



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES**

**6th Session**

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**DAY 21**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 1990**

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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**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 1990**

|  | <b><u>PAGE</u></b> |
|--|--------------------|
| <b>Prayer</b>  | <b>458</b>         |
| <b>Ministers' Statements</b>   |                    |
| - 36-90(1) Elimination of Racial Discrimination                        | 458                |
| - 37-90(1) New Brunswick Companion Resolution to the Meech Lake Accord | 458                |
| <b>Members' Statements</b>   |                    |
| - Mr. Gargan on Visit of Chief Sunrise Education Centre Students       | 459                |
| - Mr. Ernerk on Thanks to People of Repulse Bay                        | 459                |
| - Mr. Whitford on Halt of Alberta Pulp Mill Project                    | 459                |
| <b>Returns to Oral Questions</b>                                       | <b>459</b>         |
| <b>Oral Questions</b>  | <b>460</b>         |
| <b>Returns to Written Questions</b>                                    | <b>466</b>         |
| <b>Petitions</b>   | <b>466</b>         |
| <b>Notices of Motion</b>   | <b>466</b>         |
| <b>Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills</b>                    |                    |
| - Bill 14-90(1) Tobacco Tax Act  | 467                |
| <b>Motions</b>   | <b>467</b>         |
| <b>Consideration in Committee of the Whole of:</b>                     |                    |
| - Bill 9-90(1), Appropriation Act, 1990-91                             | 469                |
| - Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources                  | 469                |
| - Department of Public Works   | 474                |
| <b>Report of Committee of the Whole of:</b>                            | <b>482</b>         |
| <b>Orders of the Day</b>   | <b>482</b>         |

## YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 1990

## MEMBERS PRESENT

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

## ITEM 1: PRAYER

--Prayer

**SPEAKER (Hon. Richard Nerysoo):** Prior to proceeding with the orders of the day I want to indicate that I have received the following message from the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories:

"Dear Mr. Speaker: I wish to advise that I recommend to the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories the passage of Bill 14-90(1), Tobacco Tax Act, during the sixth session of the 11th Assembly."

Orders of the day for Wednesday, March 21, 1990. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

## ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

**Ministers' Statement 36-90(1): Elimination Of Racial Discrimination**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that today, March 21, is the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The day commemorates a very sad event. On March 21, 1960, in Sharpeville, South Africa, 69 peaceful demonstrators against apartheid were killed and at least 180 were injured. In 1966, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution proclaiming March 21 as the day to officially mark this tragedy, to remind us that racial discrimination is not acceptable.

In the Northwest Territories, we have an opportunity to demonstrate the importance we place on respect for one another. Northern hospitality and friendship have always been extended to strangers and neighbours alike. This is a large land with few inhabitants, where every human being is considered a valued source of skills and cultural diversity. Tragically, this is not the case in other parts of the world. It can only be hoped that all nations will work together to promote tolerance and understanding. Thank you.

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

**Ministers' Statement 37-90(1): New Brunswick Companion Resolution To The Meech Lake Accord**

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is by way of an emergency statement. Mr. Speaker, this morning Premier Frank McKenna announced his government's terms for ratifying the Meech Lake Accord. The terms are contained in what is being called a companion resolution to amend the Constitution along with the Meech Lake Accord. The resolution, introduced in the New Brunswick Legislature, is based on the premise that the 1987 accord should be improved without detracting from its fundamental objective.

From our government's perspective, the resolution is very significant and encouraging. The text of the resolution reflects

many of the concerns this government and Legislature have been expressing since patriation of the Constitution in 1982 and the Meech Lake Accord of 1987. I see it as the beginning of an assurance that the concerns of the Northwest Territories are properly addressed within the framework of the Canadian Constitution.

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

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to outline our concerns and explain how Premier McKenna's resolution addresses them. Our main objections to the accord centred on provincial involvement in the creation of new provinces and the possibility of provinces extending their boundaries into the North without involvement or consent of the Northwest Territories' Legislature. As it now stands, the accord would require unanimous consent of all provinces in order for the Northwest Territories and Yukon to achieve provincial status.

