Renewable Resources: Building on Strengths: A Community-Based Approach", Tabled Document 16-90(1), states that "the

principle of sustainable development is based on an underlying assumption that residents will have a say in how development proceeds in their communities....The interests of primary producers will be protected";

AND WHEREAS the Keewatin Inuit Association's resolution 3-90 urged the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories to support Keewatin Inuit by adopting a position of unequivocal opposition to the proposed Kiggavik uranium mine;

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. Prior to ruling on this motion I would like to advise the Members that in presenting a motion to the House, the Member should be satisfied that statements contained in the motion are as accurate as possible. In reviewing Motion 5-90(1), in the 12th clause, a quote is attributed to the current Government Leader made on June 19, 1986 from the Hansard. I have reviewed page 1257 of the Hansard, from the seventh session of the 11th Assembly, and find that only portions of the honourable Member for Iqaluit's speech is contained in the clause. I wish to remind Members that if they are to present a motion to this House, the complete verbatim should be quoted and not edited.

In making those comments I also noted that the quotation was taken from the Hansard correctly, with the absence of the total verbatim, and, therefore, I must rule the motion in order. To the motion. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a strong feeling when we start the meeting with a prayer. It is a very strong feeling for me to start the meeting with a prayer. We are supposed to represent the people of the NWT. Our people, the people in the Keewatin Region and in the NWT, have been requesting a statement from the Government of the NWT on what their position is on this matter. When will the Government of the NWT make policies and regulations about uranium mining and exploration? That has been the question in the NWT for a long time and they have been asking for support on this. Since we are representing the people in the communities, the people in our regions, when they request our support I feel that it is important to express my support when I feel that it is important. (Translation ends)

Uranium Mine Opposed Because Of Environment

This uranium mine outside of Baker Lake is certainly not an ordinary mine. It is a uranium mine. The Inuit have never really been opposed to any development within their communities, within their regions, as long as the history of mining has been in existence in the Northwest Territories. We ask for one or two things when a mine development is going to take place: as long as you employ the local people, as long as the goods and services are obtained by the company at the community level, and as long as the environment is not destroyed, so that the people at the community level who use the land will use it for ever and ever. Those are the three important items that we often ask for.

With regard to the issue of uranium mining near Baker Lake

or, for that matter, anywhere else in the Northwest Territories, many, many voices have been heard, through various means of communications, opposing this mine. They are opposing this mine because people who live within my own homeland want to have a clean environment for ever and ever.

I do not think, Mr. Speaker, any of us here in this room would be prepared to say, "This is what uranium is all about." I do not think any members of the government could indicate to anyone in the Northwest Territories, at this point in time, that this is what uranium is going to be used for and this is what uranium is. That is why, Mr. Speaker, so many voices, so many people, so many organizations, responsible organizations, regional councils, hunters and trappers organizations, Inuit organizations, Dene organizations, Inuit Circumpolar Conference, which is a representative of all Inuit within the circumpolar region including the Soviet Union, including the United States, including Canada, including Greenland, said "No" to uranium in Baker Lake last July, 1989.

Responsibility To Constituents And Future Generations

I feel a deep sense of responsibility to the people that I represent within Nunavut, within the Inuit homeland. The reason why I say that, Mr. Speaker, is because so many people have, up to this point, signed their signatures on a piece of paper to show us that they are very much concerned about the uranium development and construction at Kiggavik and, for that matter, anywhere else in the Northwest Territories.

If you ask me, or if anyone asks me, of one or two choices, a clean environment or uranium, I would say to them that I would chose a clean environment for the future of our people. Our Indian brothers in Canada often indicate to the Canadian society that we are borrowing this land from our children. I think that is a very very important point that actually, when you come to think of it, we are borrowing this land from our children. We want to keep it clean. We want to plan it well. We want to do it very well for the future, and that means for our young children.

(Translation) Mr. Speaker, I do not want to have my descendants living in a polluted environment. Our ancestors gave us a clean environment, and I believe that we have to carry on the tradition. Our ancestors gave us a clean environment for us to enjoy, but we all know that we have a polluted land now, especially with the abandoned mining areas throughout the NWT. Just look at the Rankin Inlet tailings pond, for example. There was a nickel mine in Rankin Inlet some years ago and then it was abandoned. Twenty six years later we found out that the tailings pond is contaminated. It was not a uranium mine. It was a nickel mine.

Mr. Speaker, I listened to the plans of the Department of Economic Development and I support their endeavours, but we have to help our people in the communities. I am asking, how many jobs will be provided to the aboriginal people, and how long will the jobs last? Perhaps five to 10 years down the road? That is a very short period of time. Jobs were provided when the nickel mine was open, but after the mine was abandoned the community suffered.

Mr. Speaker, I will make my closing remarks now. In Canada, the mining and oil companies, from then and now, it seems as if they are trying to outmanoeuvre us. It seems that they are trying to push us to support the proposed uranium mine. (Translation ends)

...uranium mining prior to a full assessment would raise concerns in the mining industry that future development of other types of mines could be stopped without due process.

(Translation) It states in this motion that there is a mining association in place and even though I am quite hesitant to express my concerns, I feel I have to represent my people properly. Mr. Speaker, finally, after so many years, the aboriginal people are asking the government, "Please listen to us; will you listen to our concern because this is a major concern to the aboriginal people and to Northerners?" I am trying to express my concerns, and I would like the Members to support my motion. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The seconder of the motion, the honourable Member for Tu Nede.

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will speak to the motion later.

MR. SPEAKER: To the honourable Member for Tu Nede, if you waive your right to speak now, then you do not have the right to speak at a later time. Are you waiving your right to speak?

