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

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

MONDAY, MARCH 19, 1990

	PAGE
Prayer	401
Ministers' Statements	
- 32-90(1) Health is a Community Affair Campaign	401
- 33-90(1) Condolences on Death of Mr. Richard Bushell	401
- 34-90(1) 1990 Arctic Winter Games	401
Members' Statements	
- Mr. Ningark on Recreational Facilities	402
- Mr. Lewis on Art Work Displayed in Chamber	402
Returns to Oral Questions	402
Oral Questions	403
Written Questions	410
Tabling of Documents	410
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of:	
- Bill 9-90(1), Appropriation Act, 1990-91	410,421
- Department of Education	410
- Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources	425
Report of Committee of the Whole of:	421,427
Orders of the Day	427

YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

MONDAY, MARCH 19, 1990

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Richard Nerysoo): I just want to bring to Members' attention the fact that you will be able to take note of the time periods quite adequately now, in response, of course, to the wishes of Members of this Assembly.

Orders of the day for Monday, March 19, 1990. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Nunakput.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Ministers' Statement 32-90(1): Health Is A Community Affair Campaign

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce the start today of the territories-wide, door-to-door campaign called "Health is a Community Affair". As a result of this campaign, thousands of Northwest Territories residents will receive information concerning two serious health issues. One of the issues to be targeted is the hazards of tobacco use and the other is the problem of sexually transmitted diseases including HIV infection and AIDS.

These two health issues are of worldwide concern, and although they have received much attention from the World Health Organization, the department felt that it was critical to develop a focus which would relate specifically to our northern circumstances. Therefore, the ideas for this campaign were developed in the belief that residents in small communities would be more likely to act on information received personally. The Assembly agreed with this idea in principle and last year approved \$600,000 to fund the campaign.

Mr. Speaker, information received from the territorial epidemiologist confirms that lung cancer is increasing rapidly among our population and highlights the connection between tobacco use and cancer. Mr. Speaker, you will recall that in April of last year the Department of Health hosted the circumpolar conference on tobacco and health and recommendations from the conference stressed that elimination of tobacco use should be a prime concern of local health promotion, and also that all forms of health promotion and education on the hazards of tobacco use should be strengthened. Acting on this recommendation, the department declared the hazards of tobacco use to be one of the major issues to be targeted in this campaign.

The conference also made recommendations on the method of delivery of health education. They stressed that the material used should be visual, of local relevance, in local languages and at an understandable level.

The "Health is a Community Affair" campaign has applied all of these recommendations to ensure the effective delivery of information concerning the use of tobacco and concerning sexually transmitted disease. This should help many residents of the Northwest Territories who are currently at risk.

AIDS is a growing problem, both in the Northwest Territories and throughout the world. Eight persons with HIV infection have been reported in the Northwest Territories, yet this number may only be the tip of the iceberg. As I have related to this Assembly previously, the World Health Organization estimates that for every known case there are probably between 10 to 100 other infections. It is vitally important that all of our residents receive up-to-date and accurate information in order to protect themselves.

Mr. Speaker, as people in our communities become more aware of the toll taken by AIDS and tobacco, they will accept increased responsibility for their own health. This campaign will effectively take vital information to residents across the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ministers' Statement 33-90(1): Condolences On Death Of Mr. Richard Bushell

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, it is with regret that I advise the House of the death of Dick Bushell, a long-term employee of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation. Mr. Bushell, as director of our design section, was an integral part of the management team that brought a high quality housing product to the North.

Mr. Bushell died on March 11, 1990 in Edmonton after a lengthy illness leaving behind his wife, Carol, his daughter, Serena, and his son, Cary. Condolences are extended to the family on behalf of this government and the Housing Corporation. Thank you.

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

Ministers' Statement 34-90(1): 1990 Arctic Winter Games

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last week Yellowknife and the Northwest Territories played host to the 11th Arctic Winter Games and celebrated the 20th anniversary of the games, first staged in 1970 here in Yellowknife.

The Games were highlighted by the participation of an athletic and cultural contingent from Greenland and cultural performers from the Soviet Union. For the first time ever, the Arctic Winter Games were a truly circumpolar event.

Over 1200 athletes, officials and cultural performers descended on Yellowknife this past week. To make their stay a memorable one took the superhuman effort of 1200 volunteers of the 1990 Yellowknife Arctic Winter Games host society. As the Minister responsible for the Arctic Winter Games, and on behalf of the Government of the Northwest Territories, I would like to express appreciation to all those who volunteered to make these 11th Arctic Winter Games the best ever.

Her Worship Mayor Pat McMahon and Yellowknife City Council; president of the host society, Don Sian, and his board of directors; general manager, Peter Doyle, and his staff, and especially Denise Baptie who co-ordinated the recruitment of volunteers; all these individuals deserve our vote of thanks for simply the biggest and best Arctic Winter Games ever staged.

We have much to be proud of here in the Northwest Territories. The soul of our territory is its pride and spirit and nowhere was this more evident than this past week during the 1990 Arctic Winter Games. Thank you.

---Applause

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

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Recreational Facilities

MR. NINGARK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now that the session has started once again, the skating rink facilities in the NWT that are being utilized in the NWT, we must really try to keep them upgraded. It is a lot better health-wise to exercise. Since we have lots of things to worry about nowadays, it helps a lot to utilize the facilities. They were a top priority with MACA. I know we do not have any funds but they are really good for the use of young people since there are lots of other things to worry about. I really stress that it would be helpful for our use since there are lots of unfortunate things -- we cannot buy them. When we do not have facilities and when youths commit suicide it is very unfortunate when they have mental problems. I would like to stress that I am going to keep working on this as best I can.

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

Member's Statement On Art Work Displayed In Chamber

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During the last week while the Arctic Winter Games were going on, several people found their way into the vestibule here to enjoy the art display. While they were in the building, many of them took the opportunity to come into this chamber. I would like to tell Members that many of the people I talked to who came into this chamber were very impressed, not just with the art outside but with the fact that we had tastefully decorated this chamber with various kinds of skins, including the beautiful skins behind the Speaker, as well as the panels in front of each individual Member. Many people who came in here just to watch an art display came here and said, "That is a wonderful piece of art. It is very simple, very, very classy. If you have the opportunity you should tell Members that is a wonderful way of not only making an artistic statement -- very simple -but also to make a statement about our basic economy which is so threatened." Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is all I want to say.

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

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Lewis on February 23, 1990. Mr. Lewis asked about a jury trial in

Iqaluit during which Mr. Justice Boilard was presiding as a deputy judge of the Supreme Court. Mr. Lewis was under the impression that the reason why unilingual jurors were not considered to sit on the jury was because the presiding judge declared that our Jury Act was ultra vires.

My officials have reviewed the transcript of the case. There was no ruling as to whether the Jury Act, or any of its provisions, was ultra vires. The judge commented that he had questions about how the unilingual jurors provision would work, and that since he was only a deputy judge he would rather not deal with it.

The practice with this provision is that it is used where the judge and both counsel agree that the case is an appropriate one. In the case in question, counsel for the accused person and counsel for the Crown both agreed to excuse unilingual jurors and therefore the validity of the Jury Act was not brought into issue.

There have been questions about this provision throughout its short history, but after a thorough review prior to proclamation, the committee on law reform concluded that it had a sound basis in law. This provision, which allows unilingual aboriginal persons to serve on juries, is of tremendous benefit to the people of the Northwest Territories. In making this enactment the Legislative Assembly was charting new legal territory. In new areas of the law there are always questions and uncertainty but new things must be tried to maintain a legal system which reflects society's values. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Further Return To Question O253-90(1): Type Of Air Fare For Patients' Travel

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Kilabuk on February 28, 1990, regarding the type of air fare for patients' travel. I am pleased to respond to the honourable Member for Baffin Central who asked if patients on medical travel were routinely flown out of the community on wait-list status. Although I do not have the specific details of the incident to which the Member refers, I can describe how the patient referral system handles similar

When a resident is required to travel on a non-emergency basis for medical services, the patient referral officers make every effort to book the travel at regular economy rates on a scheduled carrier. There are times when all seats on the scheduled carrier are fully booked. In this case, the patient referral officer will place the patient on the wait-list. Since booked passengers frequently cancel or do not turn up for the flight, a high percentage of patients who are on the wait-list do end up boarding the plane.

The Department of Health tries to arrange for timely travel of patients on a regular economy fare. The wait-list is only used when a scheduled flight is fully booked. In the small number of cases where a patient on the wait-list is unable to board the plane, the patient referral officer contacts the referring physician or community nurse to review the patient's condition. If the patient can wait a few days he or she will be booked on a scheduled flight at a regular economy rate. If the need for medical travel is urgent, a charter is then arranged. Thank you.

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

Further Return To Question 072-90(1): Reopening Of Cullaton Mine

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to a question asked by Mr. Pollard on February 14, with regard to the reopening of the Cullaton mine. Further to my response to Mr. Pollard, officials of my department have contacted Mr. Rob MacCallum of Corona Corporation to determine the status of the Cullaton Lake gold mine and to review the feasibility of reopening the mine. Corona Corporation has no plans to reopen the mine at present due to the nature of the ore body that exists there. Corona assumed ownership of the mine from Royex when Corona Corporation was formed. Royex acquired the property when Cullaton Lake Gold Mines Ltd. was amalgamated with Royex in 1984. In 1985 the mine was closed after the ore zone was mined out and no further reserves were discovered.

Corona Corporation did not actively seek to acquire the property. They simply acquired it in the course of events. This company, Corona, is one of the premier gold mining companies in the world with assets of over \$140 million, gold production in 1989 projected at 650,000 ounces and gold reserves estimated at over seven million ounces.

While they are prepared to discuss socio-economic agreements with the Government of the Northwest Territories, it is not a lack of financial resources or government assistance that is preventing them from reopening the Cullaton Lake gold mines; it is a lack of gold in the ground at that property.

My officials and officials from Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources will meet with representatives of Corona Corporation in March at the Prospectors and Developers Association convention to discuss their exploration plans and their plans for the plant at the Cullaton Lake site. Any pertinent information will be passed on to Mr. Pollard after that meeting. Thank you.

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

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

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to a question asked by Mr. Morin on February 19, with regard to cullage rates, Great Slave Lake. As Economic Development and Tourism holds a seat on the Great Slave Lake management committee, we share Mr. Morin's concerns over high cullage rates on the Great Slave Lake summer fishery. As a representative of the NWT Metis Association, Mr. Morin knows that the cullage rate for the 1989 summer fishery was estimated at 17.6 per cent and the cullage rate for the 1988 summer fishery was estimated at 19.9 per cent. The majority of cullage occurred on the vessels, 15 per cent in both 1988 and 1989; in 1979, the cullage rate on vessels was 4.8 per cent.

Obviously the high cullage rates observed in the last two summer seasons are serious. These rates are probably a function of two factors: unusually high summer temperatures and infrequent net lifting.

Nets left without a lift for over two nights produce very high numbers of fish culls through drowning. This effect is compounded by high water temperatures during warm summers. To address these problems we are encouraging winter fishing on the lake, and making financial contributions toward the purchase of equipment which will make summer fishing operations more efficient.

Cullage rates in winter are lower due to colder temperatures; since we cannot change the weather we are encouraging fishermen to shift effort to the winter season through a program of production subsidies and contributions toward the purchase of better equipment. For instance, as I announced in this House a couple of weeks ago, this winter we are offering fishermen harvesting from area five, a lake freight subsidy of 15 cents per pound. In the past, freight subsidies have been limited to the summer season.

To alleviate problems with fish spoilage in summer we are making contributions toward the purchase of such gear as refrigeration units, radar, and insulated fish boxes. Also, we have funded replacement of older vessels which have become obsolete. Since we have no regulatory authority in the commercial fishery, as an agency we cannot fine fishermen for leaving nets more than 24 hours between lifts. We are a development agency and seek to accomplish the goals of our mandate through incentives and advice. Through promotion of a shift of fishing effort to a colder season and financial aid toward increased efficiency of the summer fleet, we intend to contribute to reduced cullage rates in the Great Slave Lake fishery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question O296-90(1): Baffin Representation At Arctic Winter Games

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs with regard to the Arctic Winter Games recently held. We had no representatives from the Baffin Region on the Arctic Winter Games team. I am talking more about the traditional aspects of the Arctic Winter Games, for instance Inuit drumming and throat singing, and my question is concerning these two competitions. We have excellent throat singers in the Baffin Region; why were they not invited? That is my question. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Kivallivik.

Return To Question 0296-90(1): Baffin Representation At Arctic Winter Games

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you. The cultural performances were not a part of the Arctic Winter Games competitions; there were no prizes awarded for cultural performances. The cultural performers were invited by the host society, and the Member is mistaken when he says there was no representation from Baffin. The Pond Inlet theatre group were here all week and staged various performances throughout the community. There was representation, both on the cultural side and on the athletic side, from Baffin.

