



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

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1990

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Richard Nerysoo): In accordance with the motion that was adopted yesterday, we will observe a moment of silence. Mr. Clerk, there is no quorum. The Chair now recognizes a quorum.

---One minute of silence

Orders of the day for Friday, March 2, 1990. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Amittuq.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, I would like to make an emergency statement.

MR. SPEAKER: Please proceed.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Ministers' Statement 30-90(1): EARP Report On ALPAC Pulp Mill

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, the environmental assessment and review panel, which held hearings on the Alberta-Pacific pulp mill development, will release its report to the public today. We understand that the panel has recommended that the mill not be approved at this time. The panel feels that further scientific studies are needed to determine whether the development could proceed without serious hazard to water quality, fish or downstream users. They recommend that these studies be managed by an intergovernmental committee with representatives from all stakeholders.

Mr. Speaker, we are pleased with the panel's recommendations. As you know, we have stated very strongly that there should be "zero discharge" of dioxins, furans and other contaminants to waters that flow into the Northwest Territories. We feel that all users of the river have an interest in the kinds of studies that the panel recommends. As downstream users of the waters flowing from Alberta and as a government which advocates sustainable development, we hope that the Government of Alberta and Environment Canada will accept the panel's recommendation to delay the pulp mill development. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ministers' Statement 31-90(1): Employment Hot Lines

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to announce the operation of toll-free employment "hot lines" in our regional Personnel offices. These hot lines provide telephone listeners with a recorded message about available employment opportunities with the Government of the Northwest Territories. The messages include position titles, locations, qualifications and salary.

The operation of these hot lines is a positive step for the

success of affirmative action in the Northwest Territories. In the North we are all aware that easy access to information is vital for an informed decision when applying on a job. These hot lines permit this access.

Advertisements have been placed in local newspapers, providing all regional hot line numbers. I am confident that these hot lines will prove to be valuable in attracting callers from the communities. Now that this service has been implemented, the next step will be to record the messages in the aboriginal languages of the region. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Opening Of Wida Health Centre, Rainbow Valley

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just have a short Member's statement to make today about the official opening of the Wida Health Centre in Rainbow Valley. This has been in the works for over a year and I would like to give special recognition to the board of directors, Mary Jane Goulet-Summers, Darrel Beaulieu and Chief Jonas Sangris. Also I express on behalf of my constituents to the Minister of Health, their thanks for her involvement in this project. It is a proud moment today for the people of Rainbow Valley. They have a beautiful facility which they will operate.

I would also like to mention the total northern construction groups who built it: Art Christensen from Clark-Bowler who had tremendous involvement all the way through it; Ryfan Electric; Hay River Mechanical; Panda Construction; YK Paving; Territorial Glass; and Ussner Associates as the architects. So to all the people who worked so hard, so successfully, our thanks and congratulations and I hope the MLAs might have an opportunity today to attend that opening. Thank you.

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

Member's Statement On Book By Pierre Berton Entitled "Mysterious North"

MR. ERNERK: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Today I rise to denounce a book entitled "Mysterious North", which was written by this individual who received the Order of Canada a number of years ago; his name is Mr. Pierre Berton. Mr. Speaker, this book, unfortunately, referred to the Eskimos as "chuckling magpies" and "lazy".

Mr. Speaker, unfortunately there exists, in certain sections of this society, this thing called racism and it is not acceptable to me and to anyone else in the world. It is not.

(Translation) Mr. Speaker, I do not think the Inuit should be described like that. The culture and tradition is very caring.

We are very caring to other people; it does not matter where they are. A long time ago people used to come up here and we would help them out. The Inuit would take them out on dog-teams and care for them and make clothes for them.

I do not want any more discrimination during the 1990s. Also, in the 1990s everybody should put more effort into recognizing that we are all people. I am striving toward living together for the whole world. I think Mr. Berton should apologize and also say "thank you" because we helped him out when he was up here on our land. Therefore, from today, we should strive to work together and be together as all human beings. Thank you.

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

Member's Statement On Budget Cuts

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to talk briefly today, before we recess, on budget cuts. As we all know the federal government imposed reductions in the contributions to our government this year under a new formula and that has resulted in a three per cent across the board cut to PYs.

While we are away there will be changes made to certain proposed guidelines for funding of hamlets and, Mr. Speaker, I just want to state very clearly that I would not accept our government to be looked upon as being a hypocritical government that would pass on cuts larger to those governments at a lower level than ours, than we are prepared to do ourselves. In other words, Mr. Speaker, when we return and debate the MACA budget I would hope to see that any cuts that might have to be made, either through guidelines or through policies to hamlet councils, would not be any greater than we have been prepared to do in our own government.

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

Member's Statement On Doug Wilkinson's Treatment Of Inuit People

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In 1952-53 I was a young person then. I was about six. I remember so clearly what was going on and how we lived together. Doug Wilkinson was the famous photographer who was up there to take pictures, titled "Long of the Long Day". While he was up there we used to be left alone; my father used to travel for a long time when they were taking photographs. One time we almost starved because they were away and we did not have any more food left. Doug Wilkinson was not worried at all about the families being left behind. The other small camps could not come to us because he wanted to take pictures so he could make money. Today he is rich and he owns his own plane because of the money he made; he is recognized and he is a famous photographer. To this day he has never apologized even though we almost starved because he had to be taken out. My mother tried very hard to keep us alive. We had to eat really old food.

In the 1990s those people who did that to us, we still want to be good to them, be friends with them; but at least if they can say they are sorry for one time. He is still alive today. He had rations, Qallunaq food, but he did not want us to touch them, and we did not touch them, although there were a lot of rations there for him. I am going to get a little bit mad now, so I had better stop here for now.

MR. ERNERK: Very good.

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

Member's Statement On International Congress On Uranium Mining, 1988

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, in June 1988 I attended the International Congress on Uranium Mining in Saskatoon, thanks to the Minister of Health. It was organized by a coalition of church and anti-nuclear groups. It was attended by 200 people from as far away as Australia, including MPs and senators from several European countries. There were a lot of people from Northern Saskatchewan and three of us from the Northwest Territories.

There were workshops on what has been the impact of uranium mining in each of the countries on the people living near the mines; how uranium waste and by-products contaminate different food chains; how uranium mines and refineries have been stopped; the relationship between uranium mining and aboriginal rights; the process by which uranium ends up in nuclear weapons; ethical and moral questions; and the impact of free trade on uranium mining in Canada.

One very interesting workshop was on "origin swapping", on the tricks that governments sometimes use to hide the country of origin of uranium. For example, Urangesellschaft, the company that wants to build Kiggavik, owns part of the huge Rossing uranium mine in Namibia. Until recently Namibia was controlled by South Africa and their black employees worked under terrible conditions. Many countries refused to buy uranium that came from a mine in a country controlled by South Africa. So several European governments cheated. They broke international laws by telling other countries that the uranium came from a different country than South Africa. The more you learn about the uranium industry, including the safety and health questions, the more you realize how sleazy it is.

This excellent book by Dr. Jim Harding of the University of Regina, "Aboriginal Rights and Government Wrongs: Uranium Mining and Neocolonialism in Northern Saskatchewan", concludes that to those who care about the future of the earth and know the potential of renewable resources and conservation, such mining represents millions of tonnes of radioactive tailings which will ultimately disperse into the water, air and food chains. It also represents the continual accumulation of high-level nuclear wastes and weapons grade material which come from the reactors in which this mined uranium will be used...

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member, your time has expired. Members' statements. The honourable Member for Natilikmiot.

Member's Statement On White People Who Have Helped The Inuit

MR. NINGARK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am going to make this short. White people have come to the North and there have been a lot of them. The majority of them do not support the Inuit people. They only come up here to make money for themselves and we all know that. Some of them have helped us a lot; for example, the missionaries, the Anglican ministers, the RCMP and also the Bay managers; they were here to be recognized by the people. They have assisted the Inuit and they have assisted

our parents. Those are the people who have not written a book about the North. They have not written a book about themselves and what they are doing in the North.

Since I am a Member of the Legislative Assembly I stand up today to recognize those white people who have helped us. Thank you.