Contamination Of Food Source From Uranium

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thought you could speak at any time. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak to the motion opposing uranium mining. I, for one, and the people I represent, are quite concerned about the proposed uranium mine in Baker Lake. The residents of Snowdrift, the community I represent, depend mostly on caribou meat and depend mostly on the caribou for their diet. The herd that our community hunts is the herd that has its calving ground out by the Baker Lake area. We are quite concerned that if the uranium mine were to go ahead it would contaminate our food source. Without the caribou meat, life would be just about impossible in the community of Snowdrift.

We are also concerned that back many, many years ago our people did enter into peace treaties and to treaties with the government. We have always said that we would live in peace with the non-aboriginal people. We have always opened our homes, shared and taught people how to survive in the NWT. We have always helped explorers, people coming onto our land and in return we have always asked that they respect our way of life which is a peaceful way of life.

There is no way that anyone can guarantee us that uranium will not be used in a military way, that the uranium being mined in the Northwest Territories will not be used in the bombs that the Americans manufacture. People up the valley, in the Fort Franklin area, are quite concerned that uranium was used from those mines in the bombs during the second world war that killed many, many people. If I did not stand up and speak against it, and if uranium from the Northwest Territories was being used to kill people, I would not agree with that at all, I would not be able to sleep at nights thinking about that.

Uranium Mine Cannot Be Safely Operated

Also, Mr. Speaker, there is no way that the people from the Kiggavik mining company convinced me at all in Baker Lake that their mine could be operational and safely run. My understanding is that our government is going to spend millions of dollars in Baker Lake for water and sewer, for the simple reason that service vehicles could not get to the houses. You cannot even find the houses in Baker Lake in the winter because of the way the wind blows and covers everything up. This uranium mine that is being proposed is an open pit mine. When we asked them what they would do with the contaminated snow that is going to fill up the hole, their answer was, "Well, we will just throw it away. We will put

it into a holding place." I do not know how they are going to do that with millions and millions and millions of tons of contaminated snow.

When they made a presentation to the caucus in Baker Lake I did not find that they could answer the questions that were asked. I did not hear that they could mine in a safe way. I was not convinced. The miners of uranium, it seems, always have health problems because of working in that environment and as far as the spinoffs of jobs in the mining industry, I have not seen a very good track record in the past from mining companies. I understand now that the mine north of Yellowknife, the new gold mine, Neptune, is employing 34 northern people out of 250 people. That is not too impressive to me, as a mining development.

I lived next to Pine Point mine for many years, the largest open pit mine in North America. We got all the social problems from the mine. We got very few jobs from it and we got left with the holes in the ground. We got left with a whole area that looks like World War II. The mining companies did not clean it up and this government did not force them to do so. The government got left with the bill by moving people out of there.

So I am not that impressed with mining as a development. I am not impressed, at all, with uranium mining. There are too many hazards. They have not learned how to mine uranium safely yet. You can listen to the Cree and the Chipewyan people from Northern Saskatchewan and they will tell you that. They, too, were promised all kinds of jobs. They were promised all kinds of things from the uranium mining in that area. They ended up with the short end of the stick. They did not get a hell of a lot out of it. I retract that, they did not get a lot out of it. They also came and told our people that.

Uranium mining, as far as I am concerned, cannot be done in a safe manner. There is no way we can control the sale of it and it is going to be used for bombs to kill people. With that, Mr. Speaker, that is the reason that I second the motion; once in a while you have to stand up and speak on behalf of the people that you represent and I know that the people that I represent are not in favour of uranium mining. They are not in favour of uranium mining in Baker Lake nor anywhere in the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

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

Motion To Move Motion 5-90(1) To Committee Of The Whole, Carried

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, that Motion 5-90(1), Opposition to Exploration and Mining of Uranium in the NWT, be referred to committee of the whole.

MR. SPEAKER: Point of order. The honourable Member for Deh Cho.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, we do have a motion from the honourable Member, Mr. Ernerk. Is it allowed to have another motion on top of that?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member, the motion to refer the motion to committee of the whole is always in order and is not debatable. So the motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Motion 5-90(1): Opposition to Exploration and Mining of Uranium in the NWT, will be referred to committee of the whole.

Motion 6-90(1): Overpopulation of harp seals. The honourable Member for High Arctic.

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

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS there appears to be a dramatic increase in the harp seal population in the Eastern Arctic;

AND WHEREAS the dramatic increase appears to have resulted since the end of the Atlantic harp seal harvest;

AND WHEREAS any overpopulation of mammals will have an effect on the existing balance of animal life of an area;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, that the 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 overpopulation could or has had on food resources for the indigenous mammal population of this area.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order. To the motion. The honourable Member for High Arctic.

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I moved this motion because I am concerned about the future. We are not sure how the mammals will be affected because they move from one area to another. We know our land. This might not happen in the future, but if it should happen, if the harp seal overpopulated, will there be enough food for the mammals? I would like a study to be conducted to find out about the population. Perhaps after 10 years they could conduct further research as to how the food sources are.

The cod fish is the food of all different kinds of sea mammals and there is a lot of cod fish in our area and they move very slowly to different places. Last summer it was obvious that the cod fish around my home town were very close. The whales and harp seals were trying to catch the cod fish, and once they reached the land a lot of the cod fish died because they could not get back into the water. If that will be the case, it will have a great effect on the cod fish. We might not feel the effect today, but what about in 10 years? A study should be conducted after 10 years because we do not know what will happen to them. If there is a shortage of the mammals' food, that might be the case. Before that happens I think research is appropriate at this time so we can be advised in the future as to what will happen to the cod fish that they eat.