Premier McKenna's resolution on creation of provinces, if accepted by First Ministers, would remove this unanimity barrier in the Meech Lake Accord, as well as a similar barrier in the existing amending formula that requires approval of parliament and the legislatures of two thirds of the provinces with 50 per cent of the population. It would allow the Northwest Territories and Yukon to become provinces on the same terms that applied when provinces were created in the rest of Canada. We would only require the consent of parliament for provincehood. This is what we have always been advocating.

On the matter of extending provincial boundaries into the Northwest Territories, Mr. McKenna's resolution would preserve the unanimity requirement. The stiff test of unanimity should make it virtually impossible for provinces to extend their boundaries into the Territories.

Mr. Speaker, another one of our concerns involves provisions in the accord that exclude the territorial governments from procedures involved in summoning persons to the Senate and the Supreme Court of Canada. The New Brunswick companion resolution would eliminate this roadblock by extending the provisions to both the NWT and Yukon. If the resolution is approved, our government would have the same ability as a provincial government to nominate territorial residents to Supreme Court and Senate positions.

Mr. Speaker, the matter of ensuring a resumption of First Ministers' Conferences on Aboriginal Rights has long been a goal of our government and Legislature. The New Brunswick resolution would add a new requirement to the Constitution, that the agenda of annual First Ministers' Conferences on the Constitution include matters that directly affect the aboriginal peoples of Canada, including the identification and definition of aboriginal rights. The requirement would also oblige the Prime Minister to invite representatives of the aboriginal peoples as well as elected representatives of the Governments of the NWT and Yukon to participate in the discussions on aboriginal rights.

Mr. Speaker, the time and effort spent by the Premier of New

Brunswick and the elected representatives of that province in drafting a companion resolution to the Meech Lake Accord are commendable. In conclusion, it is my hope that Premier McKenna's resolution will lead to a constructive dialogue over the next few weeks which will involve our government, address our concerns and break the current constitutional impasse. Thank you.

---Applause

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

### ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

#### Member's Statement On Visit Of Chief Sunrise Education Centre Students

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Speaker, I believe most Members have received letters from the students of the Chief Sunrise Education Centre in Hay River asking questions and advising of their plans to visit. They are here today in the public gallery with their principal, DiAnn Blesse, who is also their teacher. The students arrived yesterday after a long drive from Hay River, and I had an opportunity to meet with them over dinner. They have been working very hard toward this trip by learning about this government and its operations. They have also been studying topics such as the bison issue, pulp mills on the Athabasca River and the Young Offenders Act. They are very enthusiastic and excited about learning as much as they can from this trip.

Members are aware, Mr. Speaker, that I have made arrangements for the students to meet with us in the Members' lounge during our break today. I wish to compliment their teacher on doing a fine job in preparing the students for this visit. I also want to praise the students for working so hard to learn about the issues we are dealing with today. They have shown me that they are on their way to becoming concerned and responsible voters when they are adults. I would encourage all the students to continue with their interest in the political process after they leave here. We need young people who care about the future development of the North and who are committed to working on behalf of their people.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope that what these students observe here in this House today will inspire some of them to think about seeking political office in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:** I must bring Members' attention to the students of Chief Sunrise Education Centre and their principal, DiAnn Blesse. Members' statements. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

#### Member's Statement On Thanks To People Of Repulse Bay

**MR. ERNERK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I stand up to thank the people of Repulse Bay. There was a time when I finished school in Chesterfield Inlet, when I got back to my home community, my parents used to go camping and fishing at Committee Bay. We lived there for the spring and summer.

In 1964, when I got back from school for summer break, we went to Committee Bay. My father got sick so I had to walk to Repulse Bay in the month of July. All the rivers were running at that time. I would like to thank the individuals who helped us, one person has been deceased for a long time. At that time I tried hard to get help and I would like to thank

those who helped my father and my family.