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

Member's Statement On Appreciation To Government Leader

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is Friday and what I wanted to do today was not to relate some amusing anecdote, but to thank the Government Leader. I attended the 13th annual awards night for long service in the public service, those people who have served for up to 20 years now in the public service. I would like to congratulate the Government Leader for taking charge of this particular presentation ceremony and for the very kind words that he had to say about those who have given long and dedicated service to the people of the Northwest Territories. He did very well. So today, although I am not indicating in any way that the edge is going to be taken off my attempt to make sure that this government stays on the rails and follows its policies and so on, but when something nice happens I would like to give people credit for it, and I would like to congratulate him on the way he handled himself last night. Thank you.

---Applause

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

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

Further Return To Question O228-90(1): Building Of Road To Barrow Lake, Pelly Bay

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to a question asked by Mr. Ningark on February 26, 1990, with regard to the building of a road to Barrow Lake, Pelly Bay. A new road such as the one suggested would be classified as a community access road, which is currently a responsibility of the federal Department of Indian and Northern Affairs under their northern roads program. We are, however, almost at the point of reaching an agreement with the federal Minister to transfer this responsibility to the Department of Transportation. With this transfer, funding will be provided to develop community access roads according to priorities established by this government.

As you are aware, my department is currently preparing a transportation strategy for the NWT based on a comprehensive review of community infrastructure needs and wants, as well as on regional and territorial requirements. This strategy will provide a framework for investment in roads, wharves and airports over the next 20 years. The strategy will also indicate a recommended order of priority for the development of the facilities necessary to adequately serve the present and future transportation needs of all NWT residents and communities. A number of community access roads such as the one proposed by the honourable Member for Natilikmiot are being included in the strategy evaluations. I would therefore ask the honourable Member's indulgence until the strategy deliberations are completed and the final list of recommendations can be considered by this House.

Further Return To Question O53-90(1): Hydrographic Survey

Mr. Speaker, I have another return to a question asked by Mr. Ningark on February 13, 1990, with regard to a hydrographic survey. Further to my responses to the questions in the Legislative Assembly on October 30, 1989, and again on February 13, 1990, I have been advised by my staff that the individual responsible for hydrographic survey work in the NWT is Mr. Ross Douglas, Dominion Hydrographer, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, 200 Kent Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0E6. Thank you.

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

Returns To Question O3-90(1): Power Subsidies In Fort Providence; And Question O68-90(1): Reduction In Power Subsidies, Deh Cho

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to questions asked by Mr. Gargan on February 8 and 14, 1990. The Member's question on increases in the December power bills in Fort Providence referred to the power subsidy program, although it is the public utilities income tax rebate program, I think, that he was actually referring to. The government's power subsidy program has not been changed. It continues to equalize power rates in all NWT communities to the Yellowknife rate, up to specified consumption limits.

In 1989 the government conducted a review of the income tax rebate program to determine if it was being delivered in a manner that was fair to all NWT consumers. Under federal legislation most of the federal income tax paid by privately owned utilities is rebated through the GNWT back to these utilities. The intention of that program is to place customers of privately owned utilities in approximately the same position as those of publicly owned utilities, as public utilities by their nature do not pay income tax.

The government's review determined that since only residential consumers were receiving the rebate, commercial customers were in fact subsidizing residential consumers. Commercial customers of privately owned utilities were not receiving a rebate to which they were entitled, and were therefore paying higher bills than equivalent commercial consumers of publicly owned utilities.

As a result of this review, the government made the decision to expand the program to allow all consumers to receive the rebate. To avoid a sudden change in billing to residential consumers, the decrease to the rebate is being phased in. By July 1990 residential and commercial consumers will receive their rebate based on the amount of their bills.

For typical residential consumers in Fort Providence using 600 kilowatt hours of electricity in a month, the impact of the decrease in rebate on their November bill was only \$3.25. Once fully implemented in July, the total charge will be no more than \$9.00. Consumers in public housing in Fort Providence comprise over 50 per cent of the residential power consumers. For these consumers that charge is significantly less, for they only pay a small percentage of the power rate charged to those in their own homes.

I think one thing that perhaps gave some people some concern, in last December's bills, compared to the previous December's, was that there were some fairly substantial changes, but it was not a result of a change to the rebate program. There were other factors. One of them was the weather variation. I wish to emphasize that the change in the

rebate program was made to ensure that there is a fair application of the program to all consumers in the North. It is designed to avoid one group of consumers from subsidizing another group's power bills. We think it is fair. Before that, you were at an unfair disadvantage if you were a business in the honourable Member's area, because in fact you would be, through your business, subsidizing directly non-commercial users. The majority of residential consumers in communities such as Fort Providence continue to pay no more for power than Yellowknife consumers and many pay significantly less. Thank you.

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

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I have two returns. The short one I would like to read first, in answer to a question asked by the honourable Member, Peter Ernerk. Mr. Ernerk asked yesterday with regard to indemnities for mayors in communities. Section 35 of the Hamlets Act contains provisions for the payment to members of councils of indemnities, which are subject to income tax, and a non-accountable, non-taxable allowance for expenses.

Subject to the approval of the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, the amount of the indemnity and allowance for expenses is at the discretion of each council. Each such by-law is considered on its own merits, considering the financial capability of the hamlet in question. I have not had occasion to date, nor had my predecessor, to refuse approval of such a by-law.

The hamlet council of Repulse Bay has not amended its council indemnity by-law since enacting it in 1983. If the council submits a new by-law for approval, and it will be given every consideration. At the present time, I have learned that indemnities being paid mayors in hamlets in various communities can range from \$8000 to \$25,000 annually.

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

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

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Ningark on February 23, 1990, regarding a staff house written off in Spence Bay. Spence Bay currently has one staff house which is vacant pending an estimate of repairs by the Department of Public Works. This estimate will indicate the repairs necessary to bring the unit up to the Government of the Northwest Territories staff accommodation standard.

Should the estimate of repairs be considered too high to proceed with, the Department of Personnel would declare the house surplus to staff accommodation needs. It would then be turned back to DPW for disposal. The first two steps under the disposal policy for permanently surplus housing are: firstly, one is reallocation of the unit to another department; and secondly, selling or donating the unit to a community government. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Returns to oral questions. Point of order. The honourable Member for Deh Cho.

Point Of Order

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, in my Member's statement I used the word "sleazy" and I understand that is not

parliamentary, so I would like to, for Hansard purposes, use the word "sneaky".

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Your point of order is correct, and we will make the appropriate changes to Hansard. Thank you. Returns to oral questions. The honourable Member for Amittuq.

Return To Question O135-90(1): Potential Compensation For People At Outpost Camps

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Ludy Pudluk on February 20th, regarding potential compensation for people at outpost camps. Companies that carry out exploration activities on federal crown land apply to Indian and Northern Affairs Canada for a land-use permit. Indian and Northern Affairs Canada distributes a copy of the application to the Department of Renewable Resources, band councils, mayors, local hunters and trappers associations and any others who might be interested in the area where the exploration activity will occur. Those who receive a copy of the application are asked to send any comments back to Indian and Northern Affairs. For example, if there is any exploration activity near an outpost camp, a hunters and trappers association could request that Indian and Northern Affairs ask the company to keep the outpost camp informed of when and where the exploration activities will occur.

The Government of the Northwest Territories also developed a compensation policy in 1984. This policy is administered by the Department of Renewable Resources. It outlines a process for companies to follow if there is any chance that the company's activities may affect renewable resource harvesting. I have provided the Member with a copy of this policy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Return To Question O62-90(1): Changes To Policy On Water And Sewer Costs; Further Return To Question O86-90(1): Water And Sewer Service Subsidy Program; Further Return To Question O99-90(1): Changes To Water And Sewer Subsidy Program; Further Return To Question O100-90(1): Effects On Communities Of Changes To Water And Sewer Service Program; And Return To Question O141-90(1): Implementation Of Water And Sewer Subsidy Program

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a reply for questions asked by Mr. Pedersen on February 14, by Mr. Zoe on February 15, by Mr. Zoe on February 16, by Mr. Pedersen on February 16, and Mr. Zoe on February 20, related to the water and sewer services subsidy program. I would ask that the House be patient with me because I have quite a few words and, as this is important in the communities, I feel that I should provide as full an answer as possible.

A number of questions have been raised by Members on the recent modifications to the water and sewer services subsidy program. In responding, I feel it will be helpful to provide Members with some background of the program and to explain, in some detail, the proposed changes.