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

Supplementary To Question O296-90(1): Baffin Representation At Arctic Winter Games

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I understand, but I did not see them personally. I came in on the 14th. I was a bit concerned because I understood the representation was strictly from the Keewatin, the throat singers and the drum dancers. We might have to have equal representation in the future, I would think. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: I did not hear a question; however, I will

allow the honourable Member for Kivallivik to respond if he heard a question.

Further Return To Question O296-90(1): Baffin Representation At Arctic Winter Games

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you. I agree that there should be more equal representation. I think we should have more performers from the Keewatin because the way I figure it, there were three from the Keewatin and there were seven cultural performers from the Baffin, so the Keewatin lost out.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: That is a good start. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

Question O297-90(1): Increase Of Brucellosis In Caribou

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be directed to the Government Leader, in the absence of the Minister of Renewable Resources. Last week, on March 14th, I went out caribou hunting and I caught one caribou which had brucellosis. I understand, Mr. Speaker, that the situation with regard to brucellosis is that it is increasing. In other words, the Renewable Resources officers are receiving more and more information about the sickness of caribou. I am wondering, Mr. Speaker, if the Government Leader could confirm that this is, in fact, true and tell us what the government is doing about it.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Renewable Resources is attending a Globe '90 conference on the environment this week, for the earlier part of this week, in Vancouver. I will take that question for him, Mr. Speaker. I will have to take it as notice, Mr. Speaker, but I will provide the House with information as soon as possible on this problem. I know the Department of Renewable Resources is studying it carefully and I will provide all the information possible shortly, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Question O298-90(1): Criteria Used To Choose Cultural Performers For Arctic Winter Games

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister responsible for the Arctic Winter Games. I would like to ask the Minister, since the cultural performers chosen were a theatre group from Pond Inlet, from the riding of Amittuq, and since the drummers and throat singers were from the northern part of the Keewatin, Baker Lake, I would like to ask the Minister what criteria were used to decide that these were the very best throat singers and the very best drummers and the people that were doing their theatre stuff were the very best people that would showcase our talents for the rest of the circumpolar world that were here last week.

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

Return To Question 0298-90(1): Criteria Used To Choose Cultural Performers For Arctic Winter Games

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I really do not know. The responsibility for selecting cultural performers was not the responsibility of the government. It was the responsibility of the cultural committee of the host society.

which was made up by the host society here in Yellowknife. I do know that the Pond Inlet theatre group and the Baker Lake drummers and dancers have become very popular over the years. The Baker Lake throat singers and drummers gained their popularity at Expo and the Pond Inlet theatre group has been gaining popularity over the last couple of years. But I have no idea what criteria were used whatsoever, because it had nothing to do with us. It was the host society who was responsible for organizing those events.

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

Question O299-90(1): Doctor For Fort Simpson

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Health what arrangements, if any, have been made to have a permanent doctor in Fort Simpson.

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I will have to take that question under advisement. Thank you.

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

Question O300-90(1): Outstanding Staffing Appeals

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister responsible for the Department of Personnel. I have a list of 34 outstanding appeals. Could the Minister tell me whether she has now come to an agreement with the Union of Northern Workers as to how these appeals are going to be handled?

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

Return To Question O300-90(1): Outstanding Staffing Appeals

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, no, I have not come to any agreement. Thank you.

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

Question O301-90(1): Round Table Approach To Management Of Buffalo

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Government Leader, in the absence of the Minister of Renewable Resources. Mr. Government Leader, has your government undertaken at all to try to convince Agriculture Canada to accept a round table approach to the management of the buffalo in the Slave River lowlands as well as Wood Buffalo National Park, a round table management regime that could address the problem and try to figure out a way to solve it?

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister of Renewable Resources is representing this government at the Globe '90 conference on the environment in Vancouver this week, Mr. Speaker. That is why he is not in the House. I think the honourable Member's suggestion has great merit but I would like to take it as notice and respond as soon as possible. Thank you.

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

Question O302-90(1): Expiration Date Of RCMP Contract

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister responsible for Justice, when does the contract with the RCMP expire?

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

Return To Question O302-90(1): Expiration Date Of RCMP Contract

HON, MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The end of 1991.

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

Supplementary To Question O302-90(1): Expiration Date Of RCMP Contract

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand that negotiations are already under way for a new contract. I also understand that it is for a longer period of time. Is this correct?

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

Further Return To Question O302-90(1): Expiration Date Of RCMP Contract

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The negotiations are at a very preliminary stage right now and my understanding is that they are still looking at terms of 10 years but there is still some room to negotiate, potentially, a longer term than that. I would like to tell the honourable Member that right now we are formulating a formal position which I am going to bring in front of cabinet in the next two or three weeks, and I will have something to present to the House here in the fall session as to the position that we will be taking at the negotiations. We do not expect that they will be concluded for another year.

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

Question O303-90(1): Additional Doctor For Keewatin

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister responsible for Health. I have read in the newspaper that we have one doctor in the Keewatin. I have also heard that they might have an additional doctor in the Keewatin. My question is to the Minister, through you, Mr. Speaker. When will this doctor start and where is he going to be located? Thank you.

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, as the question that has been presented to me, through you, to answer is the responsibility of the Keewatin Regional Health Board, I will attempt to see at what stage their negotiations are, in terms of the doctor and where he is going to be located. Thank you.

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

Question O304-90(1): Need For Weather Observers To Work On Weekends

MR. NINGARK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister responsible for Transportation. In the areas of Pelly Bay, Spence Bay and Gjoa Haven the weather observers work from Monday to Friday. We do have some planes that come in on Saturday and Sunday and I wonder if the weather observers work on Saturday or Sunday when there is a plane coming in. Since we sometimes have bad weather it is very important for the weather observers to work.

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

Return To Question O304-90(1): Need For Weather Observers To Work On Weekends

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The weather observers at our airports are funded by the Government of Canada. We are having some major problems with Transport Canada in the whole of what is called the CARS operation. We are attempting to get Transport Canada to recognize that there have to be more than one observer trained in each community; that there has to be a backup observer, perhaps within the hamlet staff, who can take over when the observer is on holiday or is sick or wants a weekend off. Transport Canada, to date, have refused to fund any extra dollars for a backup observer but the negotiations are continuing.

The Northern Air Transport Association has raised the issue as a major concern; we have raised the issue as a major concern; so we are negotiating with Transport Canada to try and get some funding to allow a secondary backup at these airports. Thank you.

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

Question O305-90(1): Abandoned Vehicles On NWT Highways

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question that I would like to direct to the Minister responsible for Highways. Along highway 3, in particular, there are a number of abandoned vehicles. People, for some reason, leave cars on the highway and they have been there for years. I am just wondering if the Minister and his department have any plans for the removal of these vehicles along highway 3.

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

Return To Question O305-90(1): Abandoned Vehicles On NWT Highways

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you. I do not know if we have any plans but we do have a policy. I thank the Member for notice on this question. There is a right of way of 60 metres, or 200 feet, on the highway. The Department of Transportation can remove obstructions within the 60 metre right of way. A vehicle parked on the highway, including the 60 metre right of way, for more than 72 hours, without a note attached stating that the owner will be recovering the vehicle, is declared abandoned.

I do not know where these vehicles are; they may be out of the 60 metre right of way. If they are on federal crown land it would be the responsibility of Indian Affairs. Certainly within the 200 foot right of way, if a vehicle is there 72 hours without a note, the vehicle is declared abandoned and we can remove it. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O305-90(1): Abandoned Vehicles On NWT Highways

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Speaker, the question is still related to abandoned vehicles. A lot of the vehicles that I am referring to are located in the borrow pits that are along the highways. Are those borrow pits the property of the territorial government?

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

Further Return To Question 0305-90(1): Abandoned Vehicles On NWT Highways

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Without knowing the specific location it is difficult to answer that question. I would have to have more specifics because it depends on whether they fall within the 60 metre right of way or whether it is Commissioner's land or federal crown land. I would really have to know the specifics before I would answer that. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O305-90(1): Abandoned Vehicles On NWT Highways

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Speaker, will the Minister, then, assure me that his officials will look into getting the specifics? I can tell them approximately where they are if he needs help.

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

Further Return To Question O305-90(1): Abandoned Vehicles On NWT Highways

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you. If the Member tells me the specifics, then I will look into doing something.

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

Question O306-90(1): Parking Places On NWT Highways For Trappers

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Minister of Transportation. It has come to my attention that a lot of the trappers leave their vehicles parked on the highway when they run their traps for the day. Could arrangements be made with the department, or whoever has the contract, to make slight indents in the snowbanks so that they can park off the road? Because this is quite dangerous, especially when you have big trucks going by a parked vehicle on the road. Someone could run into them, so it would be good if those arrangements could be made. Thank you.

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

Return To Question O306-90(1): Parking Places On NWT Highways For Trappers

HON. GORDON WRAY: Once again, Mr. Speaker, I would

have to know the specifics. Clearing snowbanks along 1000 kilometres of highways for people who want to park would be very costly and very time-consuming. I would have to know the specifics of where and under what conditions that request is being made. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question 0306-90(1): Parking Places On NWT Highways For Trappers

MR. MCRIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, supplementary. So the trapper would just make a request to the department, is that how that would be handled? Thank you.

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

Further Return To Question O306-90(1): Parking Places On NWT Highways For Trappers

HON. GORDON WRAY: It would really depend on where he is going to park his vehicle. I would suggest that if there was a pull-off close by, or a little road leading off, then that would suffice; but if the trapper is going to leave his vehicle on the side of the highway, what he may wish to do is advise the local crew chief as to where he is leaving his vehicle and how long it is going to be there, so they at least know that the vehicle is going to be there.

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

Question O307-90(1): Agreement On Outstanding Staffing Appeals

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, I have talked to Darm Crook at the Union of Northern Workers and he assures me that a meeting has been held with the Minister of Personnel in connection with 34 outstanding appeals and an understanding had been reached between the union and the Minister that this proposed solution would be taken to the cabinet. Is this an accurate description of the events to date in handling these appeals?

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

Return To Question O307-90(1): Agreement On Outstanding Staffing Appeals

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, no.

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

Question O308-90(1): Recruitment Of Administrator For Justice Of Peace Program

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question to the Minister of Justice. I wonder what the status of the recruitment of an administrator for the justice of the peace program would be.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I will take the question as notice and get back to the Member on it.

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

Question O309-90(1): Old Age Pension Delays In Kitikmeot

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Social Services. I am sure she will recall that about three weeks ago I asked a question about the old people in places like Pelly Bay, Gjoa Haven and Spence Bay, and probably the other communities, who are eligible but not getting the old age pension because no proper records were kept either by the RCMP, the government people or by the missionaries 20 years ago, 50 years ago, whenever. I would like to know if the Minister would direct her staff within my riding, Pelly Bay, Gjoa Haven and Spence Bay, to look into this matter immediately. Thank you.

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

Return To Question O309-90(1): Old Age Pension Delays In Kitikmeot

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

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

Question O310-90(1): Recruitment Of Deputy Minister Of Personnel

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Government Leader. Since it is very important that we, as quickly as possible, get a person to be the chief administrative officer for the Department of Personnel at the deputy minister level, could the Government Leader tell us today whether they have been successful in locating an individual to fill that position yet?

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

Return To Question O310-90(1): Recruitment Of Deputy Minister Of Personnel

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Not yet, Mr. Speaker.

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

Supplementary To Question O310-90(1): Recruitment Of Deputy Minister Of Personnel

MR. LEWIS: I would like to ask the Government Leader then, Mr. Speaker, since this is a key position and there are many many problems to be resolved, whether interviews have been held to fill this position.

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

Further Return To Question O310-90(1): Recruitment Of Deputy Minister Of Personnel

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

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

Supplementary To Question O310-90(1): Recruitment Of Deputy Minister Of Personnel

MR. LEWIS: Is this position, Mr. Speaker, going to result in a direct appointment or, in fact, are we going to have a real competition which has been well advertised throughout the country?

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

Further Return To Question O310-90(1): Recruitment Of Deputy Minister Of Personnel

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, there has been a real competition, which was well advertised, for this position.

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

Question O311-90(1): Community Opposition To Policy Changes On Water And Sewer Costs

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs with regard to the wages of the employees on the water and sewer trucks. The plan that you have is that only the drivers will be provided with wage funding. That is the new policy. If that will be the case, that will create problems, especially for the smaller communities, because they would require more funding for the helper. When this is opposed by the community hamlets, most likely throughout all of the NWT, will you let this go through even though there are a lot of problems or disagreements? Thank you.