First of all the person whose name is Apolina Navvaq -- I would like to thank her. At that time I was hungry and she fed me. The Catholic priest, Julian Cochard, gave me a supply of medication for my father. John Ululijarnat, who is living in Igloodik right now, went to another spring camp to tell my brother-in-law and my brother-in-law, Victor Tungilik, who is now living in Pelly Bay, accompanied me back to our spring and summer camp. I would like to thank those people who helped me when I needed their help. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### Member's Statement On Halt Of Alberta Pulp Mill Project

**MR. WHITFORD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On March 2, the long-awaited report of the environmental impact assessment review board on the proposed Alberta-Pacific Pulp Mill was presented to the Government of Alberta. The next day the government announced that it was shelving the \$1.3 million pulp and paper mill project for Northern Alberta indefinitely. Mr. Speaker, the decision by the Alberta government to halt the controversial project was received with relief and joy by many people along the Peace, Athabasca, Slave and Mackenzie River systems and with shock, dismay and anger by the ALPAC group and residents in the area surrounding the proposed site.

We must commend the Environment Minister and the Alberta government for having the courage and the forethought to make such a decision in such a short time and under such tough economic conditions in the regions. Mr. Speaker, the shelving of the ALPAC proposal is only the second round of a fight that is far from over. As happy as we may be, we must not relax our guard on the environment and the issue at hand, that is of the existing pollution loads in the river flowing north and the contamination from pulp mill discharge upstream of our border. The dust hardly settled before suggestions to relocate the project site to a more remote part of the province was made. Mr. Speaker, we must take these suggestions seriously. The simple moving to a remote part of the province will not eliminate the danger from dumping effluent into the waterways. Mr. Speaker, the danger is not only from ALPAC, it was and still is the huge Daishawa pulping plant at Peace River, Proctor and Gamble at Grande Prairie and other existing mills that are not expanding but are still using watersheds as receptors of pulping effluents. Our northern watersheds are too important a resource to allow economic development in another province to disregard the downstream effect and long-term harm they will cause. We must continue to monitor future proposals of like nature and speak out if there is even the slightest danger of contamination of our rivers. Premier Getty of Alberta wants tough environmental rules for Alberta industry. We must support him.

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

### ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

#### Further Return To Question O92-90(1): Inuit Radio Programming

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Ningark on February 16, 1990, regarding the Inuit broadcasting into the Kitikmeot boarding home. I am pleased to advise the honourable Member for Natilikmiot that arrangements have been made for the

Kitikmeot boarding home to receive Inuktitut radio and television programming early in the fiscal year. As we know, this will be a positive step toward creating a more home-like atmosphere in the boarding home and I would like to thank the honourable Member for bringing this to my attention.

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

Also, on the matter of the oral question asked by Mr. Morin on March 1, 1990, regarding privacy for medivac patients on common carriers. The honourable Member for Tu Nede is concerned over the lack of privacy given to medivac patients on scheduled carriers. The Department of Health receives considerable co-operation from the major carriers whenever a medivac is required. If the patient is on a stretcher, the carrier does set aside a block of nine seats and assists with the transfer of the patient. In such cases, I agree that the patient and medical escort do not have much privacy. I have written to the major carriers to inform them of our concerns and to ask what steps they might take to provide more privacy. I will advise you of the outcome of this correspondence.

As well, in the question asked by Mr. Peter Ernerk on February 28th on the number of family counsellors in the Northwest Territories, I have been requested to comment on the number of these family counsellors in the NWT. Since family counselling services are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Social Services, I have asked the Minister of Social Services, the Hon. Jeannie Marie-Jewell, to respond to this question. Thank you.

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

**Return To Question O257-90(1): Social Workers' Academic Qualifications**

**HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to oral question asked by Mr. Whitford on February 28, 1990, regarding the academic qualifications for community social workers in the Department of Social Services. They are established as follows: community social service worker I, academic qualification required is grade 10 and no experience necessary; community social service worker II, academic qualifications required are grade 10, community service work course from Department of Education, or three years' experience; community social service worker III, academic qualifications required are community college diploma or three years' experience as a community social service worker II; community social service worker IV, academic qualifications required are Bachelor of Social Work degree, plus two years' experience or community college diploma with four years experience plus completion of some courses toward a Bachelor of Social Work degree; community social service worker V, academic qualifications required are Bachelor of Social Work degree with three years' experience, or a community college diploma with six year's experience, at least two of which involved supervisory responsibilities; area supervisor, academic qualifications required are a Bachelor of Social Work degree, four years experience minimum, which includes supervisory experience; regional supervisor positions, academic qualifications required are a Bachelor of Social Work degree with five years experience.