The current water/sewage services subsidy program was approved by the Financial Management Board and came into effect in hamlets, charter communities and settlement corporations on April 1, 1987. A central feature of the program is a community-established economic rate for

water/sewage services per litre based on recovery of costs to deliver this service efficiently. The introduction of the program by this government was in response to concerns that charges for water and sewage services were not equitable and that rates could not always be substantiated. It is in the public's interest to ensure that a rational, fair and consistent approach is applied to set charges to users. It is also very much in the interest of the Government of the Northwest Territories to ensure a fair and consistent approach in establishing cost accounting guidelines since it is the NWT Housing Corporation and the Department of Public Works that are major users of the service, in most communities.

To ensure that the costs of water and sewage services are equitable and affordable to all users in all communities, the program provides for a subsidy to help offset costs for residential and commercial users. Government and industrial users are not subsidized. Members will appreciate that to determine the economic rate that is charged for the service, it is necessary to know the cost of providing the service. When the program was introduced, cost accounting guidelines were developed and provided to the communities to assist administrators in classifying the direct and indirect costs associated with the program. These early guidelines were minimal and, unfortunately, allowed a great deal of flexibility in attributing costs.

Need For Adjustments To Cost Projections

The program has had many beneficial effects. Costs for water and sewage services are now charged back to consumers fairly and equitably, based on reasonable costs of providing the service. However, with the continuing provision of improved municipal water and sewer infrastructure to meet higher standards of per capita daily water supply in the interests of public health and quality of life, levels of service and user consumption have increased dramatically in communities and the burden of payment has fallen primarily on this government which, this fiscal year, could provide subsidies of some \$3.1 million to residential users and \$1,760,000 to commercial consumers in the smaller communities. It is anticipated that the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs' 1989-90 program requirements will increase to \$1.2 million more than originally projected. Both the NWT Housing Corporation and the Department of Public Works have had to make adjustments to their cost projections as they are paying for water and sewer services received at unsubsidized rates.

The NWT Housing Corporation pays the full economic rate for all public housing in hamlets and settlements. The corporation's 1989-90 cost for water and sewage service will exceed \$14 million, of which approximately 50 per cent will be reimbursed to this government by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. Public Works also pays the full economic rate for service for all GNWT owned or leased buildings. The Department of Public Works' cost this year will be five million dollars. These figures give Members a sense of the total cost to this Government of the water and sewage services program in hamlets and settlements.

Simply stated, water and sewer consumption and service levels are increasing in our smaller communities at a pace that could put the delivery of this municipal subsidy program beyond the means of this government to fund, unless efficient management practices and operational economies are rigorously pursued. Regrettably, with the GNWT paying the full economic rate for many users through the NWT Housing Corporation and the Department of Public Works, and with the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs subsidizing the cost for most other users, there is little community pressure to economize on service.

Departmental staff, and especially regional staff, have recently made recommendations identifying savings to be realized in a number of areas, one of which was for changes to be made in the accounting guidelines for costs charged for providing the service. I would like to respond in some detail regarding those provisions.

Cost Accounting Guidelines For Establishing Charges

First, it is correct that the guidelines are provided to establish a realistic level of costs charged for services received for such elements as labour and materials. The specific revision apparently causing most concern, as identified by Members and communications received from communities, deals with the allowable charges associated with the operation of water and sewer service vehicles. The main reason for the concern, I believe, is a gross misunderstanding of how the cost accounting formula is to be applied. In view of the community reaction I think it is important to take the time to address this particular revision adequately.

Current cost accounting guidelines allow total recorded payroll costs to be charged as a cost to the water and sewage program. No guidelines have been established respecting the type or frequency of service, the hours of service operation, overtime for staff or call-out charges. These service features directly affect the efficiency and affordability of the service. The proposed cost accounting guidelines establish a rate of \$17 per hour per vehicle, plus all costs for employee benefits which may be charged to the program. Community service agreements between the GNWT and the local government will outline service levels and normal hours of service operation. The program can be charged \$17 per hour per vehicle multiplied by the hours of normal service plus the added cost for all employee benefits. This cost per vehicle is multiplied by the number of water and sewage vehicles which each community possesses.

These proposed cost accounting guidelines should contribute to a more efficient and affordable system which can be rationalized by the clearly established service schedules and hours of service operation. The guidelines will introduce accountability, not only for the local government but for individual consumers by implementing direct user charge-back provisions for service calls outside of normal hours of service. The proposed cost accounting guidelines allow communities the authority to choose how they wish to staff and employ vehicle operators. For example, the Hamlet of Cambridge Bay may choose to employ a combination of part-time and full-time operators and assistants, and to schedule service so that only some of their service vehicles are operating at any one time.

Example For Arriving At Cost Of Service

In the Hamlet of Cambridge Bay, if we assume normal service hours, as agreed in the community service agreement, average 64 hours per week for each vehicle, and if we multiply this by the hourly rate of \$17, which is the equivalent GNWT salary as of April 1, 1990, the total is \$1088 per week for each vehicle. Added to this cost would be the community's cost for unemployment insurance contributions, Canada Pension Plan contributions, employer pension and insurance plan costs, settlement allowances and vacation travel assistance. For Cambridge Bay we have calculated the weekly cost for these benefits at \$342 per week for each vehicle. Total allowable weekly charges per vehicle would therefore be \$1430, which is \$1088 for wages plus \$342 for benefits, or \$74,617 per year. Cambridge Bay has five vehicles and the total allowable labour charge would be \$373,087 annually, which is not significantly different from the community's estimates of vehicle operator costs for the current

year. These figures are an example only, and would vary depending on the number of normal service hours as agreed upon with the community, and the actual cost of benefits.

Unfortunately, the tabled document, "Revisions to Cost Accounting Guidelines", which is a working draft, does not accurately reflect the above calculations and this has no doubt caused the majority of the concerns expressed by Members and heard from communities.

The document "Revisions to Cost Accounting Guidelines" tabled in this House is an in-house document, a working draft which does not accurately reflect the calculations provided today. However, it does generally reflect the other guidelines being recommended for community use in setting economic rates for water and sewer services effective April 1, 1990. Each change outlined in the document does represent a limitation on the maximum allowance charged to the program, but a limitation, I believe that fairly reflects the cost of providing an affordable, efficient and acceptable level of service.

I do not intend at this time, Mr. Speaker, to detail every revision proposed in the cost accounting guidelines. We will have sufficient opportunity to do that when my budget is examined in committee of the whole. However, in responding to Members' questions I would like to make reference to a few other revisions. For example, the guidelines allow 40 per cent of a foreman's wages to be charged against the program where the community provides for water and sewer services. During the two plus years the program has been in place, the percentage of the foreman's salary charged by communities has ranged from as high as 80 per cent of salary to 15 per cent of salary for the operational management of the water and sewer program. As this area clearly required addressing, the figure of 40 per cent of a foreman's time was set as a fair estimate of the demands on the foreman for managing the water and sewage service in a typical, efficiently-run community. I would add that the salary of a foreman is also recognized by the hamlet operating contribution formula and unconditional funds are provided for this position. Based on the above, we have also set as a cost guideline, 40 per cent of the maintenance costs of the foreman's truck as the maximum chargeable to the program.

Another area for which we have set cost guidelines for charging back to the program is for parking garage and maintenance garage operating costs. Here the guidelines state the charge-back is to be based on the percentage of the space utilized. This seems a reasonably fair way of apportioning costs. Again, I wish to point out that unconditional funding is provided under the hamlet operating contribution formula for the operation of these vehicles.

A final area I would mention is the establishment of a standard factor of \$4.45 per metre per year to maintain and clear designated water and sewage roads. This is consistent with the factor used under the hamlet operating contribution formula for all other community roads. One item that is still under consideration in this area is the cost of snow removal on private property for access of vehicles to service outlets. This particular issue is under active review by both myself and my officials.

Wide-Ranging Examination Of Service Costs Carried On

As I mentioned previously, and will say many more times in the days to come, the cost accounting guidelines are simply one component in my determination to achieve cost effectiveness in a program that meets our service objectives in the most cost effective and efficient manner possible.

Cost accounting revisions are only one aspect of the entire

water and sewage services program, and my department's review looks at many aspects before making economies. For instance, the levels of subsidy we provide to commercial users was considered at length. We have made a number of recommendations to promote consumer conservation, and we have reviewed standards for tank sizes for various buildings and standards for service truck tank capacities as a means of introducing greater efficiencies. We are gathering data on consumer usage in public housing units and government subsidized units and are looking at ways individual consumers can be better informed of the need for economizing and being more accountable for personal consumption. These are only a few examples of the wide-ranging examination that is being carried on in this area, Mr. Speaker. I thank the House for its patience.