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

Return To Question O311-90(1): Community Opposition To Policy Changes On Water and Sewer Costs

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, the major problem with the accounting procedure is that it has been massively misunderstood at the community level. It has been misunderstood because a draft document of our government has been used as the final document, and a concerned phone call made from one of the communities all around the North has provided incorrect and incomplete information with regard to the funding of water and sewer trucks.

There is not a limitation on the individuals in the trucks. It is the truck that is funded, the water and sewer truck. The water and sewer trucks are provided with a certain funding formula which will allow the community to man those vehicles as they see fit. The problem at the present time is that the communities do not understand the present accounting procedures. I realize that a meeting was held in the Baffin, but apparently the communities have not understood what is occurring, and I will indicate, as a result of the Member's question, that I will have the MACA people in Iqaluit communicate with both communities in his constituency and advise them of the funding arrangements.

Members will be interested to know that departmental staff, the deputy minister and his assistants, went to Cambridge Bay in the last two weeks and there was a very extensive discussion with municipal officials there, and I believe a better understanding of the new accounting procedures has developed as a result of that meeting. As I say, there has been a lot of misunderstanding with the implementation process.

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

Question O312-90(1): Federal-Territorial Ministerial Meeting On Budget Cuts To Native Organizations

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My

question is to the Government Leader with regard to the budget cuts that were imposed on the aboriginal people by the federal government. Can the Government Leader tell me whether Minister Allooloo has met with Mr. Weiner who is the Secretary of State of Canada and whether he was given good news on that matter? Are you ready to provide us with information on this? Thank you.

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

Return To Question O312-90(1): Federal-Territorial Ministerial Meeting On Budget Cuts To Native Organizations

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Culture and Communications met with the Secretary of State, Mr. Weiner, the week before last on the issue of cuts to native communications societies and broadcasters in the Northwest Territories. Mr. Speaker, I believe that our Minister did not get much comfort from the Secretary of State about immediate relief for the problems caused by these cuts. The Secretary of State did say that he was going to have his regional officials meet with the communications societies affected in various parts of the country. He talked about setting up an interdepartmental task force within the federal government to look at other options. He said that he was open to proposals and suggestions about ways of coping with the cuts, but he did not provide any indication that the cuts would be restored. So, I cannot say that there was much hope coming out of that meeting, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O312-90(1): Federal-Territorial Ministerial Meeting On Budget Cuts To Native Organizations

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to the Government Leader. This creates a lot of inconvenience for the aboriginal people. Could the territorial government keep pushing the federal government? I am sure with consultation that there can be a solution. Thank you.

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

Further Return To Question O312-90(1): Federal-Territorial Ministerial Meeting On Budget Cuts To Native Organizations

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, we are still pushing the federal government and we are still hopeful that at least some solutions can be found. Thank you.

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

Question O313-90(1): Musk-Ox Quota For Snowdrift

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. Mr. Minister, recently it has come to my attention that the Denendeh Conservation Board released a quota of 14 musk-ox in the Snowdrift area to be harvested. Would your department undertake to help and assist the community of Snowdrift, not only to benefit domestically from those musk-ox, but economically to set up a harvesting plan and possibly a big

game hunting plan with these animals? Will your department help the community to negotiate with Renewable Resources so that they do not do the same thing they basically did in Providence where you do not get a lot of economic development spin-offs from the harvesting of the buffalo in that area? I am hoping that this will not happen with the musk-ox in our area. Thank you.

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

Return To Question O313-90(1): Musk-Ox Quota For Snowdrift

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My department would be pleased to work with the community and the Department of Renewable Resources to develop that resource consistent with the government's policy on sustainable development. Thank you.

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

Question O314-90(1): Fuel Tank Leakage, Rankin Inlet

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. In Rankin Inlet there was a leakage from our fuel tank in 1973 and another one more recently. I think you are aware of those two incidents. I think there were some investigations done. I wonder what has been done to date, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister what results have they come up with in regard to the Rankin Inlet leakage from the fuel tank.

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

Return To Question O314-90(1): Fuel Tank Leakage, Rankin Inlet

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I thank the honourable Member for giving me notice of his question a few moments ago. I am not aware of the more recent spill in the particular area, but with regard to the 1973 spill there has been a study carried out, I believe, by the same firm that looked into the problems associated with the tailings pond. That report is, to my knowledge, almost ready for completion. I do not know if the various individuals who have been working with the consultants have agreed on the report. It is very close to being finalized. I believe when it is, it will be put before the Rankin Inlet Council for its examination and response. But I do not think the report is concluded yet. However, I could be wrong.

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

Question O315-90(1): Status Of Interpreters For Unilingual Jurors

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Justice. In his answer this morning on an oral question I had asked about the status of unilingual jurors, could he indicate to me what the status of an interpreter is when a jury goes into its session and someone who has not been sworn in as a juror has to sit in on that jury meeting and has a very, very uncertain status among that group?

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

Return To Question 0315-90(1): Status Of Interpreters For Unilingual Jurors

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The situation as yet has not arisen where interpreters actually went into the jury room. When that situation does arise, which it will, it will then be up to the presiding judge to set out the protocol for how that will be handled. The situation up to now has not arisen.

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

Supplementary To Question O315-90(1): Status Of Interpreters For Unilingual Jurors

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since the Minister of Justice is familiar with the case I quoted in Iqaluit, could he indicate then whether the interpreter in this case who had to go into the jury room was required to be closeted with the jury and could not, in fact, return to his residence and would he be treated the same way as all other jurors in relation to confidentiality of that hearing?

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

Further Return To Question O315-90(1): Status Of Interpreters For Unilingual Jurors

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my understanding in the particular case in question, unilingual jurors were not used in the trial, so there was no need for interpreters in the trial. I said we have not come to that. It is a difficult area of law. We are breaking new ground. We have not come to the situation where a judge would have to decide whether or not they would let an interpreter in the jury room and what would be the protocol used as to how the interpreter would carry out his official duties in that jury room. So we have not come to that yet. As I said, we have moved fairly carefully, in a well-considered way, through this process. There has been already one trial where unilingual jurors were used. Before the judge had made a judgment as to whether or not the interpreter would go into the jury room, within the jury room itself, the bilingual jurors explained the fact to the unilingual juror and they came out with a decision. So it might well be that there would be no need for the interpreters to actually go into the jury room. It might well be that bilingual people would be able to deal with it. But that protocol has not been developed yet.

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

Supplementary To Question 0315-90(1): Status Of Interpreters For Unilingual Jurors

MR. LEWIS: On the same case, Mr. Speaker. In the Iqaluit case, since the deputy judge who came in from Quebec, as I understand it, did set aside many of these jurors or potential jurors because they were unilingual, and apparently did have that power to do so, and did not make a ruling as to whether unilingual people were acceptable or not, because he felt it was something that was not within his jurisdiction to make a judgment about, what has the Minister done about pursuing this particular issue of a judge setting aside members of the public who could not be jurors simply because they were unilingual?

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

Further Return To Question O315-90(1): Status Of Interpreters For Unilingual Jurors

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I would like to emphasize that in the rest of the country up until we changed the act it always had happened that way. I thought I explained in my response to the honourable Member, that there was agreement between the defense counsel for the accused, the Crown prosecutor and the deputy judge, in this particular case not to use unilingual jurors, so that the accused's counsel was involved in that decision.

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

Question O316-90(1): Williamson Lake Reservoir, Rankin

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. It is regarding housing lots in Rankin Inlet. I am asking about the Williamson Lake reservoir. What are they going to do about that lake in the summertime? We use it as a water reservoir but the water always tastes really terrible. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs what they are going to do with that lake.

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

Return To Question O316-90(1): Williamson Lake Reservoir, Rankin Inlet

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, again, I thank the Member for giving me notice of that question. I was able to do some research in the interim. As he knows, the mayor and her councillors on January 16 were informed that the Williamson Lake project that had been proposed for 1990-91 was to be deferred one year. The mayor did indicate to me by letter, on hearing that information, of her extreme displeasure and that displeasure has been reflected by the honourable Member. On that occasion the mayor and her councillors passed a motion which indicated that the hamlet council would not tolerate any deferrals of this project past the 1991-92 fiscal year.

The proposal for fixing that problem, because it certainly is one that has been plaguing the Rankin Inlet community for many years, is that a two-day storage tank facility would be put in place in the 1991-92 fiscal year. There have been a number of delays and problems associated with the project because in the initial projection the department was looking at both a 30-day storage and a seven-day storage facility. These two plans were too costly in view of the capital allowed, and the project now is based on a two-day storage facility. There is some work being done with the community to ensure that the consumption rates experienced in the community and the tank design will be integrated and can be worked out. There has been a delay, too, because there has been a disagreement on the site for the tanks. The council has suggested one area and the department has been unable to accept this because of the additional cost of \$500,000 which would be added to the cost at this particular site.

In response to the Member's question, the project is rescheduled for the fiscal year 1991-92. The final planning and the site selection should be completed by the end of July of this year. Then the design and the tendering in place and completed before early in 1991.

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

Item 6, written questions. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

ITEM 6: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question W19-90(1): History Of Transfer Of Baker Lake Inuit South

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a written question to the Government Leader. In 1923-24, four Inuit were taken out of Baker Lake and transported to the Maritimes by ship and to the Montreal area. These Inuit, including Lionel Angotinguar, Athanasie Angotitaq, Savikataaq and Louis Tapatai, spent a whole year in southern Canada. Could the Government Leader provide a bit of history about these four Inuit and inform this House as to why these Inuit went out to southern Canada in the first place? Thank you.

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

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

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

Item 9, petitions. Petitions.

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

ITEM 11: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Tabled Document 42-90(1), a document regarding the hamlet of Lake Harbour in respect to water and sewage delivery and the funding for that. They are very unhappy with the present arrangement. Thank you.

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

Item 12, notices of motion. Notices of motion.

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

Item 14, motions. Motions.

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

Item 16, second reading of bills. Second reading of bills. Item 17, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Committee Report 1-90(1), Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on the 1990-91 Main Estimates; Bill 9-90(1), Appropriation Act, 1990-91; Committee Report 2-90(1), SCONE 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 Northwest Territories, with Mr. Pudluk in the chair.

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The committee will now come to order. What does the government wish to do today? Mr. Government House Leader.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. With the

committee's concurrence, we would like to continue with the Department of Education budget.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): What does the committee wish? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

-Agreed

Department Of Education

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister, do you wish to bring in any witnesses at this time? Does the House agree? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

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

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

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we left off on this department on Thursday, March 1st, we had had some comments from Members and from the Minister regarding the private school, residential school, elite school, whatever. Members who commented on that referred to it as a school, either as a residential school, a private school, an elite school, by various terms. The Minister seemed to indicate that it was not so, that it seemed to be residences using existing high schools. Could the Minister, to start with, clarify that for me? What, exactly, is it that we are proposing in this?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, since I started talking about this in February, the suggestion has always been, and I tried to articulate that in the presentation to the Kitikmeot Divisional Board of Education, that it was my view that we should look at providing special residences to the people of the North, particularly for those regions that still have to send their students away to other communities to finish their high schooling. For those parents and for those students who want a more challenging, perhaps more demanding, kind of a program of hard studies, a highly demanding sports program, and a program looking at improving and developing outdoor skills, traditional skills — we would provide special residences for students like this. Perhaps by doing this, we may provide the environment for developing young leaders of tomorrow.

The Member is correct that I never advocated special schools in the North at this time. We do not have the money and we do not have the population base to try anything like that at this time.

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

Public Institution Should Not Promote Elitism

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Even at that, I must go on record as being one, and I may be the only one, that really does have severe difficulties with this concept. It

seems to me as a public government that the mandate and the objective of the Department of Education should be to provide the best possible education for the children and students of the Northwest Territories -- for all the students of the NWT. I think that the only ones that we can justify using additional funding for are those who have special learning difficulties and need special attention in order to be brought up to the standard.

I think it is wrong to create a system at public expense for what has been referred to a number of times, both by the Minister and by other Members, as potential leadership. I do not believe that leaders are created in schools or in residences. Even the examples that were used here -- some Members of this House I dare say were not leaders the day they came out of residential schools. Leadership is something you earn from your peers over a period of time and culminates when people have sufficient confidence in you that, in fact, a large enough number of them wish to vote for you. I do not think it is something we teach in school. I think if we, in a concentrated effort such as this, try to promote elitism, it is something which I cannot agree with.

I also want to point out that there are many people in leadership roles in the NWT today who did not go to these systems. Members of this House, the three honourable gentlemen sitting to my right I know did not go through that. I think the chairman of the committee did not go through this system, and I dare say they are as good and as great leaders as anyone else in this House.