Community social service workers at all levels are often called upon to provide counselling services. Perhaps of more importance than the academic qualifications in providing these services are the interpersonal skills of the workers and the knowledge and understanding of local culture and practices. Many of our academically less qualified staff are superb counsellors because of the knowledge and skills acquired through other means than the school system. Thank you.

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

**ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS**

**Question O342-90(1): GNWT Reimbursement To Jean Marie River**

**MR. SIBBESTON:** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Government Leader. The Government Leader met with representatives of the band in Simpson and Jean Marie River in January, concerning the Patterson Mills issue. The concerns centred on our government giving timber rights to Patterson Mills on lands which, traditionally, have been used by the people of Jean Marie River. The meeting was fruitful and the government admitted its mistakes and undertook to provide some compensation.

One issue that has not been resolved is the cost which the regional council incurred in doing that with the Department of Renewable Resources, costs involved with travel and engaging some outside help. I know the Government Leader recently wrote to the Deh Cho Council rejecting their requests for reimbursement for money spent. I wonder if the Government Leader can stand up and justify the stand that he has taken to date?

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

**Return To Question O342-90(1): GNWT Reimbursement To Jean Marie River**

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Mr. Speaker, I should first like to agree to differ with the honourable Member on his interpretation of the meeting. Mr. Speaker, I did not characterize our government's desire to respond to the concerns of Jean Marie River as a method of compensation for the issuing of the timber licence. I agree that we should look at economic initiatives in Jean Marie River but I would prefer not to consider it as compensation. The honourable Member may look at it as compensation but I never said we had agreed to compensation.

Mr. Speaker, as far as the matter of the expenditures of money on this matter by the regional council is concerned, I take the position, Mr. Speaker, that regional councils are given discretionary money to use as they see fit and this particular council made their priority of this particular issue and spent significant money in pursuit of that issue, as is their privilege with the money that is provided by this government. However, it is their responsibility to manage that budget and to manage it carefully so that if they set priorities that they do so within their existing budget.

At no time prior to the actions that they took did we receive any notice or any requests that they would be incurring additional expenditures and, therefore, I think the problem of the additional expenditures is something that they are going to have to manage within their existing allotments, the same as all of the other organizations and regional councils that we fund on the same basis in the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

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

**Supplementary To Question O342-90(1): GNWT Reimbursement To Jean Marie River**

**MR. SIBBESTON:** Mr. Speaker, the Government Leader perhaps does not understand or puts it into words exactly as

I would. I see it as compensation, but whatever you call it the people in Jean Marie River were wronged and the government, properly Mr. Patterson, agreed that the government would do something about it. I do believe that the regional council did all the things the Government Leader talked about in terms of managing their moneys carefully and setting priorities. The executive director, Liza McPherson, has done an excellent job over the course of the last few years, but what happened is that a new thing came into play, that of the government encroaching on land that people in Jean Marie River thought was theirs. It involved land claims and a matter that really went beyond the normal governmental matters. The regional council had no choice but to deal with it. In my view, it was a proper function of the regional council and moneys were expended that were not available in the budget. Mr. Speaker, on March 6th the chief wrote to Mr. Patterson saying, "Please use your God-given abilities to come to a fair agreement on the reimbursement of the Deh Cho region."

I ask the Government Leader if he would use his God-given abilities and reconsider the matter. He has taken a hard stand; it is too harsh, it is unfair, and I ask him to use his God-given abilities.

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

**Further Return To Question O342-90(1): GNWT Reimbursement To Jean Marie River**

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank God for whatever abilities I have been given...

--Laughter

...and I will use them to the best of my ability. Mr. Speaker, I have received the recent letter from Chief Alfred Horesay and also a letter from the Deh Cho Tribal Council responding to my earlier hard-line letter, as the Member has described it. Mr. Speaker, I do not want to be technical, but I guess until April 1st the matter of regional councils is still a responsibility of the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. I will undertake, Mr. Speaker, in light of the Member's eloquent advice here, and in consultation with the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, to consider the appeal sent to me by the chief and by the regional negotiator, to look at the whole file again and to see whether we can reconsider that decision. I will do that as expeditiously as I can, Mr. Speaker, using whatever abilities I possess. Thank you.