In the Eastern Arctic, especially in the Baffin Region, it is not going on in the whole Baffin Region. In some communities there are not many harp seals; other communities have harp seals every summer. The harp seals I am talking about do not spend the winter up in the Arctic, they usually leave in the fall. The route they take is the Lancaster Sound and Davis Strait. The ring seals that we have in our area are there during the winter, but sometimes there is a decrease in the population and the ring seals eat the cod fish all year round.

The mammals that are there all year round, if there was a shortage of the food that they eat, then that would have a great effect on us, and the future generations would suffer greatly also. We do not know if that will happen or not, but I feel it would be safer if research could be done on the animals that the mammals eat. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The seconder of the motion, the honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Adverse Effects Of Harvesting Disruption

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I supported the motion by seconding the motion of my honourable friend, the Member for High Arctic. When we were discussing the item, it was my concern for quite some time that the disruption in the harvesting of a species of animal in one part of the world, one part of our country, can have an adverse effect on another part. The example I will use is the seal hunts of years and years ago, when the Scandinavian countries of Norway and Sweden, the USSR, the USA and Canada, circumpolar countries, harvested seals by the millions. The harvesting process was conducted year after year for many years. Generations of people were out on the ice after seals. Then there was a disruption in that process when the world attention to the seal hunt prevented the taking of thousands and thousands, if not millions, of seal pups and adult seals. Consequently, the mortality rates dropped and the percentage of seals off the Atlantic coast began to increase. Even if you take a natural mortality rate of 50 per cent, if you get two or three million seals surviving to adulthood, the pressure is on the food stock in the area and the competition for food is bound to have some effect.

Everything that I have read on the subject indicates that there is pressure being felt now in the cod fisheries off the Atlantic, not only in the area of a depletion of cod stocks, but also in the amounts of parasites that are found in some of the bottom-feeding fish as a result of the parasites contained in the seal excreta and being eaten by bottom-fishing fish.

Those are just some of the indications of a fact that something was wrong, something was disrupting the system, and when I look at this I cannot help but notice that when a species of animal becomes too heavily populated in one area, one of two things will happen: Either they will die off naturally because they will starve to death because of a lack of food in that area, or they will seek other areas to migrate to for new feeding grounds. What happens is that if there is already a species of animal that is in harmony with the food chain in that particular area and this other species moves in, it is more aggressive, larger, and it will, in some cases, take over that particular habitat. If it does manage to survive in harmony with the existing species, it will put additional pressures on the food stock.

My concern has been that this migration is taking place, and it is taking place in the North Atlantic, and that includes the waters around Greenland, Baffin Island, and into the Arctic. My friend from the High Arctic has expressed a concern, and in discussion we wondered if there were existing studies to look at this phenomenon of an increase in the number of seals not really indigenous to the area in that amount. It is better to have a study in 1990 or 1991 that will give us an idea that there are additional pressures by an invading species, and perhaps take some counteraction and perhaps inform people that live in the area and live on the indigenous foods from the sea, both mammals and fish, that there is something happening and counteraction can take place before there is a decimation of an existing natural food in that area.

Mr. Speaker, it is no different from monitoring large caribou herds in our area and noticing a particular disease or a

particular predator that is gaining ground. It is not to eradicate the predator, it is just to understand the problem better. This is why I support this motion. I want to know a little bit more about what is happening off our shores with regard to an invasion of larger, more aggressive seals which, although they are there, are not really indigenous to that area in that quantity. I think that is what a study will indicate to us, and I would encourage support of this motion so that the respective federal departments can know of our concern, can know the concern of the people that live in that area, in anticipation that something may happen down the way a few years from now, and be able to either avert a large influx of a sea mammal that is not indigenous to that area, or else be able to prepare themselves for utilizing this particular resource that may be coming into their area.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. The honourable Member for Amittuq.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be happy to support this motion. I have personal knowledge of the increase of the harp seals in our region, especially Lancaster Sound, Davis Strait and the surrounding communities, mainly the North Baffin. They have always been there in the summertime, as the mover of the motion mentioned, but in smaller numbers. They used to pass through our communities on their migration route in small numbers. Over the last few years, since the harvest of harp seals in Newfoundland has declined, we are seeing more and more of that species of seal going up to our region and staying around our communities. There is a concern that they might deplete the food stock that is available to native seals in that area. If the native seals are depleted due to lack of food, that is going to have a great impact on our people and their ability to sustain themselves in that area.

Also, this natural resource was used by Newfoundlanders to derive economic benefits until the harp seal hunts were virtually stopped. I understand there is still a quota for adult harp seals in Newfoundland, but it is not the same as it used to be. I believe this natural resource could be utilized by both people, Newfoundlanders as well as the people from the NWT. I support that there should be some research done to determine what could possibly happen and what should be done. This could be a benefit as well to our people in terms of economics. I support this motion and would urge the Legislative Assembly to support it so that we could know what to expect because of the overpopulation of harp seals. Qujannamiik.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. The honourable Member for Baffin South.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say a few words on the motion that is before us. I understand the intent of the motion, but I cannot support the motion that is on the floor for the simple reason that in the Baffin Region, at the recent meeting of BRC at the end of January, they did not even bring up this subject of harp seals; even the Baffin Region Hunters and Trappers Association met but they did not bring it up. I just want you to be aware that I will not be supporting this motion. I would have to get more information from the communities before we deal with this.

As for the people who live in Baffin South, if they are from Newfoundland then we would find more in our area; but we have not really noticed any difference. When there was a meeting in Ottawa on fisheries, maybe that information might have derived from there. I forget the name of the person who was dealing with fisheries.