We do have programs, as the Minister mentioned, through bursary programs now for specially gifted children where, particularly if the thing they are gifted with is something measurable like, for instance, athletic abilities or a talent for music. I think something as vague as leadership potential is much more difficult to define. In fact, I would be greatly worried about who would be the ones given the power to pick the youngsters who have this potential. Personally, I would not wish to have that. I would not want to see us set up a system, either, that would become a substitute for parental responsibilities. In my opinion, the things that we have talked about, that we are trying to achieve with this, are a substitute for what -- all the attributes the Members feel that will be instilled in this school -- should, in fact, be instilled in the children by their parents and in the home. I think that is something we should work on far more. If we could use the money allocation that we are planning to use for this proposal to raise the general level of education for all the children, I think we would be far better off.

Costs Of New Residences Hard To Justify

Mr. Chairman, I agree with the Minister that to construct special schools would be very expensive, but to construct special residences is also extremely expensive. In fact, I believe that we should back off a little bit on our capital construction plans for the Department of Education. Not only for this department, but since we are discussing that right now, I will mention why. I think we have to get back and look at the objective of education, and then try to see if we meet it. I do not think that we do so through the residences that we are providing. I cannot, for instance, see, Mr. Chairman, why it has made sense in Fort Simpson to close down the hostels and go to a home boarding system, and yet in Iqaluit we home board hardly anyone, but we must continue on with an exceedingly expensive housing program for student residences.

Just some figures on that, Mr. Chairman. In the numbers that are contained in our capital estimates which cover previous years, this year, next year and future years -- it is not a

particularly long span that it covers -- we will have constructed in Iqaluit three residences. This year there are student hostels for three million dollars; there is \$950,000 for married residences and \$400,000 for a student residence between high school and Nunatta Campus. There were \$2.8 million in past expenditures and there are \$6,045,000 in future. That is a total of \$13,715,000 spent in one community, granted on behalf of a region. I really do not see how we justify that.

Mr. Chairman, in the same capital estimates for housing for the NWT under the Housing Corporation this year we intend to provide 140 public housing units, 144 HAP housing units, and our share of that cost — what we are prepared to spend on that together with 50 northern rental replacement houses — is precisely the same amount, \$13,750,000, and that buys us 334 houses. Might it not be a better value for the money spent, if we feel that we need this accommodation for residents of the NWT who happen to be attending an educational institution at the time — might it not have been better to build perhaps half of these housing units that we are prepared to build this year, say 170 houses, in Iqaluit and solve the housing problem and the residency problem at the same time?

These are only capital costs. I am not sure how many hostels we are planning to build in Iqaluit this year for the three million dollars. Perhaps the Minister could inform me of that. Also, I do not know what the O and M costs are going to be. Are there going to be houseparents attached to every one? Will there be cooks or whatever? I really think it is a scary level of expenditure when you consider that primarily it is an expenditure - I cannot see that it is a well thought out one because if it is valid there, then surely it would be equally valid in the other regions of the NWT. I cannot accept that it is a valid thing to spend that kind of money in Iqaluit for the Baffin Region when the total opposite, that of going to home boarding as in Fort Simpson, seems to be the way we should go -- or for that matter the total absence of any capital expenditure for the Kitikmeot Region in the Minister's capital budget.

I will pause there a while, Mr. Chairman, and let the Minister comment back to me, please.

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

Existing Resources To Be Used For Western Residences

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, I think I will have to ask the Member how he gets his figures. Because if we are talking about the concern of the added cost of providing special residences to those regions in the North that seem to be in the western part of the Territories, then he will note that there is no allocation in this budget, in capital, for providing these special residences. The intent right now is to use existing resources to try to come up with a project, if something could be set up that more and more would be cost shared with funds from the private sector for those companies and organizations and businesses that like the idea of providing a more challenging and demanding environment and program to those students that want to put themselves under such a program.

I do not know how it fits into the overall education capital budget of the Baffin. It has always been my impression, long before I became an MLA, that the Baffin is always allocated a sizeable part of the capital budget because they are a large, remote, and fast growing region. I think there has been adequate planning to provide those buildings and capital projects that the region requires. There has been good planning, at least over the last couple of years that I have been there. It can probably be argued by those that came

before me that they also did some good planning.

I agree with the Member that we do not want to suck money away from those things that should be universally provided to everyone. We should not be taking money away from the general population to serve only an elite, but it is also internationally accepted that there is a demand for private learning institutions for certain groups to excel and grow at the level they can. It is my view that the Dene and Metis would be well served by such an institution. If the Inuit are interested to have such special residences provided in their regions, then we will do that as well. As a government we would hope to provide the initiative to see something delivered.

All of us are faced with some tremendous changes in the next while, most notably through the vehicle of land claims settlements. You have a small population of which a great part is not properly educated. We have another part of the population which is very young. We have a population that has a sizable number who are retired or considered senior citizens. So the number of people we have who are actually educated, who are willing and able to work and who are good, capable leaders, is not as great a number as we would like to think. Perhaps Members would disagree with me. But it seems to me more than ever we need more leaders and this is one way in which it could be achieved, to provide a challenging, demanding program for students.

Responsibilities Of Parents

I agree that we should provide more of a challenge for parents to be better parents, to develop their skills as parents. Our department has tried to focus on that in the last couple of years. We are doing that by setting up divisional boards and giving back the responsibility for education to the people in the regions. It is not the best mechanism in the world, but we have also offered to redraft the whole new Education Act so that people in the communities and regions can articulate how they would like to redefine their relationship between the communities and regional board and relationship with the government, what the Ministers should and should not be able to do, and what the roles and responsibilities of the staff are. That is all made available.

The Members would also be aware that there is a good number of people in our communities who are single parents, who are unilingual, who are not well equipped to provide support to their children in school. Some parents would be the first ones to suggest that special residences or even government residences would be the best environment, under the circumstances, for their children to succeed in school. There are parents who have enough problems of their own trying to keep their head above water, who are not able to provide good support for their children, who have social problems. You could point to one problem of drugs and alcohol in the Territories which is seen as a chronic problem by many people. Many of our young parents would be the first to admit that they need help and that they need someone else to give support to their children while they are trying to get on their feet once again. The parents are also the first to recognize that they have to send their children away. At this time we cannot build high schools in every community and even if we could, they would not be able to provide good quality education. So we are stuck with this scenario for the time being. These are, again, some of the reasons why the idea of providing these special residences came up.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I agree with the Minister that there are these problems in the communities, the problems that single parents, et cetera, have. I just cannot

agree that we should almost admit that there is nothing that we can do about that. Let us then attack the basic problem. We do not cure that problem by, in fact, making the children wards of the state and saying, "You do not have to parent these children any more; the state will now do it for you." If these problems exist, we should recognize and deal with those problems; but this is not the way to do it.

Local High Schools May Not Require Special Structures

I agree with the Minister that we cannot build high schools in every community but I do not see any reason why we even should contemplate building them. There is nothing magical about a high school. A high school is the teaching of grades 10, 11 and 12. It requires three classrooms and three teachers and enough kids to fill them and one teacher per classroom. We are doing it, as far as I know, in Pangnirtung on Baffin Island. We have a model right now where we teach 10, 11 and 12, unless the Minister is prepared to tell me that that is an inferior level of education that we provide there; because if it is, then we should not be doing it.

I do think that in my own region the preference would be --certainly there are some that prefer to send their children out but I think the general preference would be to provide grades 10, 11 and 12 in the communities but without the need of building huge structures that we call high schools. There is nothing magical about teaching those three grades that requires any particular separate structure from other schools; at least I do not think so.

I would like to get, from the Minister, an idea of where in this budget that we are looking at today -- he said that the cost would come out of the general budget -- where in this budget would the proposed costs for these special residences come for this year, as one straightforward question?

Another one is that the Minister mentioned in a reply to someone else that we did have a bursary program and it was being utilized right now and we did have students in, I believe, southern schools that had been identified as having special needs. I wonder, so that we could get an idea of how many schools and what the criteria for selecting such students would be, if the Minister could provide to this committee a list of those students who receive educational assistance, in whatever form, from the department, and the basis for which this assistance was allocated to them. Just on those two specific ones could I get an answer, please?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Member could ask his questions again. I am afraid I did not understand them.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Question number one, the Minister said that the expenditures for the proposed residences would come out of the general budget and I was asking, which particular areas of the budget that we are looking at today would the expenditures that are proposed to be made this coming fiscal year, where would I find them in this book here?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: The Member is asking, I think, a question that if we put together a proposal for a special residence and the government finds it acceptable and wants to support it — if that should happen, then the money would come from, under schools, the money that is set aside for home boarding and the money for residences; that is where

it would come from.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In that case, Mr. Minister, how can you say that we will not be taking money from other programs that are now set aside for provision of services to the general public if you are going to take money from schools and from that provide for home boarding now to create this program?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: We are not going to be asking for new money at this time. We are looking at the fact that places like Akaitcho Hall are overflowing; there are a lot of students that have to be home boarded already. There are more and more students in school and I hope, as more and more people drop out and we will need more money to keep these children in school, that rather than build another Akaitcho Hall we will look at options of looking at special residences and see if we could get those provided through home boarding.

The Member asked why we could not do this in Iqaluit. It flips right back to the initial suggestion, which is a parental responsibility. The parents in the Baffin do not like the idea of home boarding. We only have 10 students, I think, in Iqaluit who are home boarded. In some places it is acceptable and in some other places it is not.

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

Students Receiving Bursaries

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The other question I had was with regard to the bursary program that the Minister mentioned before we broke for a recess. The Minister mentioned that right now there are a number of NWT students receiving bursaries or other forms of financial assistance through the department, students that had been identified as having special needs or talents and are taking education in southern educational institutions. Could we get an idea of the costs involved and could the Minister provide this committee with a list of NWT students who receive financial assistance through the Department of Education and also, with the list, a description of what are the reasons for the bursaries, what is the nature of the special need or talent of each of these students?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Handley will answer the question.

MR. HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, the Department of Education currently provides up to 10 bursaries each year for students who are in grades 10, 11 or 12 and who are attending school outside of the Territories. Five of those bursaries are allocated specifically for aboriginal students and five are open to all students. They are intended for the development of exceptional academic, creative or performing arts ability. The students come from various parts of the Territories presently and are attending schools in many different parts of Canada.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did ask if a list of these students could be provided to the committee.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Yes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The deputy minister mentioned these bursaries were for grades 10, 11 and 12. Does the department assist students at any other levels? I do not mean university students, but below the grade 10 level. Are there any programs to assist parents of students for education in institutions other than NWT institutions?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Handley will answer.

MR. HANDLEY: No, there are no special needs students who are attending school outside of the Territories, Mr. Chairman, with GNWT support. We have some students who are receiving support to attend school in communities outside of their home community, for various reasons, maybe because of programs, but they all attend schools in the Territories.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I will wrap up with these comments. I want to again reiterate that I have grave concerns about this proposal, because I cannot see that we can achieve what we say we want to achieve with exceptional students, unless we do so in relationship -- how do we measure excellence? We usually measure it in comparison to that which is not excellent and if we are going to provide lesser services to the general population in order to provide greater services to the few, then I could not agree with it. I also want to emphasize that this is the viewpoint of the Kitikmeot Regional Council as well as several of the schools that have come in on it. I have also heard the same viewpoint from at least one other community in the Keewatin in the form of a letter in the newspaper.

Leadership Potential Of Next Generation Good

Mr. Chairman, I think we should recognize that there has always been a fear by the present generation that the youngsters are not prepared to take over. I think every father has felt that about his son. We always say, "Things are not as good now as they were in the good old days when I went to school." So I think that is a very natural fear. But I really do not think that it is a very valid one. I certainly do not have any fear about the leadership potential in the next generation from my region. There are many energetic and dynamic young people who, I am sure, when they reach an age when they have proven themselves and earned the confidence of our society, will provide leadership every bit as great as any of that that we are doing today.

I also think we should always remind ourselves that we should pity the society whose leaders have been picked by a previous generation. I think that many of the leaders of today undoubtedly would not have been picked — be it in Eastern Europe or in Africa — would not have been picked by those who were there before them. Leadership is something that comes from today and it should not be created for the future by the generation of leaders of today. Thank you.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: I do not know if we are having a fundamental disagreement or a misunderstanding. If there is a simpler way to put it. In my area the Dene/Metis, and the Inuit and Inuvialuit as well, have a major challenge in the future, not only to eke out a living and survive, but, in spite of their small numbers, to grow stronger in the rapidly changing world that we live in.

When you look at the population of the Dene, just the treaty

Dene alone, it is barely 8000. With the Metis it is about 15,000. Out of that population base, half of them are under 15. You start to look at how many people we have to draw on. You look at the success rate of the high schools. It is pitiful. So every way we can we should provide opportunities for people to develop individually and collectively, by providing strong people in the communities -- leaders, if you want to call them that. Then we should do that. Maybe there will be a time when we have too many leaders, but I doubt it myself.