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

**Question O343-90(1): Removal Of Inuit From Northern Quebec**

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This morning I listened to a CBC feature story with regard to the House of Commons committee on aboriginal affairs looking into the wrongdoing of the Government of Canada when they brought a number of families from Northern Quebec to Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord. According to Mr. John Amagoalik, president of the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, who was one of the people who appeared before the committee, what he and the people found out in the 1950s was the pain and confusion that his parents and many other parents went through. I think this is totally unacceptable, Mr. Speaker.

My question to the Government Leader is this, could the Government Leader stand up in this House today and indicate to this House, and all the people of the Northwest Territories, that this was outright wrongdoing on the part of the

Government of Canada and, as the Government Leader of the Northwest Territories, demand that the Government of Canada apologize to the people of Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord and admit full responsibility for this outright discrimination against human beings?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Just one moment. Order. While I will allow the answering, that is really a question that requires a response to an issue on behalf of the Government of Canada. Despite its intention, and I think the intent is of raising the concern, it is not a normal practice for Members to ask a government or a jurisdiction to reflect on a position that might be taken by another jurisdiction. However, if the honourable Member wishes to answer and respond, I will allow that to happen. The honourable Member for Sahtu.

**Return To Question O343-90(1): Removal Of Inuit From Northern Quebec**

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to acknowledge the serious nature of the goings-on in one part of our history with people in the Eastern Arctic. As a Legislature, and as a government, to help correct the wrongs and the pain from the historical wrongs that were committed on some of our people, we should do whatever we can to help have them properly addressed. I think, having said that, we also recognize that it is a matter before the federal government and what we can do to support we will try to do. Thank you.

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

**Question O344-90(1): Status Of Negotiations On Joint Management Of Beaufort Sea Oil And Gas**

**MR. LEWIS:** Mr. Speaker, for a long time now, since the first discussion on the Northern Accord, we have had briefings as a caucus behind locked doors and I continue to get the feeling whenever I listen to the progress that has been made that all we are doing is shadowboxing. I would like to ask the Minister for Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources at what stage are the negotiations between the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Yukon government regarding joint management with both territories and the federal government of Beaufort Sea oil and gas reserves?

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, in the question that was put to me in the last part, I would like a clarification whether the question was when they were going to be concluded or when they would begin. I was not quite sure of the question. I would not mind a clarification.

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

**MR. LEWIS:** Precisely then, Mr. Speaker, at what stage are the negotiations between the Government of the Northwest Territories and other jurisdictions over the joint management of Beaufort Sea oil and gas reserves? At what stage are the negotiations?

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

**Return To Question O344-90(1): Status Of Negotiations On Joint Management Of Beaufort Sea Oil And Gas**

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, at the discussion stage.

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

**Question O345-90(1): Status Of Negotiations On Formula Funding**

**MR. LEWIS:** Since this accord was heralded a couple of years ago as the means by which the Northwest Territories would eventually achieve substantial revenues, I wonder whether I could address this supplementary to the Minister of Finance. Since it was agreed that a formula funding arrangement would be negotiated with the federal government which would reduce moneys which the territorial government receives, as oil and gas revenues become available, would he tell us whether those negotiations have begun and what stage they are at in regard to revenues from this new source of revenue which would reduce our dependence on the federal government under the financial formula funding agreement?

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

**Return To Question O345-90(1): Status Of Negotiations On Formula Funding**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to assure the Member that a lot of work is going into a total package. That package, which includes revenue sharing and other fiscal components of a potential Northern Accord, will be going to the federal government, we anticipate, in mid-April. A lot of work has been done on it. My officials are working very closely with the officials of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources. We are quite satisfied with the progress that we have made and we think we will have a total package by mid-April to present.