For this reason I will not be supporting this motion without consulting further with my communities. The Baffin Region

Hunters and Trappers Association will be having a meeting after March 15 and then we will be able to get more information from them and have a clearer picture to see if it is like that. The harp seals and ring seals, and sometimes whales -- every year they seem to increase the number of killer whales. We never know what the cause might be. The ring seal does not live on cod fish, they are called something else. They are not real cod fish and that is why I do not fully believe in this motion and I will not be supporting it at this time. Maybe once I get more information, after the BRHTA meets in the Baffin Region, then I will support it. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Kivallivik.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Mr. Speaker, I will be supporting the motion. When I look at the economic devastation that is now being wreaked upon the communities in Newfoundland, and the loss of their fishery, I worry because just at a time when our government announces an economic strategy and when we want to move into the offshore marine fishery in a major way, particularly in the Baffin Region, I worry that we may start something and have the same thing happen to us in a very short time.

I think that what we have to do now, and do very quickly, is to do research to see if there is an overpopulation and what it is going to do because that will obviously dictate to us how we develop our fishery, particularly off the east coast of Baffin Island.

If we do not do this research, we could pour money into our fishery and then have the same thing happen to us that is now happening to the communities in Newfoundland. So I think that it is very appropriate that we attempt to get the federal government to move very quickly to do the research necessary which, in my belief, will help the development of the fishery in the Baffin in the long run.

It is unfortunate that this is happening and I guess it goes back to the issue we were talking about before, about how these anti-seal hunting protesters destroy the livelihood and a way of life that had been in place for many years and it now seems that it is wreaking havoc among the communities. I suppose if you wanted to retain the natural balance of wildlife then you would not hunt seals but you would also not catch fish. The fact of life is that the fishery off the east coast of Canada is utilized by many countries to feed millions of people and because we utilize that resource there had to be a culling of the seal herds. Now that that culling is not taking place we are seeing what is happening. Ultimately in the front line will be the communities of Newfoundland who have lost their livelihood and their way of life and further down the road will be the, perhaps, thousands and millions of people who will no longer have access to fish for their diet. I am worried that the same thing may happen to us and I am worried that before we put hundreds and thousand and millions into our fisheries we have to know what we are dealing with. For that reason, Mr. Speaker, I will be supporting the motion. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. The honourable Member for Baffin Central.

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not going to speak too long. I grew up in my area where I have always lived among animals and made a livelihood from them. The harp seal and ring seal population is always fluctuating, depending on many factors. When I was young there were always many harp seals. At times there were harp seals for six or seven months out of a year.

I am not worried about the motion myself and I support the fact that they want to do research on the population of the

harp seals. In our area there are lots of things that the harp seals eat. They eat starfish, they eat cod fish and they eat minnows. The harp seals have a lot of things to eat in our area. For that reason I am not afraid that the harp seal population is decreasing. I know it is not decreasing because we can see it up there. The population is always fluctuating. One year it will be high and then in another year it will be small. That has always been the situation. As Mr. Pudluk mentioned, there are a lot of things for the seals to eat. Around October when the ice starts to come back to the community a lot of seals are killed by the movement of the ice. Even though that is the case, the population is still very healthy.

The situation is different in each community. There are some communities which have more seals and others who do not, but I just wanted to let you know that I support the intent of the motion. I would support the research of the population of the harp seals so I am not going to support it and I am not going to go against it. I will abstain from the motion. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for High Arctic.

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just to close the discussion. This motion that I am making will not have any negative effects on any community and it will not have any negative effects on any organization. There will be no negative side effects from this research that I am requesting. We all know that there are two or three communities which are not allowed to hunt whales any more. For that reason I wanted to have this research done so that those communities might have a chance to be able to hunt whales again, if this research were to go ahead. Maybe if we were to have research done we would be able to support those three communities and allow them to hunt the whales again. This request is for the federal government to try and find out what the situation will be in the future with the harp seals. Thank you.

Motion 6-90(1), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

--Carried

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; Consideration of the Issue of Family Violence and Abuse, with Mr. Pudluk in the chair.

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The committee will come to order. We will take a 15 minute coffee break.

--SHORT RECESS

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

Department Of Education

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): This committee will come to order.

We are dealing with Education. The Minister has already made his opening remarks. Does the chairman of the finance committee have any comments before we invite the witnesses in?

Comments From The Standing Committee On Finance

MR. POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, in accordance with a motion passed by the Legislative Assembly during the fall 1988 session, and recommendation seven of the standing committee on finance's report on the proposed 1989-90 estimates, we have recommendation six: "The committee recommends that, in the capital plan, actual construction of the Rae primary school be advanced to 1990-91." We note with pleasure that that has already been taken into consideration and that it is in the capital book, and we thank the Minister for that, Mr. Chairman.

With regard to financial accountability in the Department of Education the committee is concerned, Mr. Chairman, with two aspects of financial accountability. The first concern deals with the dollar value associated with the department's activities. The large size of some of the department's activities significantly reduces the ability of the Legislative Assembly to ensure that the spending of public funds reflects direction provided by the Assembly.

Mr. Chairman, the second element involves the presentation of budget information relating to education boards. Funding for all boards is presented as a single figure. The committee requires this information to be presented with each board listed as a separate task, similar to the presentation of individual housing association figures in the NWT Housing Corporation. Therefore, recommendation seven: "The committee recommends that in the 1991-92 SCOF documents, each board of education be represented under a separate task."

With regard to post-secondary students, Mr. Chairman, in the 1989-90 SCOF review, Members expressed a concern regarding a need for counselling and support for students attending post-secondary institutions in the South. Although there have been attempts to address the problem, such as the funding of the NWT Students' Association at the University of Saskatchewan, the committee believes those attempts are insufficient.

Staff development. Despite explanations of why staff training is handled by the Department of Education, Members continue to believe that the GNWT would be better served if staff training were co-ordinated by the Department of Personnel or a public service commission.