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

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question O280-90(1): MLAs Accompanying Ministers On Trips

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, this being Friday, it is an opportunity to deal with things which are not ordinary, and perhaps even a little unusual. I would like to ask the Government Leader this question. I have noticed that in the past year or so, some of the MLAs on this side have had the good fortune to be invited by Ministers to travel to far-off places. I notice this morning Mr. Gargan stated that he had been to Saskatoon at the invitation of one of the Ministers, and I am aware that there have been trips to the United States. I am jealous of my colleague who went on a trip to Arizona this winter. I am also aware that there have been trips to England to deal with the fur issue, and I note that my friend to my left here this morning is off to Norway to look at houses.

I have become curious as to why my friends get invited and I do not. On enquiring, Mr. Speaker, I discovered that what happens is that MLAs interested in going on trips treat the Ministers to some dry meat. I guess the process is that if you want to go on a trip, you arrange for a little bag of goodies of dry meat, and you present this to the Minister. I am told that in one instance there was an exchange of caribou tongues.

---Laughter

I am interested in tagging along with some Minister on one or more southern or foreign trips, and I would like to ask the Government Leader, how many tongues does it take to go on a trip with him or one of his Ministers, and how much dry meat? I would be interested in going to England perhaps, or Sweden, New Zealand or even Russia -- I was not going to mention the Canary Islands. I would like to ask the Government Leader, what is the secret formula? During the coming two week break I was intending to go on the winter road and hunt some caribou, get my wife to make some dry meat and save the tongues.

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

Return To Question O280-90(1): MLAs Accompanying Ministers On Trips

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, the Member's offer is very intriguing to me personally since I know that my wife, in particular, is very fond of caribou tongue. For a small piece of tongue I can promise the Member now that I will invite him to accompany me on a trip south to beautiful Jean

Marie River this spring. Thank you.

---Laughter

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

Question O281-90(1): Time Frame In Establishment Of A Public Service Commission

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday I asked the Minister responsible for Personnel about the work toward deciding on the future of the administration of recruitment, and so on, that exists in other provinces and the federal government but does not exist here. The answer I got was that this would take 18 months. Well, Mr. Speaker, in reviewing Hansard, I find that this issue was raised in 1987, the very first session, Question O16-87(2). It was not raised in the second session, but it was raised in the third session of this Legislature, asking for a review of information and of operations of a public service commission, requests for a review of information, requests for copies of material used in the review of a public service commission. I could go through the whole Hansard indicating all the questions that have been asked on this issue. We did get a formal motion in this House, Motion 3-88(2), recommending the establishment of a public service commission. Last month we tabled in this House the SCONE report, which recommended the establishment of a public service commission because we saw it as such an important part of labour relations in this part of the world.

My question, Mr. Speaker, is, why is it taking so long for the Minister to read this material and to come up with a decision, since we started this in the fall of 1987? That is when the issue was raised.

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

Return To Question O281-90(1): Time Frame In Establishment Of A Public Service Commission

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all I want to clarify the Member's, I guess the Member's opinion. I have only been the Minister of Personnel one month short of two years. The issue of the public service commission no doubt was brought to this House's attention prior to my being appointed as the Minister of Personnel. But I did indicate in this House last year that in the event that we decided to look at a public service commission, any type of set-up that we wanted to look at would require changes to the Public Service Act. As we all know, with the process of government, in order to change legislation, it takes up to 18 months. That is why I quoted that time frame to the Member. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O281-90(1): Time Frame In Establishment Of A Public Service Commission

MR. LEWIS: In light of that answer, Mr. Speaker, if the current Minister of Personnel has only been in the job for two years, does this Minister then, have any plans to introduce changes to legislation?

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

Further Return To Question O281-90(1): Time Frame In Establishment Of A Public Service Commission

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: For the fall session, Mr. Speaker, yes.

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

Question O282-90(1): Department Of Economic Development Assistance To Native Communications Groups

MR. ZOE: Mahsi cho, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, for the last number of days a number of Members have been questioning the federal cuts. I would like to ask the honourable Member for Kivallivik a question. What specific measures is the Department of Economic Development prepared to take in order to assist those native communications groups in the NWT whose newspapers might be able to achieve economic self-sufficiency?

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

Return To Question O282-90(1): Department Of Economic Development Assistance To Native Communications Groups

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you. I am not able to give the Member that information. There may be different circumstances with each newspaper. It would depend on their financing; it would depend on their ability to incur debt; it would depend on their ability to become self-sufficient; everyone would have to be treated differently. So I cannot give specific measures. That will have to be worked out on a case-by-case basis.

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

Supplementary To Question O282-90(1): Department Of Economic Development Assistance To Native Communications Groups

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I realize it has to be dealt with on a case-by-case basis, but as the Minister is aware, a number of employees of some newspapers are going to be laid off today, I believe. I realize also that his department has been consulting with that particular group that I am mentioning. What measures are they contemplating now? I want to get specific. Are you going to do something before April 1?

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

Further Return To Question O282-90(1): Department Of Economic Development Assistance To Native Communications Groups

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. We are looking at this as a government on two fronts: The Minister of Culture and Communications will be going to Ottawa seeking a meeting with the federal Minister; and the Financial Management Board will be reviewing all options early in the week. So we will have some sort of a definitive reply to you and to them, by the end of the week, we hope.

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

Member for Natilikmiot.

Question O283-90(1): Inclusion Of Classroom Assistants In NWT Teachers' Association

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct a question to the Minister responsible for Personnel. Since we have a number of classroom assistants throughout the NWT in the smaller communities, I would like to know, what is the government position on including the classroom assistants as a part of the NWT Teachers' Association? Thank you.

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

Return To Question O283-90(1): Inclusion Of Classroom Assistants In NWT Teachers' Association

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Minister responsible for negotiating with unions, I do not think it is proper for me to indicate what unions or what membership in unions these classroom assistants should have. I believe it is probably most proper for the respective unions to deal with what membership that they want to take in. Thank you.

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

Question O284-90(1): Government Policy On Job Advertisements

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Personnel and it is with regard to advertisements for various job competitions in newspapers. The Minister knows that Nunatsiaq News, for example, advertises for job competitions in both languages, English and Inuktitut. Is there a policy now that the Minister could table in this House with regard to advertising for jobs in the NWT? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Return To Question O284-90(1): Government Policy On Job Advertisements

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With regard to advertising procedures, we have just recently completed advertising procedures to be followed with the Department of Personnel and it is at the same time being formulated into policy format. However, I do have the information on the procedure that we do use that I would be willing to advise the Member on. Thank you.

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

Question O285-90(1): Funding Cuts To Women's Groups

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister responsible for the Status of Women. It concerns the recent federal funding cuts, Mr. Speaker, that have affected women's groups in the Northwest Territories. Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, the cuts to the women's groups have been eclipsed by the cuts to the Native Press and other communications societies in the Northwest Territories.

I would ask the Minister if she will confer with her colleague, the Minister responsible for Culture and Communications, and ask that Minister to convey to Mr. Weiner the concerns of this

Legislative Assembly regarding funding cutbacks to women's groups. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Return To Question O285-90(1): Funding Cuts To Women's Groups

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have already requested my colleague, in anticipation of his meeting with Mr. Weiner, to address this concern. Thank you.

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

Question O286-90(1): English Only Announcement On CBC

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a question to the Minister of Culture and Communications. I was told today that Members of the Legislative Assembly -- the public knows where we are and our constituents know where we are, and on the CBC there is an ad there that states that if you want to talk to your MLA this is where you can get in touch with your MLA when they are in session in Yellowknife. It is only in English and I want to know why it is not done in Inuktitut and Dene. I do not think a lot of our constituents realize or know where they can get in touch with their MLAs because it is not in Inuktitut or Dene. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Amittuq.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will look into this and let the Member know.

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

Question O287-90(1): Toll-Free Employment Hot Line

MR. SIBBESTON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister of Personnel, this morning, announced that there is to be a new toll-free employment hot line in regional Personnel offices. I am just wondering whether this service will be extended to the area offices in Rae and Fort Simpson.

MR. ZOE: Hear, hear!