Areas For Leadership

More than ever before, we need strong Dene/Metis people to do work in the communities, to work in the regions, to move into positions of responsibility in the territorial government, to implement and organize the work around the land claims, and we need the Inuit to do that as well, plus take our places in the Legislative Assembly. When we have sufficient teachers, who are also considered leaders, to staff all the Inuit schools in the Arctic, plus have sufficient numbers of Dene and Metis people to staff the schools in the Dene/Metis communities; when we have sufficient people to work as judges and lawyers, to work as regional directors and superintendents of different departments; when we start to hit that level, then I would say we do not need special residences, we do not need additional mechanisms to help our young people develop. But at this time I would say every type of initiative that we can take to give our young people the added chance to succeed is needed. This is what I think is driving this particular proposal. So we stop shipping people in from the South to do the stuff that we can do ourselves. But we have to get our people educated first and we have to get them to develop. Here is another way that we can do it. This is where I think the support from the other MLAs is coming from. I think they see that.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, I certainly appreciate what the Minister is saying. I agree with him wholeheartedly. I guess it is just a fundamental difference that we have, that I feel that the programs that he talks about should be applied to all students and not to a selected few. For one thing, I do not even know to whom we are going to give the responsibility to select the few that we are going to apply the special programs to. If the record of our schools and our high schools in particular is deplorable, as the Minister says -- and I agree with him they are -- we should take tremendous measures on it. When I suggested earlier that we should revisit the objectives of education and see if the things that we do are in fact meeting that objective, like, for instance, these vast expenditures on school residences, it was not to say that we should not expend that money on education, it was to say that maybe we are not getting our money's worth out of that, maybe we should be putting it into programs to raise the level of education for all the kids in the system, rather than just a I guess fundamentally we have really not a great difference in what it is we are trying to achieve, but perhaps the only difference is that I feel that we should achieve our objective by applying better programs to the population we serve generally and not just to a few selected people.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: I do not have anything else to add.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. General comments. Before I recognize the second speaker, let us take 15 minutes for a coffee break.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): General comments. Member for Nehendeh.

Religious Aspect Essential To Good Education

MR. SIBBESTON: Just a few comments, Mr. Chairman. This subject was talked about before we broke, so I do not want to spend too much time on it. But when we talk about residential schools and such, I have very strong feelings on it because I spent eleven and a half years in residential schools in my youth, starting at five and a half years old or so. I also had occasion to work as a supervisor and now I am a parent with children. So I have seen the situation from all aspects and I have some very strong and definite views about it.

In my view the present system, the ongoing public school system, does not provide the skills and education that are needed to be very successful in our society. I guess I have to qualify that and say that the public school system is fine for a lot of people who are able to provide real strong support to their children. I notice here in Yellowknife that the school system is good for those who are really attentive. There is almost a kind of elite group of kids who benefit from the school system. But if you are just run-of-the-mill or normal, it is hard to get a real good education.

In every kind of era, I think you can categorize what the outcome is of the education system. A long time ago in the North, before government was on the scene, when the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches provided residential schools, the main characteristic of the schools was that they provided people with as good an education as possible to make a living in those days. But I think it was marked by hard work. People coming out of the Fort Smith Roman Catholic residential schools say that they really did know how to work because while they were there they worked hard, they cut a lot of wood, got ice and water and they lived in very tough conditions. They also did a lot of praying and there was a certain amount of discipline. So students coming out of there were prepared for life and knew how to work quite hard.

I know that to me the three most important things that you can get out of any school system are skill, confidence and discipline. From my own experience, the Grandin experience was the best in terms of providing this to students. In my view the Grandin system was successful because they provided a good sound education system, the emphasis was on doing well in school and doing well in sport, generally succeeding. Kids were given confidence in themselves. Kids were taught to have a positive attitude about themselves and through this they succeeded in school and this carried over into sports and eventually they carried this throughout their life. The other thing is discipline in one's life. There were rigid study periods and emphasis on getting high marks in school. They had individual counselling and also religion was mixed in with it. Some people will disagree with that, but I think religion is pretty well an essential part of formulating character and providing kind of a well-rounded education to young people.

The other thing is the matter of the work ethic and also the motivational force that people who work in these places have. In my view, for any residential school system or special school to be successful, it must be handled by one of the religions, either the Anglican or Catholic or any other religious group. In my view it has to be that way because you get people that are really devoted and prepared to spend and put forth all their life into their work. I notice that when the churches moved away from residential schools and government took over, it was like a job. People came in there for an eight hour period and so there was that degree of sacrifice and the devotion of your whole life to the children that was lost.

Mr. Chairman, this idea is not unusual because in the South a lot of people find that the public school system does not provide children with adequate education, so many parents, particularly those who are well off, send their children to private schools where they get the best education with a view to having them groomed so that they can be successful.

No Emphasis On Academic Effort In Government Residences

From my own experience, when I eventually moved out of Grandin -- I spent a couple of years there -- to Akaitcho Hall, although Akaitcho Hall is a nice place, the way that I characterize Akaitcho Hall is that is where I learned how to dance. It is a great social setting because it provides a mixture of people from all over the North, but in the early days -- I do not know how it is now but I suspect much the same -- there was not the emphasis on succeeding, on work, that is essential to succeeding. I know when I went to Akaitcho Hall there was no emphasis on academic work and you really had to go against the grain in order to succeed, because everything is geared to cleaning the place and, I think, an hour or so of study. The rest is just socializing and going uptown and so forth. I know when I went there I lost a sense of value for things, whereas before I treasured my clothes and records. But when you got in there you kind of lost all sense of value because you are trading and other people are using your things and you are lending your things. So you come out of there without much of a sense of value for material things. Maybe it is good in some respects, but that was one of the effects of living there.

The other thing is that the food is so good. I remember coming from the church institution, where you basically ate fish and porridge, and going to a government one where you had eggs and bacon and all sorts of things. Again I remember I was writing home about that and saying that we have eggs just like in the cafe. Again, inasmuch as good food is provided, you know there is a feeling that it is taken for granted and so forth.

Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to give my support to the Minister to go forth in setting up special residential schools because they are much needed. The public school system is not providing the good education that is needed. I agree you do not produce leaders as such; basically what you do is you provide students with a good sound education and discipline and work ethic and motivation and these then are carried out into the world. These are marketable skills and people see this in terms of the work they do and they are pointed out and asked to be leaders and this is how they become involved in various leadership roles.

We can question that system, I guess, but in my view it was successful. If you look at the Grandin College students, for the most part they have all been successful. Many of them are teachers and then they have gone on to other things. So a program such as that has been successful and I think the government in the North should embark on another similar program. Because in the years that Grandin has not been in existence, we have not had the leaders that the Grandin College system produced and it is very much needed. So I, for one, encourage the Minister to set up a special program. I appreciate my colleague's comments that we should instead concentrate on programs as they apply to all students, but in my view this is too slow a process. Just as we have special programs to get native people into business; there are special programs in our government to try to get native people on their feet and as ongoing participating and contributing members of our northern society, I think that likewise in education we have to set up special programs to help native people because they are further behind and need that extra help in order for them to succeed. I will just say that and encourage the Minister to proceed with his plans to set up residential schools.

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

Better Use Should Be Made Of Existing Facilities

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I, too, made some comments just before we took a break two weeks ago, so I will not repeat myself. But I do have one or two comments before I ask some specific questions of the Minister. A number of people have indicated in this House as well as in some of the communities throughout the Northwest Territories that the idea of a community high school is a good one. I think what we have to do to begin with is to try to continue to improve what we have. Aside from the problems with education, what we do have in the communities like Rankin Inlet is a regional high school, where students from the region can come to attend that high school. I do have a few problems with the situation as it stands right now. Firstly, I am wondering as to why, in the Department of Education's view, there seem to be not more than 15 students at the residential school in Rankin Inlet. I understand the Kivalliq Hall can accommodate slightly over 100 people. Perhaps the Minister could indicate to this House why there is such a low percentage of people within the residence itself in Rankin.

When we talk about community-based high schools, while the idea is good, I also feel that we should talk about improvement of housing conditions. Housing needs to provide bigger houses for the big families that we do have in the communities, because in many of the communities many houses are crowded with people. Obviously, there is no place to study for many of the students at the community level. When we are talking about community high schools, we should also be talking about much bigger houses where students themselves could have a room to study for the next day's class. So I think we should keep that in mind as we talk about community-based high schools.

In terms of trying to improve the present system of education, just using the situation in Rankin Inlet, the thing about it is that it is a very nice place. It is a very nice hostel. The supervisors there try their very best to make sure that students are happy, have a home away from home. It is not like the ones that I attended in Chesterfield Inlet as well as Churchill Vocational Centre. It is even better than the one here at Akaitcho Hall, with the latest facilities, a very modern place. So I think in order to provide a good atmosphere, I think there is a good atmosphere being provided, but there have been a certain number of problems related to the education system in the Keewatin Region, where students are not remaining at the hostel itself. What I wanted to ask specifically on this issue itself is that before the Minister, before the department really comes up with a plan to establish these new ideas of residential schools, I would hope that his department will be able to provide a certain amount of information to us so that we could debate the issue further.

Funding For Education In Keewatin Region

Mr. Chairperson, I have the minutes of the Keewatin Divisional Board of Education meeting, held January 23-26, 1990 in Coral Harbour, Northwest Territories. The board talks about inadequate funding for education. It states that motion 26-1-90 moved that "due to the lack of funds for educational purposes, the KDBE lobby the Keewatin MLAs to urge them to fight for more funds to be used for education, and be it further moved that the KDBE encourages the Aivilik and Kivallivik MLAs to address this concern at the Legislative Assembly session starting February 7, 1990." Mr. Chairperson, what I would like to know from the Minister and the

Department of Education is what sort of inadequate funding does the Keewatin Divisional Board of Education mean? Are there certain cuts within the Department of Education where the membership of the Keewatin Divisional Board of Education is feeling the effect, or will be feeling the effect, of this particular situation?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, part of what has happened in the Keewatin, although, as the Member acknowledges, there is a very good facility built in Rankin to provide accommodation and a residence for senior high school students in the region to service places like Baker Lake, Arviat and Coral Harbour, those communities have started to provide grade 10 in all the communities, at least in Coral Harbour, in Arviat and Baker Lake; plus, I think, in Arviat they have gone up to grade 11, although we do not provide the funds for that -- Mr. Handley says that we do not but I know that last year we were not. They had provided the funds internally for it. What it does is dramatically decrease the number of students who go to Rankin Inlet because all the grade 10 students are now staying at home. In Arviat they are providing grade 11 so the residence is not taking in the students because they are provided for, and there is also a number that drop out every year. So that is the reason that it is under-utilized.

The general complaints from the Keewatin Divisional Board of Education is not unlike other boards in regions. They feel the general formula for providing for the numbers of teachers and staff is inadequate; that not all programs and needs are covered, that we are not providing money for all of the demands that are made. Other than that there is really nothing specific that we could point to aside from the fact that as boards their primary function is to administer to the needs of the schools and the students in the regions. I think they do that quite well and they also are singular in that purpose. If we could pump more money into it they would welcome it and I think that is the general sentiment of all of the boards.

Other than that I do not know anything specific. There is one in Arviat where they wanted a whole new school built, they did not agree with the retrofit of the existing building which is a circular building that was used as an elementary school for a number of years, an open area type of school. We looked at it and we know that it would cost at least two million dollars more if we had just built a whole new one. It is less expensive just to retrofit the existing building and I know that was one major complaint that that community had.

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

Clarification Of Staffing Formula Requested

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister just mentioned something I forgot to ask when I had the floor before, on funding formulas and student ratios and all of this which we hear many complaints about. Just to clarify for me could the Minister or deputy minister tell me how schools are funded? When they get money for hiring teachers what is it based on? I know there is a formula, what is it based on? Please enlighten me on that so that we know precisely what we are talking about.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Handley will answer that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Handley.

MR. HANDLEY: The number of staff that we fund for each of

the schools is based on a formula. The numbers are determined 19 to one, at the kindergarten to grade nine level and 16 to one, at the high school level. Then there is a factor included for the small schools. So the little one and two room schools have an advantage. For example, a small high school with only 18 students, as a grade 10 and 11 school, would get two teachers. At 19 to 23 students they would get two and a half and so on. So it is adjusted. The same applies with a small elementary school.

There are a number of positions that are not included in the formula and these would include positions like the community occupation program and senior practical programs which are funded at a ratio of 12 to one. Classroom assistants are provided at a rate of one classroom assistant for every 50 students or a half a position for every 25 where there is a 25 percentage of native students attending the school. There is a provision for a vocational program where there is one offered. We provide one half staff member for each vocational program that is offered, whether it is in mechanics or carpentry or whichever vocation it might be. We have a provision for outpost camp operations where we will provide a staff member where there are at least 10 students who are living out in a camp and who would be out there for a minimum of 150 days. The other one that I might mention is that the staffing formula does include in the figures the time for the principal and vice-principal, for librarian help and for resource centre staff that they might want. There is another formula for secretarial time.