School counsellor training. The committee will be looking for a reduction in operations and maintenance costs in 1991-92 to reflect the completion of a school counsellor training program.

Payroll services. The boards of education currently obtain payroll services from the Department of Personnel. Mr. Chairman, the committee supports the use of government service departments by boards, as a method of achieving economies of scale. However, if these boards were to contract payroll services with local banks, this might stimulate local economies. Recommendation eight: "The committee recommends that the Government of the NWT investigate the possibility of contracting payroll services as a stimulus to local economies."

Teacher affirmative action education leave program. The committee is not satisfied that the program meets an educational need which is not already addressed by other programs within the government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Minister, do you wish to bring any witnesses to the committee?

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Is this committee agreed that the Minister bring in his witnesses?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have with me today the deputy minister of Education, Joe Handley; and the director of finance, Paul Devitt.

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

Establishment Of Divisional Board Of Education In Deh Cho Area

MR. SIBBESTON: I would just like to ask the Minister of Education what his plans were with respect to the setting up a divisional board in the Fort Simpson area. I note that funds for setting up such a board are not in the budget and I think that the Minister will know that the communities in the Deh Cho area have been working progressively, in a sense of talking about the idea of a divisional board, for a number of years. For a couple of years, when the offer was made to them that they should go ahead, the people felt that they were not ready. But in the last year through further discussions and more understanding, the people are now ready.

Also what has happened is that I think the people are seeing that divisional boards are working in other parts of the North so I think they are persuaded now that the divisional board gives powers to the local people and the possibility of enhancement of the present education program and system. They believe that it is proper and the right thing to do the prudent thing, to set up a divisional school board in the Deh Cho area.

So I would like to ask the Minister what he can do in terms of perhaps finding moneys that are not in the budget or what supplementary funds or whatever he can find this year, so that the people in my constituency can proceed with a divisional board. It is not a matter, I think, that can wait for a year or two. I think it is a matter that is sufficiently pressing that it ought to be dealt with this coming fiscal year.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, there has been considerable discussion in the Deh Cho region over the last couple of years about the possibility of going to divisional board status, or requesting it. Always the preoccupation on my part has been to respect the right of the chiefs and the Metis leaders to have some say in this development because it does have some implications for the rights of these people, particularly chiefs, on the education of treaty people.

It has been my view that the Deh Cho region would not arrive at a quick decision in regard to this issue. We had decided that we would not budget for what I thought was a remote possibility, that they would request divisional board status before the end of this fiscal year. As the Members may be aware, and perhaps they are not, but I should tell you that all the Deh Cho communities have passed motions by the chief and councils, by the Metis locals and the respective local

education authorities, requesting that divisional board status be established in the Deh Cho region. So that having happened, I have asked the department to look at the areas where we thought originally we would take money out earlier in the year if we had gone this route. We have decided to take it out of advanced education and about \$50,000 of it would be out of the systems development under the directorate. An amount of \$50,000 would come from training-on-the-job; \$50,000, we suggest, should come from the apprenticeship subsidy; \$50,000 from the staff development fund; \$50,000 from the in-service training; and that constitutes roughly about \$250,000, which is what we believe is necessary for establishing a divisional board. We would set it up as quickly as possible in April if everything goes according to plan. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Member for Nahendeh.

Support For Establishment Of Higher Education Institution

MR. SIBBESTON: I appreciate the Minister's thinking of that for the Deh Cho. I appreciate his provision of funds; obviously he has thought about it and has indicated where he can find the necessary start-up funds for the divisional board and I thank him for that.

On another matter, I would just like to ask about this private school, this Grandin College type of school system that I had raised a number of times in the past. I know that the Minister has attended to the matter and I know, too, since the Minister has dealt with the matter and publicized it, there has been some reaction; I think on one point it is negative but the other is positive. I think that the Minister ought to be commended for his efforts so far. I really want to encourage him to continue the process with the hope that in a year or two we could perhaps have a school, a private school type of set-up where, particularly native students in the North, can be given a good education, a well-rounded education with a view to developing leaders that are desperately needed in the North. People like me are not going to be around forever and so there is a need to have good replacements for us. I know it is going to be difficult but invariably there will have to be some good leadership for the future. I would just like to ask the Minister again what he can report since last having raised the subject at the last session.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, it is at a stage now where I think the department and myself are close to finalizing our proposal which I hope to bring to cabinet in the next couple of weeks, definitely before the end of March, as a proposal or pilot project. Once that is done, depending on cabinet's direction, I hopefully will have something to share with you. But at this time it is still in the general discussion stage. I appreciate the Member's support for the institution that I have been advocating for some time now. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. The Member for Nahendeh.

MR. SIBBESTON: One final point. I do not know if it is premature -- the decision has not been made yet that the government will proceed. But in the event that the government does, I wonder if the Minister would consider placing the institution in Fort Simpson or that area? I know it should not be in Yellowknife. I do not want to offend or start a debate with the MLAs on the location, even before it is started, but I think it is important that the school be in a quiet atmosphere, an atmosphere where learning can take place, where they have access to bush and good sports grounds and facilities. So in my view, Yellowknife itself, being the

capital, being filled up with offices, and there being generally a shortage of land here in Yellowknife, it just seems to me that it ought to be in a different place than Yellowknife. Yellowknife has too many distractions; too many things going on as it were. You need a nice quite, serene setting where people can think and learn in a good environment. I do not think Yellowknife would be the proper place. I think offhand, a place like Smith would be a very good place because it has been done there before. They have lots of grounds but they already have Arctic College and they also have a lot of government. In terms of the government's thoughts to provide and help economies that are not that good, decentralization and so forth, I think the best place in this whole area that has the serenity, space, and so forth, is Fort Simpson, and I want the Minister to be very...