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

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, I will have to check to see if there is one currently and take the advice into consideration. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O287-90(1): Toll-Free Employment Hot Line

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I notice that what a person on this hot line will receive is a recorded message at the other end. I am just wondering if the Minister is considering eventually having a real hot body, a real body at the other end so that there can be better communication and whether there can be a number and a name, once the message is finished, that the person can get in touch with.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Slave River.

Return To Question O287-90(1): Toll-Free Employment Hot Line

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, I believe there is a name and a number, which the individuals can get in touch with, at the end of the message currently being recorded. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O287-90(1): Toll-Free Employment Hot Line

MR. SIBBESTON: I was not going to pursue it but the Minister did not really respond to the idea that eventually there would be a real person, a hot body, at the other end of the line. Is the Minister, in refusing to answer that, indicating that there are not any hot bodies in the Department of Personnel?

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow the honourable Member for Slave River to answer the question if she so chooses.

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, I believe the Member is seeking a personal opinion and I would rather not answer. Thank you.

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

Question O288-90(1): Baseline Study Re Kiggavik Mine

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, one year ago today the environment assessment review panel met with us regarding uranium mining. I received a letter last year from the Government Leader -- and I would like to direct my question to him -- in which he stated that a baseline study would be done regarding the Kiggavik mine; baseline studies on water, land, plants, air, animals and people. Those kinds of studies require time and effort and I would like to ask the Government Leader whether or not this study is actually taking place now, before the conclusion of the FEARO hearings.

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

Return To Question O288-90(1): Baseline Study Re Kiggavik Mine

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, the federal environment assessment review process has been delayed, as we announced a couple of days ago, and this has been welcomed by the people who are looking at the deficiencies through the whole FEARO process.

The reason that we did recommend the FEARO process was so that these issues could be deliberated. I certainly would want to be able to present the shortfalls in the material when we return and I believe at that time we can assess just where those shortfalls are, according to the honourable Member's suggestions. It is difficult to say that the total data base that he is requesting could be done in the period of time we have, in the FEARO process; I would like to see if that has been addressed when we get the results of the environmental assessment. I would also like to say that studies continually go on with other departments; the Department of Renewable Resources and the Department of Health continually do those studies. However, I would just like to see how much we have addressed since the Member has brought that question to the floor.

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

Member for Deh Cho, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O289-90(1): Baseline Study Re Kiggavik Mine

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Health whether or not the environmental assessment review panel is actually carrying out studies right now to come up with the results before the final decision is made. If that is so, that would be the first of its kind regarding uranium mining.

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

Further Return To Question O289-90(1): Baseline Study Re Kiggavik Mine

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, this is specifically why we insisted on the FEARO review of this particular mine. It is to assess whether the environmental conditions and the safety of people's health would be taken into full consideration, and this is exactly why we had insisted on a total FEARO review. There are presently 17 volumes which the departments are looking at to see where those inadequacies are. The FEARO panel themselves have said that it was inadequate. The analysis and the project as it was put forward had many shortfalls. I have not been able myself at this time to look through those 17 volumes. All the departments have been commissioned to look at the various areas that the shortfalls are in, and we will be able to bring a report back to this Legislative Assembly. However, I know the honourable Member's interest in this and I would be quite prepared to get the material to him, although I must say it is a very large amount of material to go through in a short period of time. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O288-90(1): Baseline Study Re Kiggavik Mine

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, the FEARO panel that is doing a total review of the assessment cannot do any kind of an assessment without baseline data. The baseline data is what I am interested in. The situation, Mr. Speaker, in Northern Saskatchewan is that they cannot determine whether or not the people are affected as a result of the mines because there is no baseline data to determine whether or not that is the case. That is my concern, Mr. Speaker, in order to do a proper assessment you have to have baseline data. Perhaps several years down the line we will be able to say, this was what the condition was like, and since the mine started this is the result. We require the baseline data for that. I would like to ask the Minister if the baseline data is being collected now.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Nunakput.

Further Return To Question O288-90(1): Baseline Study Re Kiggavik Mine

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, as I said before, I have not been able to look at the volumes of material that have been presented. Certainly the mandate or terms of reference of the FEARO panel were broad enough for the panel to look at the particular issue the Member has raised. However, I cannot tell him at this minute exactly what the recommendations have been from the FEARO panel. They have said that the environmental assessment is inadequate, what the company has brought forward is inadequate, and we are presently looking at that. I will take the Member's statement because I have that as part of the recommendations and issues that have been brought forward in this Legislative

Assembly. I will be better prepared to answer him specifically on that once I have looked at that material. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Supplementary To Question O288-90(1): Baseline Study Re Kiggavik Mine

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister whether or not, as part of the final report of FEARO, they are committed to doing a review, or baseline study, before the starting of the mine, if it is going to go ahead. Is that right?

MR. SPEAKER: I would just remind Members again that you should be cautious about asking a Minister's opinion about a particular issue when a decision has not been rendered by a body that is in the process of reviewing a particular item. The honourable Member for Nunakput.

Further Return To Question O288-90(1): Baseline Study Re Kiggavik Mine

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, at this very point I cannot tell the Member that. I cannot answer that question at this time because I have not had the opportunity to look at the recommendations. The fact is that the FEARO panel has said that the information that has been presented is inadequate. I will commit myself to take into consideration, as I noted, what the honourable Member has said previously. I will look to see when we are doing the review of these recommendations. I believe now we have adequate time to do that because one of the suggestions and feelings from the intervenors was that there was not enough time to look at the material. They felt stretched. Everyone has been very pleased that there has been an extension, and that the FEARO panel has taken its responsibilities very seriously and has said there are inadequacies. The specific question, I cannot answer. Thank you.

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

Question O289-90(1): Reasons For Native Communications Cutbacks

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Minister of Culture and Communications. Mr. Speaker, could the Minister inform us if he has found out from his federal counterpart why native communications programs were cut so drastically, while at the same time we hear that similar funding for the ethnic groups and the Francophone community was not withdrawn – and in fact there were increases in such items as Canada Day fireworks and other celebrations, of some \$16 million. Has the Minister found out why there were substantial cuts to the native communications programs?

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

Return To Question O289-90(1): Reasons For Native Communications Cutbacks

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, I am informed that the federal Minister went on holidays last Friday. He is not back in his office yet, and I have not been able to talk to him. I plan to go down to Ottawa to meet with him. I am informed that the Minister will be back on Monday. During our meeting I am determined to get answers to the questions the Member is asking. Thank you.

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

Member for Rae-Lac la Martre.

Question O290-90(1): Applications For Assistance From Native Communications Groups

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Because of the response I received from this government, and because time is of the essence, is the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism prepared to direct his officials to expedite applications from native communications groups for economic development assistance?

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

Return To Question O290-90(1): Applications For Assistance From Native Communications Groups

HON. GORDON WRAY: Mr. Speaker, as I have informed the House twice this week, yes, we are going to do that, but the Member must understand that we are not dealing with a grant or a contribution here. We are looking at loans. Our loan board is involved and I cannot direct – I could, but I am not going to direct the loan board to take any specific action. They will look at the financing package that is put together and it will be decided upon by the loan board on its own merits. I do not direct the loan board to do anything. The officials have been directed to meet with the Native Communications Society; they have met with them; they have met with them extensively; we will be discussing the matter early next week. We will have to wait and see what is the outcome. But the Department of Economic Development and Tourism is not in the business of giving grants out to communications societies.

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

Supplementary To Question O290-90(1): Applications For Assistance From Native Communications Groups

MR. ZOE: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. If I could ask the Minister, from the response that he has given me, when does he anticipate the loan board to meet? I would like to know if he knows the time.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Kivallivik.

Further Return To Question O290-90(1): Applications For Assistance From Native Communications Groups

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not anticipate any date right now because I do not know which way we are going to go. As soon as we have a package together, as soon as the FMB has had a chance to discuss it, then we will be in a better position to know our time frame. Thank you.

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

Question O291-90(1): Federal Budget Cutbacks To Native Communications Groups

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Government Leader. Could the Government Leader inform the House what he is doing in his capacity as Government Leader to pressure the Prime Minister and the Prime Minister's office to ensure survival of native communications programs in the Northwest Territories?