The final group that I will mention is for special needs. We have a special provision for staff for students with special needs and that is based on the identified needs. It seems to be necessary to have a formula that provides general guidelines but then a lot of additional considerations because of the unique needs in each school, given the size, the makeup of the school, the number of special needs students and programs that are offered. Thank you.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is numbers. What about the dollars that are attached to these numbers? I think those are the critical ones. Let us go with 19 to one; you have 190 students therefore you are eligible now for 10 teachers in "Tough Luck Bay School". How much money do you give the "Tough Luck Bay School Society" to go out and hire those 10 teachers with and how do you calculate where you get the numbers from? We do know that when we advertise for teachers that the salaries fluctuate from about \$30,000 to \$60,000, depending on qualifications. How many dollars would you allocate to that?

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

MR. HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, when we prepare our estimates we do not know exactly who will be hired for the coming school year so we use the actual salary of the people who are really on staff at this time or at the time when we prepare our estimates. For other positions we would use the salary, if there is no one in the position, that the person would be qualified for under the collective bargaining guidelines.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If we use the actual salary of those who are now on staff, can we not come in with some system whereby we provide a better incentive for the school boards to manage the dollar resources that are attached to staffing for them? Under the present system it would seem to me that if it is based on actuals the temptation would always be to have the highest possible actual you could get, so that your funding next year would be that much

higher. Could we not take the number of school teachers we have in the NWT that work for the Department of Education, divide them by the salary budget, and come out with an average salary per teacher? Based on our formula, this fictional school that we were talking about that is eligible for 10 teachers, say this is how much money you now have and then allow them to go to the market place and hire teachers for that amount of money. The fact of the matter is that you could achieve a much better student to teacher ratio if you hire lower priced teachers than if you hire higher priced teachers. We do in education have the oddity, and it is the only place where we do have it, that the positions are not classified for salary purposes, but the incumbents of positions are classified for salary purposes. When the spread is as high, and I believe I am right, as about \$30,000 to \$60,000, depending on qualifications and years of teaching, is it not possible to come up with a formula where the boards would be able to exercise some management on the dollar volume as it relates to the hiring of the number of teachers?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate what the Member is suggesting, which is to give the boards an average amount of money for, say, salaries given all the different regions across the Territories, and if they manage to save, then hurray for them. Is there a system whereby we could develop a formula that would address that? I do not know. There are so many variables in it. For instance, in some of the regions there seems to be a higher concentration of more qualified experienced teachers than in other regions. There is longer term residency in some regions than others. I am not sure that an average across the board would meet their requirements.

We also had, as you know, the Auditor General suggesting that we should be giving boards only the money that they actually need and not allow them to play government, that is give them the flexibility so that they can redirect money on behalf of the government. That is what I understood was one of the recommendations of the Auditor General -- if there is interest to be made on the money that we get from Ottawa then it should be the territorial government that decides where that money is to be used, not necessarily the boards.

Given those two things, I am not sure what we could provide. If there is some more the Member can add, we could ask the staff to look at it and see if there is something that we could come up with as an alternative. Without, I think, some substance to the suggestion, I am not quite sure where to go from here.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ernerk): Thank you, Mr. Minister. General comments. Mr. Pedersen.

Definition Of Non-Attenders For Formula Purposes

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was not suggesting what the Minister referred to, that school boards would invest this -- again to get back to this fictional school with eligibility for 10 teachers. Let us say for the sake of argument that it was at the top rate and they were eligible for \$600,000 worth of salary under a formula. At 10 teachers you could either hire 10 at \$60,000 or you could hire 12 at \$50,000. I am not suggesting that it would put money in; I was suggesting that we would achieve more teachers and thereby a better pupil/teacher ratio than what we have now. I do know that we can do things to change things within our system, as you did, Mr. Minister, with this department in 1989, I believe, when there was a formula change for non-attenders. It used to be a certain number of hours, and you changed the formula -- I was given a graph from the Kitikmeot Divisional Board of Education that showed that under the formula we

had been using up until then they had about 15 non-attenders in September. They did not have any more in October, but the formula changed and under the new formula they suddenly had 50, and yet the department continued to base the teacher allocation on the 19 to one ratio which was not based on population statistics or potential enrolment, but on attendance. When you arbitrarily change what constitutes non-attenders from one month to the next so that it reflects to that degree, you can make a change like that, and on the 19 to one ratio lose one and a half positions. We can do things in mid-stream. I wonder if the Minister could enlighten me on why this change in the definition of non-attenders was instituted, and if it was instituted right across the NWT.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, on the business of non-attenders, as I understand it, the policy has not changed, it is just a matter of enforcing it. This is the first time the department has actually asked the boards and administrations to acknowledge the policy. I think it is a good incentive for boards to make sure that all students who should be in school, are in school, and that they take every measure possible to make sure that those children attend school on a regular basis. That is one good incentive for encouraging communities and regions to do well in school. What the policy says is that a student is defined as an attender if he does not have more than eight absent days or truancies in the 20 days before October 31st.

On the general staffing formula we suggest that we are going to provide a certain number of teachers based on the number of students in each school. If it is an elementary school we are staffing they are qualified to hire a certain number of elementary teachers. We do not suggest that if we give them only so much money that they can hire more if they want. Somehow we are trying to provide a formula that is fair. So all schools are staffed under this formula. No school, if they got lucky, can put 20 people into the school because they found 20 people who are willing to work for a low pay and another school would only have 10 because they are average paid teachers in the profession. Generally we provide the positions and whatever salary amounts are required by the people we hire, then we make the adjustments.

In response to the question of non-attenders, there is no change. We are finally telling the boards that we expect them to acknowledge that we are going to take a harder line in that regard.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister, when he quoted these things, did say that the formula for non-attenders was that if there was not more than eight truancies of the 20 attendance days in a month before October 31st, was that the same formula that existed on September 30th or was there indeed a change in October? That is what the figures that I have indicate.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, the deadline of October 31st has always been used by the department. That is the last possible date that we can use statistics to prepare our budget for the new year.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That formula of not more than eight of 20 has been consistent for some time

then and there was no change to that formula between September and October of 1989?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, there has been no change. There has been some work to clarify the wording to the policy but the policy itself really has not been changed.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, whatever happened it certainly concerned our divisional board sufficiently that they have provided the graph that I have here that shows that in January of 1986 there were 73 non-attenders in the Kitikmeot; in January of 1987 there were 45; in January of 1988 there were 37; in January of 1989 there were 25; and in September of 1989 there were 14. So they felt that they were doing very well. They told me that through a formula change between September of 1989 and October of 1989, without any number increase in the non-attenders within the region, the figure nevertheless jumped from 14 to 50. In fact, it discouraged them greatly because whereas I agree with the Minister that we should do everything we can to make the school boards ensure that children attend school, nevertheless, there are a lot of factors over which the board of education and the individual school boards have no control.

My honourable colleague from Aivilik mentioned housing and housing is a great problem. If a kid does not have sufficient rest or a place to study then it is hard to go to school. It is equally impossible for school boards to enforce attendance on someone where the reason for the non-attendance is beyond the control of either the school board or the families themselves. If we do not provide adequate social conditions to make it possible to attend and I do not think we should penalize what amounts to a school system by removing funding for teachers which is based on a ratio.

Exclusion Of Principals From Pupil/Teacher Ratio

Has the Minister given any consideration in order to achieve a better pupil/teacher ratio? That seems to be the one that always gets criticized, to exclude principals from the ratio because as the schools develop and get larger, because of larger enrolment -- certainly in our school at home the principal is taking an extremely active role in managing the school and in ensuring that there are good programs. I think we have a very dynamic school and I am pleased to inform the House that we have an Inuk principal in Coppermine, Edna Elias, and the school is just a different place than it used to be. We have a very dynamic school but it does not leave the principal very much time to get involved in actual classroom teaching, yet I understand they are still part of the 19 to one formula. Could the Minister comment on that? Is there any way we could exclude principals from the teacher/pupil ratio?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, if it is another way of suggesting that the pupil/teacher ratio be changed, we have said that we are not proposing to do that this year. We certainly do not have the money to suggest any change in the staffing formula at this time. As a government we have decided to leave things as they are but continue to add more money in the area of special needs so that those special needs that have been inadequately funded in the past will continue to have more money put in there so that the schools, the teachers and the boards that need that will benefit. We

simply do not have the kind of money that is going to be required to even change the formula by one in staffing at this time

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Would the Minister or his financial adviser have an estimate of how much money we are talking about, to exclude the principals. I think you should readily know how many principals you have by the number of schools. Is there an estimate you could give me?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Devitt will try to answer that question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Devitt.

MR. DEVITT: No, I do not have a dollar estimate here. I can comment that the cost would depend on how it was done. Not all principals are full-time, so you would have to take that into consideration. I do know that it would be in the millions of dollars under any scenario which you chose.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, how many schools do we have in the NWT with principals? Maybe I can calculate myself on that basis.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, I think there are about 69 schools in the NWT. If the Member wants us to draft up some rough scenarios for him, we can do that, but it will not be today. If that is what he is asking, we can do that.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: I appreciate the offer, Mr. Chairman, but I think that with the 69 schools I will be able to draw out a fairly decent estimate on my own, simply by multiplying that with top levels of salaries and that basically would be the cost I presume. Thank you anyhow.

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

Performance Appraisals For Inuktitut Language Teachers

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am wondering, Mr. Minister, through you, Mr. Chairman, who provides performance appraisals for Inuit teachers in the classrooms. Is there one person in every school that checks out whether or not Inuktitut classes are being carried out properly and efficiently from the Inuktitut language point of view?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, it is the principal of the school that is responsible for the performance appraisals of all the teachers in the school.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you. I think I misunderstood, or the Minister did not quite clearly understand my question. My question was, specially with regard to Inuit teachers who teach Inuktitut, who checks the Inuktitut teachers within the school

system in the communities?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, my understanding is that the principal is responsible for finding someone that can do that type of performance appraisal if he cannot do it himself. If he cannot understand lnuktitut, then it is up to him to find someone who can and who has the qualifications to do that type of teacher evaluation.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is not a satisfactory answer. The department seems to be merely guessing as to whether or not there is a person. Most of the principals in Nunavut communities do not speak Inuktitut. There is one principal in Rankin Inlet who speaks Inuktitut, but in many of the communities most of the principals do not speak Inuktitut. I really think that Inuktitut teachers in the communities -- because after all they are teaching the language of the Inuit -- should have a person who checks them out on a regular basis. While I recognize the fact that we have very good Inuit teachers in the communities, there seems to be some lack of individuals who do performance evaluations of the aboriginal teachers in the communities. In our case I am specifically talking about Inuit teachers. It has to be more than just a principal finding someone from the community to do a performance appraisal with regard to Inuktitut teaching.

Education Conference, Chesterfield Inlet

One other thing I want to mention to the Minister is this idea that we have been talking about for quite a while with regard to the possibility of having an education conference in Chesterfield Inlet. I mentioned this about two and a half years ago, in 1988, and we have been trying to work on a possible conference on education of some of the students who attended the federal day school in Chesterfield Inlet in the 1950s, 1960s and early 1970s. I thank the Minister and his departmental officials for being very co-operative with regard to this whole idea. I am very keen on this particular conference because I know that the people that are planning to attend this meeting -- some of them are sitting in this room -- some have come out very successfully from attending that particular school in Chesterfield Inlet. We had some very good leadership from among our people, to begin with our parents, then the priests and nuns both acting as teachers and as supervisors at the hostel, and most of all the people of Chesterfield Inlet who were very, very good to us in those years when we were away from home with no communication facilities to our home communities.

So the people did very well in those years and I could pick them out but I am not going to do that but they are all over the place. They were very, very successful in terms of achieving the kind of things that they wanted to do in the future, meaning today. So I would very much like to continue with that but there is a lack of money to have a larger conference than what we will probably have some time in 1990.

I would just like to continue to encourage the Minister and his departmental officials to continue to look favourably on that possibility of holding that conference in Chesterfield Inlet. I think it is a very good idea because I really hope when we do have that conference we will come out with very sound recommendations to the Department of Education for ourselves. Thank you.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, on the business of making sure that Inuit teachers who teach in Inuktitut are properly evaluated, we will check and I will ask the staff to check and make sure that the directors, the superintendents, know that it is their responsibility under the Education Act, and that they are made aware that there was a concern raised. We are going to make sure that they have the resources and the capability of carrying that out properly. So we will do that.

On the comments on the conference in Chesterfield Inlet, we will provide some support in terms of money for that conference. We are supporting the Member's initiative.