—Laughter

You laugh, but I am serious. I really believe what I say. I just want to put in my first mark, my first call on the school, that it be down the Valley somewhere and Fort Simpson, offhand, would be a good place, I think, to have it. So think about it, Mr. Minister, and I just wish you luck in this matter.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Just to offer some comments. I like the suggestions that the Member makes. It follows the thinking of some people that when we look at these special residences, we should think in terms of small numbers if they are going to be successful. Initially the idea is to try one or two small residences and see how we can run it over the course of a year or two. Once we do it, if as Members and a government, we think it is the thing to go with, then we may be able to commit more resources to such projects. At this time, we would look for a community where accommodation would already be available and where there is a group that would be able to run with such an institution, where there is a high school readily available and that perhaps in the future we would think that if they do work well, that perhaps the Inuit communities may want to look at residences like this as well; that perhaps the Inuvialuit may look at residences like this, as well as the individual Dene regions so that there is not just one huge residence where we send all of our young people who are interested in attending such institutions.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. General comments. The Member for Aivilik.

Advantages Of Residential School System

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I was also going to ask a number of questions with regard to this idea of some sort of residential school system. I am one of the products of residential schools; in Chesterfield Inlet, Yellowknife, as well as Churchill Vocational Centre.

When the Minister first announced his idea I was one of those who reacted with great interest and with a certain amount of positive determination, because the idea really does turn me on. The principles that we learned, years ago in Chesterfield Inlet, for instance, were things like commitment, as well as endurance, as well as discipline. I think those three things are missing in today's education society. We have loosened up quite a bit in our approach to the education system, even in the classroom. Years ago I used to call my teachers by Mister or Miss or Mrs. while today you call them by their first names. So I think that society has loosened up quite a bit in terms of respect for the education system and it should not be.

The idea of private schools -- I have been moving in my own head to think that we should be moving toward some kind of private school system. We have noticed in the past, from

experience, how for example, the Roman Catholic Church operated this Chesterfield Inlet hostel as well as the school itself. I think when we look back to the results of that particular education system that we had, we had a very high quality standard of education, very good values. I want to indicate to the Minister, as I did over the phone, that although his idea requires a certain amount of research, study and debate, and I think people should talk more about it, that it is moving, I believe, in the right direction. That is the way I have been feeling for some time as well. So I like your idea on that proposal that is before you with regard to this new delivery of the education system that you want to proceed with.

Another comment with regard to education is the issue of special needs children. We have in the communities and, I am sure, throughout the Northwest Territories, special students with special needs which cannot be delivered at the community level. I really feel that as we try to move toward improving our own education system we should take a look at this very important need at the community level and that is the issue of special needs. Some kids need special attention more so than others. In the four communities that I represent in the Aivilik riding those very important aspects of education are not available. So I think the Department of Education should take a look at that issue and come up with an acceptable solution to it. I am just going to stop here for now, Mr. Chairperson, and continue later. Thank you, sir.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. General comments. The Member for Yellowknife South.

Residential Schools May Develop Leadership Qualities

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just by way of general comments I want to comment on the concept of a residential school that has been touched on already by two of the Members but I will just throw my two cents' worth into it. I was encouraged by the Minister's initiatives in that area and it is something that I particularly hold dear to my heart. I was in residential schools in my younger years when I was at Fort Resolution. I did not have much choice in going there, but later on I did go to Akaitcho Hall here and I very much benefited from that type of a school system but sadly the concept has fallen on hard times, I think, because of social attitudes toward boarding schools and schools of that nature. It may differ a bit from what it was when it started off.

When I found myself in a position where I had children to educate, I discovered that the school system was not always the best for everybody, and I took it upon myself to find a place where I would get, and the children would get, a good education and where it would be instilled into them that the quest for leadership, the quest for personal best, personal achievement, both physical and academic and somewhat spiritual, was important. I sent my boys to the St. John's school and I understand the Minister did visit there to have a look for himself. It may be, in some cases, that that school is a bit too rugged for a lot of people but it works well for some kids.

I am not sure that is what we are going to look at here in the Territories but I do hope that the department will seriously look and evaluate the worth of private schools or residential schools with a high academic and a high leadership qualification. Something that will not be there for everybody, that it will not be simply that if you pass your grades, you will get into it, but it should be something that people strive to go for. They want to go to the Sir John Franklin or the Akaitcho Hall types of things. They want to go to this boarding school and this residential school. I do not have any hesitation at all in saying that it has a certain elite characteristic about it. They have something that is different, that they can strive for,

that they can work for and they can say, "I went to this school and I have a lot of pride in it because it not only shows that I have good academic standing but I also have a certain amount of leadership qualities that the North is going to need and it can develop in me." I find that the school system at present does a good job but it has a lot of people to deal with; for every teacher there are 19 students. In a residential school they have a different mandate, a smaller number of students per teacher, so they can give them more attention. There will be a certain amount of criticism about that kind of thing. People will say it is only for the rich or the brilliant students but I think we need that. There should be no shame in saying that I am the best at what I am doing and I am going to this place because I did work hard and I do have the capabilities of enhancement in a leadership or an academic area.

We have always tried to be fair and recognize everybody for their overall worth, but there are people that excel and people that rise to the top in every group that we are not ashamed of and I think that is where these people will be able to get a little boost in the direction that we are going to be needing in the next few years, in this coming decade, because of what we are facing. On that subject, if the department continues to pursue that, I think it would cost money but I do not think it would cost a lot of money. I hope that there are students that go there and it will not be a drain on other resources, that they will utilize what is already existing in places. I know the benefit I received myself from the Akaitcho Hall experience of some 30 years ago now and I look around and I see the representatives of our government and I see the representatives of industry and I see people in every walk of life now that were at these schools; the Grandin Colleges, Akaitcho Halls of the early years. I look back with pride at that and I am sure that students that come in the next few years to institutions that you are planning to set up like that, will again carry that pride with them.