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

Return To Question O291-90(1): Federal Budget Cutbacks To Native Communications Groups

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, to answer the Member's question specifically, I have not yet approached the Prime Minister or his office because, as I have said in this House last week, I think that we should approach it on the basis of first things first. The first priority is for the Minister responsible in our government, namely the Minister responsible for Culture and Communications, to meet with his counterpart in the federal government. Mr. Alloofoo is travelling to Ottawa next week to make it a priority to obtain a meeting with the Secretary of State. I do not think it would be appropriate, Mr. Speaker, and perhaps the honourable Member would understand this, for me to approach the Prime Minister now without that meeting having taken place. I am sure that if I did, the Prime Minister would ask, "Has your Minister talked to the Secretary of State about this matter?"

I am prepared to take action. The government considers this situation of grave concern. As Mr. Ballantyne indicated, we will be working on it and meeting on it next week. But I want to save my involvement until we have taken other steps. We will be pursuing it, Mr. Speaker, over the break. We regard the matter as serious and we are going to do everything we can within the resources available to us to try to turn back these cuts and allow these valuable publications and television networks to continue operating at their present levels, if not to expand. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Supplementary To Question O291-90(1): Federal Budget Cutbacks To Native Communications Groups

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary. Mr. Speaker, it is hard not to debate when you get an answer like that one. We can follow procedures as much as we want, but when the federal Minister decides to make the announcement and then takes off on holidays, if we follow procedures long enough we may have to invite him to come up to the Northwest Territories to participate in the funeral for native communications programs. I would like to know if the Government Leader, at least, has made this government's and this House's views on the severity of these cuts and the total unacceptability to us of these cuts, has he made them known to federal officials and his Conservative colleagues in Ottawa?

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

Further Return To Question O291-90(1): Federal Budget Cutbacks To Native Communications Groups

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Culture and Communications has written and expressed our strong concern about these cuts, to his counterpart. I have also spoken with them, spoken about the issue and how seriously it is being viewed by the people of the Northwest Territories, with the new Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs. I can also assure the House and the honourable Member that I have asked my deputy minister of Intergovernmental Affairs in Ottawa to very actively pursue all possible avenues with officials and ministerial offices in Ottawa. So, Mr. Speaker, the federal government is certainly well aware of our concerns, and two Ministers have been communicated with to date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question O292-90(1): Government Should Ban Song "Tequila Sheila"

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Culture and Communications. It is in regard to the song called "Tequila Sheila". I consider the words contained in that song insulting to women. Will the Minister indicate to this House if the government would be willing to ban this song from coming to the Northwest Territories? I have listened to it last night on TV and it is not very good.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Amittuq.

Return To Question O292-90(1): Government Should Ban Song "Tequila Sheila"

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, we wish we had the powers to stop the songs we do not like from coming into the Northwest Territories. Unfortunately, we do not have these powers at the present time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question O293-90(1): Community Consultation Necessary On Future Power Subsidies

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Justice. Again, it is with regard to the power subsidy. Mr. Speaker, I believe in October the Minister met with some people from Yellowknife as well as from Hay River regarding the power subsidy, the commercial subsidy issue. Unfortunately, the community of Fort Providence was never consulted about the intent of the Minister. I would like to ask the Minister why, in this case, he did not invite the community of Fort Providence to participate.

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

Return To Question O293-90(1): Community Consultation Necessary On Future Power Subsidies

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The Member is correct and I apologize to the Member. It was just an oversight. That never occurred to me when I talked to Hay River and Yellowknife. It never occurred to me or my staff to consult with the people in his community. We are sorry for that. I can assure you that for any other action taken in this regard there will be full consultation with everyone.

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

Question O294-90(1): Government Assistance For Women's Groups

MR. POLLARD: Mr. Speaker, to the Minister responsible for the Status of Women, again. Is there any leeway in the Minister's budget that is before this House to assist women's groups in the event of these federal cuts? Thank you.

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

Return To Question O294-90(1): Government Assistance For Women's Groups

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Unfortunately not. Currently, Mr. Speaker, we do, however, have a contribution section which totals about \$50,000 that we use to assist

initiatives for women's groups across the Territories. Thank you.

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

Question O295-90(1): Classroom Assistants Require Information On Unions

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Government Leader regarding the classroom assistants joining the NWT Teachers' Association. I would like to know if the Government Leader could, by way of a letter, inform the classroom assistants in Pelly Bay, who approached me initially about this matter, about the benefits and procedures of joining the NWT Teachers' Association, or the other beneficial agencies in the Territories. Thank you.

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

Return to Question O295-90(1): Classroom Assistants Require Information On Unions

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, that matter is a responsibility of the Minister of Personnel. However, since the Member has asked me specifically if I would get involved, I will respond in line with what the Minister of Personnel had said earlier, Mr. Speaker. I believe that her position and the position of our government is that we would be loathe to get involved in what is, essentially, a matter between two unions. It would not be appropriate for the Government of the Northwest Territories, I believe, to take a position one way or the other on this. That matter is for the unions to deal with and it is a matter for the particular members of the union themselves to deal with. Mr. Speaker, the classroom assistants themselves have certain rights and privileges as members of a union to express their desires for any kind of changes but it is not appropriate for our government to take a side on that particular issue. The initiative should come from the classroom assistants themselves and from the unions involved. It would not be appropriate for us to take a side, as it were. We would be accused of many unpleasant things if we were to do so, I believe, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O295-90(1): Classroom Assistants Require Information On Unions

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since the resources are limited in a small community such as Pelly Bay, I would like to know if the honourable Minister, or Government Leader, could give me some information as to who the contact person would be in those unions? Thank you.

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

Further Return To Question O295-90(1): Classroom Assistants Require Information On Unions

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

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

Item 6, written questions. Written questions. Item 7, returns to written questions. Mr. Clerk.

ITEM 7: RETURNS TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Speaker, a return to Question W14-90(1) asked by Mr. Lewis of the Government Leader, concerning direct appointments to senior regional management.

Return To Question W14-90(1): Direct Appointments, Senior Regional Management

Hon. Dennis Patterson's return to Question W14-90(1), asked by Mr. Lewis on February 21, 1990, regarding direct appointments for senior regional management: Since October, 1987, there have been 30 competitions plus six direct appointments to the positions of regional director, assistant regional director and regional superintendent, excluding headquarters, Yellowknife.

Competitions: regional director, one; assistant regional director, three; superintendent, 26; for a total of 30.

Direct appointments: regional director, two; assistant regional director, zero; regional superintendents, four; for a total of six.

The number of successful applicants who were affirmative action group members for the 30 competitions were nine, of which five were aboriginal and four indigenous non-aboriginal. For the direct appointments all six were affirmative action group members, two were aboriginal and four indigenous non-aboriginal.

MR. SPEAKER: 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 High Arctic.

ITEM 11: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Tabled Document 40-90(1), a copy of a letter sent to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs concerning the cutback of our water/sewage program, mainly one operator per service vehicle. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Tabling of documents.

Item 12, notices of motion. Notices of motion.

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

Item 14, motions. Motions. Item 15, first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

ITEM 15: FIRST READING OF BILLS

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to proceed to first reading of Bill 8-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90.

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being sought by the

honourable Minister to give first reading to Bill 8-90(1) today. Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Minister. You have unanimous consent.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Iqaluit, that Bill 8-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90, be read for the first time.

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

---Carried

Bill 8-90(1) has had first reading. First reading of bills. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

First Reading Of Bill 6-90(1): Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1988-89

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I moved, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 6-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1988-89, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Bill 6-90(1) has had first reading. First reading of bills. Item 16, second reading of bills. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

MR. ERNERK: Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to return to Item 11, tabling of documents.

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being sought to return to Item 11, tabling of documents. Are there any nays? Consent has been given. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

REVERT TO ITEM 11: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 41-90(1), a list of skeletal material from the fifth Thule expedition, which is tentative. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 16, second reading of bills. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to proceed to second reading of Bill 8-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member is seeking consent to give second reading to Bill 8-90(1). Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed, Mr. Minister.

ITEM 16: SECOND READING OF BILLS

Second Reading Of Bill 8-90(1): Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I move,

seconded by the honourable Member for Iqaluit, that Bill 8-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to make supplementary appropriations to the Government of the Northwest Territories for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1990.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the principle of the bill. The honourable Member for Kitikmeot West.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I notice, Mr. Speaker, that this bill is a different bill from the one that was presented to the standing committee on finance in its review. I refer to changes in the bill in the French version of the bill in sections two and three when it was presented to the committee, discrepancies between the two languages, and even someone like me who does not understand French like me, could see that and notice that very clearly.