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

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister responsible for Education whether, as I was informed in Pelly Bay about a year ago — I am talking about Pelly Bay, Gjoa Haven and Spence Bay, and probably the other communities — there is a policy that if one of your kids is a non-attender then you are not eligible to be sitting on the local education council. Is that a part of the policy? Thank you.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, I believe that is possible. It is decided at the local level. It is not a department policy but it might be something that the board and the community education council may have decided themselves.

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

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. The reason I have brought this up is that I find it very unfair to the parents who fall under the same educational system as the other people who are taking advantage of the system. I do not think this is fair to the parents whose children are non-attenders. If you have six or seven kids at home and one of them is not attending then you are penalized by not being able to sit on the education council. I just thought I would bring this to your attention. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. General comments. Does this committee wish to go into detail?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Directorate And Administration, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 18.10, directorate and administration, total O and M, \$3,096,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Advanced Education, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Advanced education, total O and M, \$19,430,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Schools, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Schools, total O and M, \$104,202,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Arctic College, Total O And M. Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Arctic College, total O and M, \$25,439,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Details Of Grants And Contributions

Grants, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Details of grants and contributions, grants, total grants, \$4,042,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Contributions, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 18.14, 18.15 and 18.16, contributions, total contributions, \$109,810,000. Agreed? Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. My question to the Minister is on page 18.14, under Native Women's Association. I take it there is no funding provided to native women's associations for home management programs, is that right?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Yes, Mr. Chairman, this program was cut from last year's budget. It was one of the cuts that was introd and last year.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total contributions, \$109,810,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Grants And Contributions, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Total grants and contributions, \$113,852,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 18.17, information items, student loan fund revolving fund. Are there any questions? Also page 18.19, information item, Arctic College. Page 20.21, information item, Arctic College. Any questions? Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Yes, Mr. Chairman, in the contributions it

says contract revenue. Are we in any kind of contractual arrangement with any of the universities in the South to take on students to some of our programs in the North that are relatively unique? Renewable resources would be one of them for sure.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Handley will answer that.

MR. HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, we have an agreement with the University of Manitoba whereby we reserve seats for students who are in the native medicine and engineering programs.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairperson. About a year ago I asked this question of the Minister of Justice when we were talking about the Department of Justice budget and it is with regard to the introduction of a training program that should be established in conjunction with the Native Law Centre of Saskatchewan University. We asked the government to take a look at this because I think it is very important to begin to introduce more and more aboriginal people to take law training. I wonder if the Minister of Education could enlighten me as to what steps have been taken to try and incorporate some kind of law training program with the Saskatchewan Native Law Centre.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, following the remarks made by the Member last winter, some of our staff had discussions with the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Alberta in Edmonton as well. The University of Saskatchewan, because they provide the training right on campus, unless there are large numbers of people up here interested, they are not seriously interested in providing anything here. With the University of Alberta, they said they would be interested in providing some of the courses here in the North, but again not necessarily the whole package. The discussions are ongoing and hopefully some courses might be offered as early as this fall.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Page 18.22, information item, Arctic College. Are there any questions? Information item, divisional boards of education. Any questions? Information item, Arctic College, page 18.25. Detail of work performed on behalf of third parties, total department, \$2,910,000. Any questions?

Department of Education, total O and M, \$152,167,000. Mr. Pedersen.

Motion To Exclude Principals From 19. To One Pupil/Teacher Ratio

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before we vote on this item, I would like to make a motion to exclude principals from the student/teacher ratio. I guess the motion would read: I move that principals of schools in the NWT be excluded from the pupil/teacher ratio of 19 to one.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Can we have a copy of that motion please? I think everyone wants a copy of the motion and it has to be translated. We will take a five minute break for that reason.

---SHORT RECESS

Motion To Exclude Principals From 19 To One Pupil/Teacher Ratio, Ruled Out Of Order

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The committee will come to order. Order please. On this motion, I find it is quite difficult to change the 19 to one ratio. The other wording is, "I move that the principals of schools in the Northwest Territories be excluded from the pupil/teacher ratio". I do not have a problem with that. But putting in "19 to one" I have difficulty with that. So I have to rule this motion out of order. Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The numbers that you refer to as the reason you give for ruling it out of order were in there merely for identification purposes. If they are objectionable to the motion then I accept your ruling the motion out of order.

Motion To Exclude Principals From The Student/Teacher Ratio

I would like to introduce another motion that reads, I move that principals of schools in the Northwest Territories be excluded from the student/teacher ratio.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. The motion is in order now. To the motion. Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Just very briefly, Mr. Chairman, to the motion. The most common complaint from individual schools and from divisional boards of education...

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Point of order.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): A point of order, Mr. Ballantyne.

Chairman's Ruling Challenged

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. The cabinet thinks that this motion has financial implications and I challenge the ruling.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. I will report to the Speaker.

ITEM 18: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. I would like to call the House back to order. The honourable Member for High Arctic.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering the Department of Education, operations and maintenance. There was a motion put forward and I ruled it in order and I was challenged by the government. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: This is sort of becoming a habit of first days of all the sessions here. However, I would reserve my ruling until tomorrow, March 20, 1990, and move the House back into committee of the whole to consider further the Department of Education, with Mr. Pudluk in the chair.

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. This committee will come to order. We have to defer the O and M at this time. Does this committee wish to go to capital?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Schools

Buildings And Works, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Page 18.10, detail of capital. Schools, buildings and works, headquarters, total headquarters, \$1,000,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Fort Smith, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Fort Smith, total Fort Smith, \$4,445,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Inuvik, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Inuvik, total Inuvik, \$2,436,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Baffin

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Baffin, total Baffin, \$11,438,000. Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Could the Minister tell me exactly what we are going to get for the \$3,520,000 of which three million dollars is to be expended this year for student hostels in Igaluit?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, what we are getting is four hostel units in Iqaluit, each unit being able to house about 10 to 12 students. There will be one located in Pond Inlet. That is what this money is allocated for.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, is the document that I have wrong, because it certainly does not show that there is one in Pond Inlet? The community of Iqaluit is quite clearly identified as being the recipient of the three million dollar expenditure listed as student hostels. Is it out of this amount? Is it in fact incorrect, the budget that I am looking at?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, the amount is correct. What has happened is after having discussions with the Baffin Divisional Board of Education it was decided to locate one of the units in Pond Inlet.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, are there any other instances in the budget of the capital estimates of the Department of Education where it shows one community but through consultation that you have reallocated to other communities?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: I think everybody understood that was where it was going to be at printing time, but following that the board had some suggestions to make. We are following the general suggestions of the Baffin Divisional Board. I do not know of any other instances where this has happened in the budget.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Just to clarify then. That would be three in Igaluit and one in Pond Inlet now?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Four units in Iqaluit. Each unit being able to house between 10 and 12 students. One located in Pond Inlet.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, the students that we plan to put into these hostels, are they high school students or in the case of Pond Inlet are we putting in lower grade students as well?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, all the students are high school students, grade 10, 11 or 12.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, just to confirm and clarify then. In Pond Inlet, we are teaching grade 10, 11 and 12 at the moment?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: There are sufficient numbers in Pond Inlet -- they go as far as grade 11 there, but there are enough students there and from the surrounding communities to warrant putting a unit in Pond Inlet, according to our figures and those of the board. There is no grade 12 in Pond Inlet. Grades 10 and 11 are there and the numbers are there.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Although this is in the capital estimates, could the Minister inform me for O and M purposes, how we plan to operate these? Will there be a hostel supervisor hired to live with the students in each of these residences? How will the operation of these small hostels take place?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, my understanding is that these are small units which would allow for more of a family setting. We hope that the divisional board will be able to find suitable families that will run these units and take good care of the students who will stay in these residences. We will provide relief staff for the times the family needs a break from their duties.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There would then be an O and M cost attached to the operation of these hostels in the form of hostel parents on a continuing basis. I presume that would appear in the O and M portion of the Minister's budget?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, the students are presently in the Ukkivik Residence, the old building that now serves as a hostel for basically all of Baffin. But once we build these new units and we move the students out, we will start to see a reduction in the O and M costs. It is quite high for the Ukkivik Residence. That is where the O and M will largely come from.

Buildings And Works, Baffin, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Total Baffin, \$11,438,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Keewatin

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Keewatin, total Keewatin, \$5,291,000. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. My question is with regard to a gymnasium policy when constructing schools in the North. I have a request from the community education council of Repulse Bay of which the Minister is very aware. This request is in regard to establishing a gymnasium within the school itself. Both the hamlet council as well as the community education council are indicating that there is a need for a gymnasium to be part of the existing school in Repulse Bay. I wonder what the gymnasium policy is within the Department of Education, Government of the Northwest Territories, Yellowknife.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, there are some communities that have gymnasiums provided for by Municipal and Community Affairs. Where that is the case, where there are gymnasiums that are largely unused during the daytime because everybody is working in the community, then our view is that the schoolchildren who can make use of that facility should use it during the day. We are not prepared to build a new gymnasium strictly for the schoolchildren. We will try to encourage the use of a recreation centre that is already there.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. What is your answer to the Repulse Bay Community Education Council's request with regard to the need for a gymnasium within the school facility itself?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, there is no letter of response yet but since the Member asks, I think the response will be that we cannot provide another gymnasium for the community at this time. We will provide for a new school, but the school will have to make use of the existing gymnasium in the community. That would be the response.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairperson. I have a response, actually; a copy of it was sent to myself from the deputy minister, Mr. Joe Handley. This is a letter he wrote to the director of the Keewatin Divisional Board of Education, Metro Solomon, with regard to facility planning, Repulse Bay. I think I can understand and appreciate the department's

refusal at this point in time, but I like the suggestion that he made to the department in which he indicated, "I would suggest that the best solution is the one which we arrived at in Broughton Island where the community gymnasium is being converted to other use, and the funds that would have been used to build the town hall, in that case, are being used to build a gymnasium attached to the school."

The education council of Repulse Bay has given all kinds of reasons as to why they feel that the gymnasium should not be attached to the hamlet office itself. They indicate here that from 9:00 o'clock in the morning until 3:30 in the afternoon the school itself has the exclusive access to the gymnasium and employees at the hamlet office find it rather noisy. So I guess that is one of the reasons why the people of Repulse Bay wanted to make the request to the department for the department to do some planning with regard to establishing a gymnasium within the school establishment itself.

I can also understand and appreciate the problems that students face when they are going in to do some physical education classes. They have to leave the building, they have to leave the school in order to get to the gymnasium. We are talking about all different levels of children in terms of ages. They gave quite a lot of other reasons why they would like to see such a project planned for the hamlet of Repulse Bay.

I will accept that for now; I will accept the Minister's reply for now, but I wonder if the Minister and his department would be kind enough to take a look at this situation in Repulse Bay and perhaps get back to me and to the people of Repulse Bay sometime within the next year, please.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, I think in situations like this we find, I guess, all around and without blaming anyone in particular, perhaps in hindsight we could have planned the construction of facilities a little better. Perhaps it may have been better to have a gymnasium built when the school was being built. We have not done that, so now a gymnasium is provided as part of a hamlet office and the community wants it to be part of the school. I am not certain what can be done to correct that, if anything, but I know in many cases — in Broughton Island there was some good planning in spite of delays between Municipal and Community Affairs and the hamlet itself and the Department of Education. So we will take the suggestion. Thank you.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, very much. I would like to thank the Minister for that answer. My other question is this: What is the present status of Chesterfield Inlet to obtain a school bus to transport the children from the hamlet to the new school?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, I had made a commitment to see that busing, whether it is an actual bus or busing services, be provided for the community. I understand that in the next short while, in order to make use of the sealift, we are going to decide between ourselves and the regional board and the community whether we are going to go with a bus or buy the services locally for the busing. One way or the other, it will be provided.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Keewatin. The Member for Hay River.

Lack Of Capital Allocation For Kitikmeot

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, during the standing committee on finance review of this particular section of the capital budget in this department, we noticed that the Fort Smith Region was represented and Inuvik, Baffin, the Keewatin, but there was a total lack of money allocated to the Kitikmeot. I wonder if the Minister could explain to the committee, Mr. Chairman, is that because there is no need in the Kitikmeot? Or is it just the luck of the draw that this particular year there would be no money allocated to the Kitikmeot in the capital of the Education budget? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, based on the information we have, there is no requirement for large capital projects in terms of schools and new construction in that region at this time.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Keewatin. Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the Keewatin, for Arviat, there is a five classroom school with a gym for a two million dollar expenditure this year. There is \$150,000 for retrofit of an old school, which is an eight classroom school, with a number of things with it that will eventually cost close to another three million dollars. What does Arviat have right now, at this moment, for operating school facilities? How many classrooms do they have?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Handley will answer that question.