Financial Assistance To Develop Special Talents

Moving on to another area that I spoke about, in spite of how much of an advancement we have made in the years, both in schooling and in every area including sports and areas of arts and culture, there is still a lot missing. There are things lacking here in the Northwest Territories that we are not able to get because it is not possible to have everything here. Consequently parents that recognize in their children a certain ability, be it sports or music or the arts, may tend to want to enhance that. It is not available here so they will take it upon themselves to send their children to school in the provinces where there are music classes and teachers that we do not have here; or sports facilities and sports programs that we do not have here in order that that child gets the best to develop that particular ability and skill.

As a consequence of their decision they suffer financially because they have to pay everything, including the transportation – not in all cases because the department is pretty generous – but in some cases the parents pay everything. They pay the transportation out, the board and lodging and the tuition fees that the provinces charge because the child is not from the province and they do not fall under the residential status of that province, consequently they are billed for the tuition fee of up to \$1000 to \$2000.

I have spoken about this before and wondered if, in those cases, there could be some assistance given to parents who have to take that particular road in order to gain, for their children, the development of their particular skill. I refer specifically to two cases. One was with a hockey player of some calibre from Fort Smith who went off to the States because that was where training was available. The parents did pay the money and as a result the young man excelled in

that sport and became quite well-known and is quite well-known in that area. I wonder if the department would consider, in special cases, the merits of the request and perhaps grant even the tuition fees, but at least some assistance. I am not sure what the total amount would be in a year but I do not think there would be more than a dozen to 20 people in the whole of the Northwest Territories that would seek that particular type of further education for their children. It is something that I think is well worth looking at and it is a small contribution when you consider the benefits that the child is going to receive, and the possibility that the person comes back here after they have achieved their maximum objective or their maximum potential in the South. I do not expect everybody that goes out to hockey school is going to become NHL material or, in the area of music, become of symphony orchestra calibre or rock band, if that is the case, but they will come back with the skills that we do not have here, and become the teachers themselves and the encouragers of that particular type of thing, be it music or sports. I know a few people who have gone that route and have come back and are now encouraging other kids to pursue the talent that they have to whatever limits they can so that they will then turn around and become the leaders in that area later on. So that is another area that I wanted to mention for consideration. I am sure that the department has been requested in the past to do it but I do not want to let it die and I want to just keep encouraging it as much as possible.

Another area that I wanted to cover is more of a question, I guess, and it would be dealing with the change in the financial payments that the department made in the past to the school boards, where the moneys were given in a larger lump sum and the school board would, through shrewd investment or just good luck, put it into investments and realize an interest on it which they turned around and used for additional programs in their particular school district. It turned out to be quite a sum of money, apparently, and after a change in the financial structure they were not given the lump sum but were given it on a quarterly basis and it took away that interest-earning power that they had before. Consequently the school board would lose a certain amount of money out of its operating budget which they derived from the interest and, of course, would have to cut out, if this is allowed to continue, that particular type of program. I think they sent letters and they have petitioned the department for some additional funding to offset that loss. It was not the loss, I guess, in terms of their prepared budget but it was a loss of the interest that they had. I wonder what solution was arrived at in that situation? Yellowknife was particularly hard hit by that, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, in regard to the last question. All the divisional boards, including the Yellowknife school boards, are still going to be given their money on a quarterly basis. We had suggested at one time that we may move to monthly, and that had met with very stiff, strong opposition from the boards. So we agreed as a government not to do this. And just before the next election we would consider whether or not we would still be willing to move to the monthly payment schedule, which was what the auditor had suggested we do. So for now, the concerns have been heard and we have elected to continue with business as usual.

In the other matter that you raised, about helping young students, particularly high school aged students who demonstrate exceptional skills in the arts or sports or academic achievements, honour students, exceptional athletes like hockey players or volleyball players, or those students who have some outstanding skills, we provide bursaries of about \$5000 a year for up to 10 students each year. We have

been providing assistance for some students to go to school down south in places mostly of their choosing.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. General comments. Mr. Whitford.

Special Help For Students

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you. I was aware that there are bursaries for exceptional students but I guess the students that I was pointing at -- and the request had come from a number of parents -- really do not fall under the category of exceptional students academically, perhaps, but they come under the category that they show potential in an area; they may not be the top academic student, but the parents feel that there are qualities that they want to have developed. Again, I keep using the example of hockey players and sports people, but also musicians. Sometimes we do have people that excel in an area of becoming a good violin player but when it comes to being able to write a lot of letters and do well in math, they may not be quite the top student, but they are excellent violin players and they show talent. I do not think Mozart ever completed his high school and Beethoven may not have been the best letter writer but he was an excellent musician. So the parents recognize this potential and they want that but they do not fall within the bursary category. But there is a small request that they are making; it is, "Look, pay the tuition fees for us. We will pay the rest, transportation and room and board" and stuff like that. What they are saying is, "We live in the Territories and we pay our taxes here but our children are not going to the schools," meaning the schools that are provided here, of course. "We are not using that and what we are being charged, or what we would be using if we were in the Territories, could just be transferred to the Province of Alberta through a tuition fee; nothing else." I think that is what I was aiming at a little bit more.