Would the sponsoring Minister, in accordance, Mr. Speaker, with your ruling on my point of privilege that it is up to the government to guarantee accuracy of these bills – could he give me his assurance that the necessary changes between the two languages are now complete, and can he assure me of the accuracy of the French version this time, because it is different from what was introduced to the standing committee on finance?

MR. SPEAKER: Just to remind Members that the issue before us is the motion and that during debate on a motion one cannot ask questions of the matter. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question has been called. The Chair does not recognize a quorum for the vote. Mr. Clerk, would you ring the bell please?

The Chair recognizes a quorum. The motion before the House is second reading to Bill 8-90(1). To the principle of the bill.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Bill 8-90(1) has had second reading. Mr. Clerk, Bill 8-90(1) has had second reading and is ordered into committee of the whole for today. Second reading of bills. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to proceed to second reading of Bill 6-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1988-89.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister has requested unanimous consent to give second reading to Bill 6-90(1) today. Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Minister. You have consent.

Second Reading Of Bill 6-90(1): Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1988-89

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 6-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1988-89, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to make supplementary appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1989.

MR. SPEAKER: To the principle of the bill. To the principle of the bill.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Bill 6-90(1) has had second reading. Mr. Clerk, Bill 6-90(1) has had second reading and is ordered into committee of the whole for today. Second reading of bills. Second reading of bills. Item 17, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Committee Report 1-90(1), Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on the 1990-91 Main Estimates; Bill 9-90(1), Appropriation Act, 1990-91; Committee Report 2-90(1), Special Committee on Northern Economy Report: Building Our Economic Future; Consideration of the Issue of Family Violence and Abuse; Motion 5-90(1), Opposition to Exploration and Mining of Uranium in the NWT; Bill 6-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1988-89; Bill 8-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90, with Mr. Zoe in the chair.

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): There are a number of items that are in committee of the whole for discussion. What is the committee's wish? Mr. Government House Leader.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. After discussion with the chairman of the standing committee on finance and with the concurrence of this committee, we can proceed to Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90, today.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): Is it only that one particular bill and then we will go back to what we were doing?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: That is right. Bill 8-90(1), I think, could also be dealt with fairly expeditiously.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): We will be dealing with Bill 8-90(1) and then Bill 6-90(1). Is that the wish of the committee?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe): With that, the committee will recess and reconvene at the call of the Chair.

---SHORT RECESS

Bill 8-90(1): Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The committee will come back to order. We are dealing with Bill 8-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90. Mr. Minister, do you wish to bring in your witnesses at this time?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: With the committee's permission, yes, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Is this committee agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have with me Mr. Lew Voytilla, who is the secretary of the Financial Management Board.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister, do you have any opening remarks?

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90, contains appropriation authority requests totalling \$12,484,700 for operations and maintenance and a proposed reduction in appropriation authority in the amount of \$879,000 for capital. The net cost of the operations and maintenance appropriation increase is approximately nine million dollars, as there are partial revenue offsets for the increases to the forest fire suppression and health programs. Including the capital reduction, the net cost for the supplementary appropriation is \$8.2 million.

Mr. Chairman, the 1989-90 reserves for supplementary appropriations were established at \$47 million. The net costs of Supplementary Appropriation Acts No. 1 and No. 2 will exceed these reserves by over nine million dollars, thus reducing the accumulated surplus from what we had anticipated at the start of the year. The shortfall in the supplementary reserve can be attributed to several large unanticipated expenditures, specifically the forest fire suppression overrun. The large cost increases are in health services and the WCB coverage for hunters and trappers. Several of these unanticipated increases for one-time expenditures have been addressed in the 1990-91 main estimates. However, the health cost increases and the WCB coverage for hunters and trappers will have to be funded again in 1990-91 from our supplementary reserves.

Mr. Chairman, in recognition of the significant impact these ongoing requirements will have in our 1990-91 supplementary reserves, the Financial Management Board has instituted stern restrictions on year-end spending in 1989-90 and in supplementary funding requests for the next year. Departments have been instructed that supplementary appropriations will be considered only for expenditure increases required due to statutory obligations or contractual commitments. A number of other measures have also been taken. First, there will only be two days during 1990-91 when department requests for supplementary appropriations will be considered. On these banking days all requests will be reviewed and prioritized and assessed relative to available finances. Second, no new initiatives may be initiated through supplementary appropriations without fully offsetting the permanent reallocations from within existing departmental budgets. Thirdly, any requests for additional funding, even in program areas traditionally considered non-discretionary, will not be considered unless a thorough evaluation of options to avoid the cost increase are presented with the request. The FMB will no longer accept that any expenditure increase is unavoidable.

Mr. Chairman, the Financial Management Board will be taking a very hard line on the supplementary appropriations in 1990-91, but we feel that with the measures I have outlined above, we can manage with the supplementary reserves that we have set for next year. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Does the chairman of the finance committee have any opening remarks?

Comments From The Standing Committee On Finance

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90 has been reviewed by the standing committee on finance. At that meeting, which was last week, Mr. Chairman, the Minister who was carrying the bill, Mr. Ballantyne, indicated that if Members of the finance committee or of this committee of the whole wished to ask individual Members' questions on items in this document pertaining to their department, that would be available to them. The standing committee on finance recommends this bill to the House, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Does the committee wish to go to details now?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Legislative Assembly, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 1, Legislative Assembly, \$773,000, not previously authorized. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$773,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Legislative Assembly, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Legislative Assembly, capital, not previously authorized, \$20,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$20,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Executive**Science Institute, Total O And M, Agreed**

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 3, Executive, O and M, Science Institute, not previously authorized, \$26,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Aboriginal Rights And Constitutional Development, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Aboriginal rights and constitutional development, special warrant, \$116,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Executive, Total O and M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, special warrant, \$116,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Not previously authorized, \$26,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Department Of Culture And Communications**Language Bureau, Total O And M, Agreed**

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Culture and Communications, O and M, language bureau, not previously authorized, \$155,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Library Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Library services, \$41,800. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Culture And Communications, Total O and M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, not previously authorized, \$196,800. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Department Of Personnel**Staff Relations, Total O And M, Agreed**

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Personnel, O and M, staff relations, not previously authorized, \$97,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Regional Operations, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Regional operations, special warrant, \$230,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Regional operations, \$975,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Personnel, Total O And M, Agreed

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, special warrant, \$230,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$1,072,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Department Of Public Works**Directorate, Total O And M, Agreed**

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Public Works, directorate, not previously authorized, \$13,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Project Management, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Project management, not previously authorized, \$10,400. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Accommodation Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Accommodation services, \$131,600, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Buildings And Works, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Buildings and works, not previously authorized, \$29,600. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Vehicles And Equipment, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Vehicles and equipment, not previously authorized, \$1100. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Utilities, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Utilities, \$1,380,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

Public Works Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$1,457,500, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Public Works, Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Public Works, capital, buildings and works, special warrant, \$370,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$370,000. Agreed? Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: It is our understanding, Mr. Chairman, that items regarding Arctic Red River will be transferred to the base of Municipal and Community Affairs from here on in. Could the Minister confirm that, please?

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: That is correct, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: Also, where there has been a transfer, Mr. Chairman, are we to understand that the Department of Education's base will be increased to reflect the new boards? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: That is also correct, Mr. Chairman.

Public Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$370,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Department Of Transportation, Highway Operations, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Transportation, operations and maintenance, highway operations, \$323,400. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Transportation, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$323,400. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Transportation, Transportation Engineering, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Transportation, capital, transportation engineering, special warrant, \$509,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Transportation, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$509,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Renewable Resources

Policy And Planning, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Renewable Resources, operations and maintenance, policy and planning, not previously authorized, \$50,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Conservation education/resource development, not previously authorized, \$638,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Fire Operations, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Fire operations, special warrant, \$2,040,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Renewable Resources, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, special warrants, \$2,040,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Not previously authorized, \$588,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Municipal And Community Affairs, Municipal Affairs, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Municipal and Community Affairs, operations and maintenance, municipal affairs, special warrant,

\$1,207,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Not previously authorized, \$46,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Municipal and Community Affairs, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, special warrant, \$1,207,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Not previously authorized, \$46,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Municipal and Community Affairs, Community Works And Capital Planning Total Capital

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 14, Municipal and Community Affairs, capital, community works and capital planning, not previously authorized, \$1,778,000, surplus. Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister of Finance would allow the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs to give us some details on this situation, please.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Sure, go for it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The project has been deferred for a year. It is expected that planning and site selection should be completed during the next fiscal year in July and the design and tendering begun in February 1991. The reason the capital project has been suggested for deferment is that the original contract produced two options for replacing Williamson Lake as a storage lake. Both of those options were extremely expensive, six million dollars and \$3.5 million, and my predecessor indicated that he wished to have the concept reviewed. As a result of that review it was determined that they would look at the storage facility which was slightly more in keeping with the foreseeable demand.