MR. HANDLEY: Mr. Chairman, presently there are 13 classrooms in the new school in Arviat. There are two fourplexes which are being used for classrooms and there are five classroom spaces in the old school being used. Following the improvements that are listed here, they will have 17 classrooms in the new school and eight in the old school, and the two fourplexes will be converted into adult education space and the centre for teaching and learning.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is a lot of numbers to befuddle us, but is my addition right, then, if I say that you right now have 20 classrooms operating and after this is finished you will have 25? Is that what the numbers mean?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, presently they have 26. When the construction is finished there will be 25.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What is the present enrolment in Arviat? Or the attendance, rather, because I guess that is what you base it on.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, the number of children enrolled in the schools in Arviat now is about 449, as of last September. There is quite a high number of projected

future enrolments in the next couple of years.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, after we finish with this expenditure then, with the number of classrooms you end up with, for how long a period into the future is it projected that this will satisfy the high demand that you have projected for the future for Arviat?

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, the estimate is that it should provide adequately for about five years.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If we are going to be consistent throughout the regions, based on the five year increase in population, why do you not have, under future years, any anticipated spending for the Kitikmeot Region? Do we not rate consideration for an increase in population? Because it is there, and you know it.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, the percentage of utilization of all the facilities in the Kitikmeot is: Cambridge Bay, 85 per cent; Coppermine, about 81 per cent; Gjoa Haven with the two schools, about 61 per cent; Holman, 75 per cent; Pelly Bay, 70 per cent; Spence Bay, 76 per cent. It is our projection, I guess, that for the next while these will provide adequately for the region. If the figures start to show that we should start planning for new facilities in the future, then once we have some firm figures, there is no reluctance to do that. No one has any personal bias against the Kitikmeot Region, if that is what the Member is suggesting.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, I have percentages of I do not know what, rather than the answer I was looking for. Perhaps if you are going to give me something different in reply to my question, you could give me the same percentages, too, for Arviat then, so I know what we base it on. I asked you if you had done it on the basis of population increases. Give me something that relates together between the two of them.

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

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Chairman, in Arviat we have it at 77 per cent utilization, which, remember, includes the two fourplexes which are not part of the school building. The school there is the old open area classroom design, with 27 furnaces in that old design. Everybody agrees that it has to go, that the design is not conducive to it. So, there is the information.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The percentage for Arviat though, the Minister would have to admit, is lower than both the percentages he gave me for Cambridge Bay and for Coppermine. If it is an argument that open area schools are not good today, then both the Coppermine and Cambridge Bay schools have open area sections, too. I just cannot believe that in the five year forecast, when the percentages are in fact not that much different, that one region should be totally excluded. I know, and anybody that reads population statistics and birth rates of the various communities in the NWT every year knows, that we have maintained a birth rate in Coppermine alone of about 50 children born annually

for quite a period of time now. I do not know what our rate of loss through death is, but it is probably around 10. There is a very significant increase in the population which today is between 1100 and 1200, not that much smaller than a community like Arviat. I am not trying to pick on that one community, I am just trying to urge the Minister, and in fact the entire cabinet, to use some consistency in approach when planning for capital expenditures and not to leave one region out as if it does not exist, merely because there has not been a vocal voice speaking for that region for some time.

Buildings And Works, Keewatin, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Total Keewatin, \$5,291,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Total buildings and works, \$24,610,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Equipment Acquisition, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Equipment acquisition, headquarters, total headquarters, \$475,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Equipment Acquisition, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total equipment acquisition, \$475,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Contributions, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Contributions, headquarters, total headquarters, \$1,750,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Contributions, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total contributions, \$1,750,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Schools, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total schools, \$26,835,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Arctic College

Buildings And Works, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Details of capital, Arctic College, buildings and works, headquarters, total headquarters, \$150,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Fort Smith, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Fort Smith, total Fort Smith, \$10,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Inuvik, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Inuvik, total Inuvik, \$105,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Baffin, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Baffin, total Baffin, \$1,540,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Keewatin, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Keewatin, total Keewatin, \$575,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Kitikmeot, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Kitikmeot, total Kitikmeot, \$10,000.

---Laughter

Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total buildings and works, \$2,390,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Contributions, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Contributions, headquarters, total

headquarters, \$225,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Contributions, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total contributions, \$225,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Arctic College, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Arctic College, total Arctic College, \$2,615,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): There is another page, an information item. Are there any questions? Page 18.08, the Department of Education, program summary, total capital expenditure, \$29,450,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): That concludes the capital. The O and M was deferred. I would like to thank the Minister and his witnesses. Mr. Government House Leader, what is your plan?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources is prepared to make her opening statement.

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

Department Of Energy, Mines And Petroleum Resources

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The following opening statement is presented to begin the discussion of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources. As everyone is aware, this department was created by the Legislative Assembly during the last year's budget session. The department was given a mandate to provide for the management and development of energy and non-renewable resources for the benefit of NWT residents.

The current fiscal year has seen the organization of the department to deal with issues related to the Northern Accord and minerals devolution. The first steps have been taken toward building the necessary in-house expertise which will enable the department to fulfil its mandate in the years to come.

All the professional level positions which were allocated to the department have been utilized and in-house expertise is now in place in geological research, policy development, rights management, resource economics, regulatory affairs, socioeconomic issues and planning. Two community liaison

positions will be filled at the beginning of the new fiscal year, one of which will be based in Inuvik.

With respect to our program and mandate during the current fiscal year, the department has been finalizing preparations for the Northern Accord negotiations, developing and presenting new legislation to govern the NWT Power Corporation, coordinating GNWT input into the FEARO hearings on the Kiggavik mine proposal and representing the GNWT at the National Energy Board hearings on Mackenzie Delta natural gas export applications.

The transfer of the NWT Power Corporation head office from Edmonton to Hay River was completed, which provided an economic boost of 62 new jobs to that town. If the construction of the Taltson transmission line from the Taltson dam around the west end of Great Slave Lake to Yellowknife proceeds, further significant benefits to the southern part of the NWT will result. While the final economic review and community consultation have yet to be completed, the open and innovative approach being taken by the Power Corporation is clear evidence of the advantage of having the company based in the Northwest Territories and being managed by resident Northerners.

The departmental objectives for the new fiscal year include: completion of Northern Accord negotiations; the participation of aboriginal groups in the development and implementation of the Northern Accord and also minerals devolution; preparation of territorial oil and gas policy and legislation; producing geological maps under the final year of the Minerals Development Agreement; development and implementation of a replacement program for the Minerals Development Agreement; and an active role in the development of a new rate structure for electrical utilities.

The departmental objectives are outlined in detail on page 16.05 of the main estimates document. Funding to accomplish these objectives, which amounts to a total of \$3,792,000 and 25.9 person years, has been identified in our budget submission. During the review Members should look beyond the seemingly large percentage increases to the real numbers and recognize that in real dollar terms we are talking about approximately one half million dollars in other O and M associated with the development of our in-house capability to prepare for Northern Accord negotiations. Also bear in mind that the budget does not include implementation funding related to the transfer of responsibilities pursuant to the Northern Accord and minerals devolution negotiations as these are to be negotiated with the transfer of responsibilities.

In my opening remarks last year I said that we, the Government of the Northwest Territories, must prove that we are capable of assuming the many and complex responsibilities which come from the management of industries which are risking huge sums of money on developments and which could have profound impacts on the North's economy and society as a whole. We have begun to prove our capability already by recruiting experienced and top quality staff. This is becoming increasingly important as the federal government continues to reduce staff in areas still under its jurisdiction. Three years ago there were 15 people administering minerals in the Northwest Territories and now there are 11. Only one of these is a mapping geologist, the first step in finding new mineral deposits.

The need for increased professional staff is further illustrated by our two major submissions to the National Energy Board hearings on the export of Mackenzie Delta gas. As this project is still before regulatory bodies, and its future far from certain, the department will continue to co-ordinate our government's responses.

We have been and will continue to be supportive of this project and a pipeline down the Mackenzie Valley because we believe that this project could bring important economic, energy and fiscal benefits to NWT communities. Some have suggested that more guarantees are needed to ensure that local residents benefit, and that the environment is adequately protected. While the importance of these two factors cannot be underestimated, now is not the time to attach conditions which are best dealt with at a more advanced stage and through territorial institutions once the Northern Accord is complete.

Enhanced Funding For Aboriginal Organizations

The budget for the new fiscal year includes enhanced funding for aboriginal organizations to enable them to continue to participate in the development of the Northern Accord. This support is vital because of the important impact non-renewable resource development will have on areas covered by land claims settlements. It will be necessary for both sides to work together to develop land and resource management and regulatory regimes which are efficient and maximize the benefits to northern residents. The Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources has developed a sound and positive working relationship with all aboriginal groups, and I hope to be able to report on positive progress later this session.

Mr. Chairman, the rich oil, gas and mineral resources of the Territories are important to the northern economy today, but hold greater promise for the future. Through careful planning, involving communities, regions, industry and relevant government departments and agencies, we believe that northern benefits can be significantly increased in the areas of employment, training, local contracting and provision of services without unduly retarding the approval process or adding unreasonable costs.

Later in this session it is my intention to table a discussion paper on how we propose to manage northern benefits once we have control over the non-renewable resource sector through devolution. However, as I indicated in a recent letter to the federal Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs and the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, the cancellation of the Canadian exploration incentive program will have a very negative impact on the minerals industry. Therefore, the chances of increased benefits associated with mineral exploration will be greatly reduced, at least in the near term as we expect exploration expenditures to drop by 50 per cent over last year to approximately \$50 million. Just as important to the minerals industry as incentives, however, is the investment climate of the jurisdiction in which the activity is taking place. The Northwest Territories must compete with the provinces and other nations for exploration and development dollars. Therefore, we must demonstrate that investors will be treated fairly and that processes will be respected.

As indicated on March 20th when I tabled the government's deficiency statement on the proposed Kiggavik mine in Baker Lake, we will wait until the FEARO panel has reported before taking any final position on the project. However, we do not believe the project in its current state provides sufficient net benefit to the Keewatin and the Northwest Territories for it to proceed. In the end, the federal government will have to formally decide the project's future, but the onus is on us, as a government, to examine all sides of the issue as though already we had jurisdiction over the minerals industry.

Importance Of Transfer Of Responsibility For Oil, Gas And Minerals

Mr. Chairman, the impact on the Government of the Northwest

Territories of the eventual transfer of responsibility for oil and gas and minerals management will be enormous. We have identified the various responsibilities and resources and already it is clear that this transfer is unlike anything we have ever undertaken before. The opportunities for future revenues are very real. Even if we ignore royalty revenues, which will come only with production, the GNWT will receive new revenues from leases and rentals beginning with the transfer. These will grow as the anticipated discoveries appear and settled land claims make the NWT a more attractive place in which to invest.

In the area of mineral development, it is of critical importance that we continue to gain northern expertise through knowledge of our own mineral potential and development of new technologies which allow the NWT to make the best use of its mineral resources. Programs funded under the current Mineral Development Agreement have been instrumental in allowing the Northwest Territories to compete for scarce mining exploration dollars. For example, Suncor Inc. has, as a direct result of a combined Geological Survey of Canada/Government of the Northwest Territories MDA program, commenced a significant exploration project in the Cullaton Lake area. One mine, such as Colomac, can mean as many as 350 jobs, many of which are northern. One mine can also result in significant purchases through local businesses, new infrastructure development and increased investor interest.

Mr. Chairman, the current Minerals Development Agreement is due to lapse in 1991 and in order to maintain the momentum in this field the department, in conjunction with the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, is preparing to negotiate a new and enhanced agreement. New funding for this initiative will be requested in the 1991-92 fiscal year.

In summary, we are moving toward assuming greater control over our resources which will bring enhanced political responsibility and the opportunity for significant fiscal growth and enhanced northern benefits. After our people, nonrenewable resources are our greatest asset with the most undeveloped potential. We have earned the opportunity to show that we are capable and willing to manage these resources for the benefit of the residents of the Northwest Territories. The process of taking on these new responsibilities has already begun. The Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources has been established, professional staff have been recruited and the department has begun to show its capability to deal with complex development issues in co-operation with aboriginal groups and communities and it is now ready for the next major step. This will be the negotiations themselves which will be co-ordinated with appropriate input from our legal and fiscal experts in the Departments of Finance and Justice, as well as from representatives of the aboriginal organizations. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this time we are prepared to deal with the department.

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

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The motion is not debatable. All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

REVERT TO ITEM 18: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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

Member for High Arctic.

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

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 19, third reading of bills. Item 20, Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

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

ITEM 20: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Tuesday, March 20th.

- 1. Prayer
- 2. Ministers' Statements
- 3. Members' Statements
- 4. Returns to Oral Questions
- 5. Oral Questions
- 6. Written Questions
- 7. Returns to Written Questions
- 8. Replies to Opening Address
- 9. 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
- 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)
- 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 Family Violence and Abuse; Motion 5-90(1)
- 18. Report of Committee of the Whole
- Third Reading of Bills
- 20. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Tuesday, March 20, 1990, at 1:00 p.m.

-- ADJOURNMENT

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