I have had several requests for that which I have tried to steer toward the department. Certainly in this time of austerity it may not be the best time to introduce something like that but I do not want it to go unnoticed or unrequested and I certainly hope that the department will be able to look at that. For some the need is \$1500 to \$1700, and those figures times however many students would give us the total cost. It is not a great amount of money but that is the category I was looking at.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, it is very possible that in times of restraint like this, if a great majority of parents want to send their children down south and are willing to cost-share, especially if I know it is going to save the cost of building another high school in Yellowknife, then we could very seriously consider something like this. I understand what the Member is saying. I think we certainly welcome a suggestion like that and would look at it because I think when you find that the students and the parents both agree to look for something different and they agree to do something together, it is very hard to stand in the way.

That brings me to a point that I think a lot of educators feel, which is that if you make young persons feel special, if you make them feel that they are attending a special institution and you give them all the support in the world, they will do things alone which they were not really capable of doing. Part of the great magic in developing exceptional students, if you want to call them that, is from making them feel exceptional in the first place. That is also the kind of thing that many of the native leaders have been very, very insistent upon, even amongst their own people, to always stand up and make people proud of who they are and make them feel that

they are special. That has been really the key in the success of the emerging political development of all native people across Canada. The history has been that as native people we have been told that we are different and that we are treated differently and as lesser creatures than the people that came over from England and France and the other parts of the world; we have been told that we do not have the same kind of rights, and certainly none of our past history has been dictating a way that would make us feel proud and strong about who we are. It is my view that that is the way that we should try to approach the development of our young people as well. So I agree that we should do whatever can be done to support any child who, even if he does not demonstrate any great exceptional skills at the age of 12, should be supported, if they are striving to do something for themselves and their parents are in support of it. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mahsi cho. General comments. Mr. Ningark.

Parents Should Have Choices For Their Children

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I, too, went to a residential school in Chesterfield Inlet for a number of years but that does not mean that I am going to dictate that residential schools are the best solution in the Territories. I have sent my kids to school in Yellowknife for a number of years now and, as a matter of fact, for the past four years my kids and everybody else's kids have been exposed to drugs, alcohol and sometimes abuse. Not necessarily today; I am talking about five to 10 years ago. I think we are not the only people in this House, we are representing people in the NWT. I think we should give them a choice of where they want to have their kids educated, either at home up to the second level or to the residential school or a private school.

I am a man who believes in choice for people and I think that the Minister of Education is doing a good job in trying to get a choice for the people but I would like to advise the Members that a residential school is not the only solution, but it is one of the good solutions. I can agree with that.

A number of years ago when I went to school -- and I do not want to tell the House how long ago but a long time ago -- when I went to school we did not have a choice but to speak the English language and that was a good solution then. When we went back home in the spring we did not have a choice but to speak the Inuktitut language because nobody spoke English in our communities. That was a good solution but it was very tough. The communications were not the best compared to today. We did not have telephones; we did not have radios; the airplanes came once a month...

AN HON. MEMBER: Shame, shame!

MR. NINGARK: Thank you. I am in favour of getting a special high school, getting a private secondary education school and all that stuff but I would like to keep reminding the Members, as I said before in my opening statement in Norman Wells, that I would like to see a high school, a secondary school, within the community. This is very important. I have seen parents of kids, at the moment when they are just about to go on the airplane, practically begging someone to stay home. This is for the first-timers but for the second-timers that is okay. I think that we should leave a choice for the people of the NWT. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mahsi cho. Any comment, Mr. Minister?

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Yes, I would like to thank the Member for his comments. I think that since we started this

discussion on the idea of special residences, it has been my suggestion that the special residences would only be for those students and those parents who want to send their children to these types of residences and again to give the students and the parents a choice. If they want to send their children to Akaitcho Hall where a majority of the students from the Kitikmeot Region and other outlying communities go, then that is their prerogative to do so. If there are parents and students who say they want something more rigorous, more challenging and more demanding, then this is the reason for the idea that we have for providing special leadership residences. That is where this would fit in.

I agree with the Member that we should be building high schools in all the communities where the demand is and the numbers are there, but we also have to remember that in many of our outlying regions the turnover of teachers and staff is just astounding and that part of the great secret to the success of high schools, like in Yellowknife, Inuvik, Hay River and Fort Smith, is that they have many staff who stay for long periods of time in these communities and who also work under school boards. Yellowknife has had a school board now for something like 50 years and they are demanding and supportive of their teachers as well. This is what we take into account. We can build high schools wherever they are needed but, as the Member suggests, we should keep as many of our options open as possible.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Mahsi cho. Member for Natilikmiot.

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I came a little late when the discussion was going on, so I apologize if I may have misunderstood the debate. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Thank you. Member for Kitikmeot West.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I notice there are only 11 minutes left and I know that I cannot do my comments in those 11 minutes so I would be prepared to give it to someone else. I think I have the floor so I will move to recognize the clock.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): I have a motion on the floor which is not debatable. All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

I will rise and report progress. I would like to thank the Minister and his witnesses.

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 Rae-Lac la Martre.

MR. ZOE: Mr. Chairman, your committee has been considering Bill 9-90(1) and Committee Report 1-90(1), and wishes to report progress.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: 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 Friday, March 2: ajauqit at 9:00 a.m.

ITEM 20: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Friday, March 2nd.

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Oral Questions
6. Written Questions
7. Returns to Written Questions
8. Replies to Opening Address
9. Petitions
10. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
11. Tabling of Documents
12. Notices of Motion
13. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
14. Motions
15. First Reading of Bills: Bills 2-90(1), 3-90(1), 4-90(1), 5-90(1), 6-90(1) and 7-90(1)
16. Second Reading of Bills: Bill 1-90(1)
17. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters: Committee Report 1-90(1); Bill 9-90(1); Committee Report 2-90(1); Consideration of the Issue of Violence and Abuse; Motion 5-90(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 Friday, March 2, 1990, at 10:00 a.m.

--ADJOURNMENT

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