One of the other problems in moving this project along was that there was a disagreement between the community itself and the department with regard to the siting, but I believe that these problems have now been addressed and resolved to the extent that the project can go ahead but at a reduced magnitude than was originally conceived in the study by the Dillon consultant.

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

MR. POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, then to the Minister of Finance, is this not being handled in a capital carry-over

manner? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: No, it is not. We are looking at reintroducing it in the 1991-92 budget.

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

MR. POLLARD: I would point out to the Minister, Mr. Chairman, that the standing committee on finance is concerned about these capital projects that disappear from the book. I think we have made recommendations in that area, that even if there are 10 dollars attributed to it, just to keep it in the capital book so that it does not die, or does not appear to be dying, Mr. Chairman. My understanding, then, is that the money is going to have to be reappropriated in the year that it comes back into the book. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: That is correct.

Municipal And Community Affairs, Community Works And Capital Planning, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Municipal and Community Affairs, capital, community works and capital planning, \$1,778,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Municipal And Community Affairs, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, \$1,788,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Health

Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, Total O and M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Health, operations and maintenance, Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, not previously authorized, \$3,082,000. Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, I want people to be healthy and I would like them to be treated well, but there is a spiralling cost to health, not only in this territory but across the country. I would just mention in passing perhaps, Mr. Chairman, that it is a concern that I have and I would ask the Minister to convey to the Minister of Health that concern. Perhaps there are ways that they could be tightening up in other areas, not to take away from the health programs, but certainly to address this increase in expenditure. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. We are aware of the concern, and the Minister of Health is looking at ways to try to keep these costs from escalating. I appreciate the comments. Thank you.

Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, \$3,082,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Medical Care Plan, Total O and M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Medical care plan, not previously authorized, \$1,922,000. Agreed? Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the committee would like some explanation of the \$221,000 with regard to the health information system.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Madam Minister.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, there is pressure for us to expand the health information system. We are giving it more tasks, and these are just the extra charges that were required because of the extra space that was needed in order to process the claims received, in particular the out-of-Territories claims. The processing time was much higher than anticipated and extra time was required in the use of the system on the medicare claims, the medical travel, pharmacare claims and supplementary health claims. So we are looking at ways where we can reduce our use of the information system, or perhaps take some areas off that may not be required. However, we have been utilizing the system quite extensively and these are the extra charges that have been incurred in order for us to gain the information that was required on these various claims.

Medical Care Plan, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Madam Minister. Medical care plan, not previously authorized, \$1,922,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Medical Transportation, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Medical transportation, not previously authorized, \$746,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Health, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total department, not previously authorized, \$5,750,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Education

Directorate And Administration, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Education, operations and

maintenance, directorate and administration, not previously authorized, \$5000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Advanced Education, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Advanced education, not previously authorized, \$212,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Schools, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Schools, special warrants, \$2,443,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Schools, not previously authorized, \$919,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Arctic College, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Arctic College, not previously authorized, \$139,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Education, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total department, special warrants, \$2,443,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Not previously authorized, \$1,275,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Does the committee agree that we go clause by clause? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Bill 8-90(1): Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90, page 1, clause 1, application. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Clause 2, supplementary appropriation for 1989-90. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Clause 3, reduction of appropriation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Clause 4, purpose of expenditures. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Clause 5, lapse of appropriation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Clause 6, accounting. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Clause 7, commencement. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Schedule, vote 1, operations and maintenance, total operations and maintenance, \$12,484,700. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Vote 2, capital, total capital, \$879,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total appropriation, \$11,605,700. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Does the committee agree that Bill 8-90(1), is now ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Bill 6-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1988-89. Mr. Minister.

Bill 6-90(1): Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1988-89

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1988-89 requests an appropriation of \$395,000 for the Department of Personnel for 1988-89 year-end cost overrun and its non-discretionary employee benefits budget. The Financial Administration Act provides that any department overexpenditure at year end is deemed an interim appropriation and it may be submitted in the form of a supplementary appropriation to the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. The chairman of the finance committee, Mr. Pollard.

MR. POLLARD: The standing committee on finance recommends the bill and that we go clause by clause, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. Does the committee agree that we go clause by clause? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Page 1, clause 1, application. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Clause 2, supplementary appropriation for 1988-89. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Clause 3, purpose of expenditures. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Clause 4, lapse of appropriation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Clause 5, accounting. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Clause 6, commencement. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Schedule, vote 1, operations and maintenance, total operations and maintenance, \$395,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total appropriation, \$395,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Does the committee agree that Bill 6-90(1) is now ready for third reading? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. I would like to thank the Minister and Mr. Voytilla. Mahsi cho. What is the committee's wish? We have a motion to report progress. Mr. Pedersen, would you put that on the record?

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): We need a quorum. Mr. Clerk. The Chair now recognizes a quorum. There is a motion on the floor to report progress. The motion is not debatable. All those in favour? All those opposed? This motion is carried.

---Carried

I will rise now and report progress. Thank you.

ITEM 18: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MR. SPEAKER: Item 18, report of the committee of the whole. The honourable Member for Deh Cho.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bills 8-90(1) and 6-90(1), and wishes to report that they are ready for third reading. Mr. Speaker, your committee wishes to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: The committee has heard the report of the chairman of committee of the whole. Are you agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Item 19, third reading of bills. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

ITEM 19: THIRD READING OF BILLS

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I move,

seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that Bill 8-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with third reading of bills today. Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kivallivik, that Bill 6-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1988-89, be read for the third time.

I will try again, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that Bill 8-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Just to remind the honourable Member that we should vote on the first bill first and then get to the second one afterwards.

AN HON. MEMBER: He is excited.

MR. SPEAKER: I know that the honourable Member is joyful in that we have completed some work. For the record again, the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, please give notice of third reading to Bill 6-90(1). Start over again.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will start over again. Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to move to third reading of Bill 8-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member, you have already been given consent to proceed with third reading of bills.

---Laughter

What I am asking you to do is to just give me notice of third reading and we shall proceed. One bill at a time, not two.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Bill 8-90(1) or Bill 6-90(1)?

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: It is your choice, Mr. Minister.

Third Reading Of Bill 8-90(1): Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that Bill 8-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90, be read for the third time.

---Applause

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Bill 8-90(1) has had third reading. Third reading of bills.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I take it I already have

consent to do this.

---Laughter

Third Reading Of Bill 6-90(1): Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1988-89

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kivallivik, that Bill 6-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1988-89, be read for the third time.

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

---Carried

Bill 6-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1988-89, has had third reading. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

Motion To Adjourn The House Until Monday, March 19, 1990, Carried

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Hay River, that when the House adjourns today, Friday, March 2, 1990, it shall stand adjourned until Monday, March 19, 1990, provided that at any time prior to that day it appears, to the satisfaction of the Speaker, after consultation with the Executive Council that the public interest requires that the House should meet at an earlier time during the adjournment. Thank you.

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

---Carried

The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, could I ask for the consent of this House that the Commissioner gives assent to Bill 6-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1988-89, and to Bill 8-90(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1989-90?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to have the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories give assent to Bills 6-90(1) and 8-90(1). Are there any nays? Unanimous consent has been given to assent to bills today. Mr. Clerk, would you ascertain if the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories is prepared to assent to bills today? Mr. Clerk.

ASSENT TO BILLS

COMMISSIONER NORRIS: By the authority vested in me by the Northwest Territories Act, and as Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, I hereby assent to Bills 6-90(1) and 8-90(1).

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 20, Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

ITEM 20: ORDERS OF THE DAY

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Orders of the day for Monday, March 19th.

1. Prayer

2. Ministers' Statements

3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Oral Questions
6. Written Questions
7. Returns to Written Questions
8. Replies to Opening Address
9. 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: Motions 5-90(1) and 6-90(1)
15. First Reading of Bills: Bills 2-90(1), 3-90(1), 4-90(1), 5-90(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 Monday, March 19, 1990, at 1:00 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT

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