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

**Question O346-90(1): Consultation With TFN On Concerns With Northern Accord**

**MR. LEWIS:** Mr. Speaker, when this Northern Accord was originally signed, if you recall, one of the major issues of contention, specifically from TFN, was the exclusion of Hudson Bay and the Hudson Strait from the accord agreement. Will the Minister for Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources indicate if this concern was addressed recently in consultation with TFN and has that been resolved?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. I just want to remind Members, and in particular the honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, that the questions that are being posed are not supplementary questions but new questions to different Ministers. The supplementaries must continue in terms of the original question that has been asked. From the questions that have been posed, it indicates that you have asked separate questions. Even though they are on the same subject, they are different questions relating to different issues. The honourable Member for Nunakput.

**Return To Question O346-90(1): Consultation With TFN On Concerns With Northern Accord**

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to assure the honourable Member that over the last year from the time that the enabling agreement was signed we have come to an accommodation with TFN in what is in our draft paper that will be finalized and presented to the federal government on or about April 15, that the accommodation has been made and TFN is satisfied that their concerns have been addressed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question O347-90(1): Capital Expenditures Not Specifically Authorized In Budget**

**MR. PEDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Minister of Finance. Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, in response to a question from Mr. McLaughlin on a capital expenditure on items that are not specifically authorized in the budget, the Minister replied that there is no legal requirement -- this is part of the reply -- "...no legal requirement to make that change but the important element here is that before the Legislative Assembly approves that expenditure they should know the change is happening." Now the Minister stressed he answered it as the Minister of Finance. Could the Minister indicate to me, today, on what grounds he makes that statement? Has he had a legal opinion on that? If he has had a legal opinion would he table that legal opinion in the House, please?

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

**Return To Question O347-90(1): Capital Expenditures Not Specifically Authorized In Budget**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** No, I have not had a legal opinion on it. As I said, the request came to the Financial Management Board pretty late in the game. I also said I would give a more definitive answer to the Assembly. It was my decision that, rather than try to change all of the budget books, as long as the Minister explained what was happening in the House and it would be recorded in Hansard, that would be sufficient disclosure for the Assembly.

I think there is a bit of a grey area in that and I thought that for the protection of any decision made in this House, that the real important thing is that rather than concentrating on whether there should be a physical change in the book, that in fact a verbal amendment is made. If that is giving Members problems, I am prepared to look at another approach and actually introduce, in every case, amendments here in the House.

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

**Question O348-90(1): Policy On Assistance To Tenants Of Public Housing Under Renovation**

**MR. WHITFORD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct a series of questions to the Minister responsible for Housing. Mr. Speaker, yesterday evening at 8:00 o'clock I got a call from a mother living in the housing complex on Williams Avenue. She was quite upset, by the sound of her voice, so I went to the residence to see what the problem was and get a first-hand view. When she had returned home the house was in total disarray. It appears that the house was being renovated and there were no provisions at all for living in this house while the renovations were taking place and nothing had been done, or appeared to have been done, to relocate the tenants. She is a single parent and is unable to afford to relocate to a hotel and she has young children. Not only that but there were very dangerous, in my opinion, situations. There were tacks from the carpeting, the boards that hold the carpeting to the floor were exposed where they could be stepped on by children. There was no alternative at that hour of the night to do anything so she agreed to stay. The question I have for the Minister is, does his department have a policy for tenants in public housing under renovation?

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



Inuvik.

**Return To Question O348-90(1): Policy On Assistance To Tenants Of Public Housing Under Renovation**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a result of the Member providing me with some indication of his concern prior to sitting today, I did investigate the particular and specific problem described by the Member. I am advised that the lady in question was aware that there was to be some repair work done to the flooring and the carpeting in her home. So it was not a matter of returning home and finding that the repairs had been carried out. She was aware that these repairs were going to be done.

The authority was not directly notified that the lady was having problems with the upset to the house. In fact, the first indication that the authority received was as a result of my call at 11:30 this morning. I am advised that the Yellowknife housing authority does, and will, make every effort to minimize the inconvenience that results when such improvements have to be made. To the extent that I am able to determine, I believe that the authority has attempted to carry out a policy and a practice which would ensure the least disruption, but in this case obviously something has happened which has created problems for the woman.

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

**Supplementary To Question O348-90(1): Policy On Assistance To Tenants Of Public Housing Under Renovation**

**MR. WHITFORD:** Mr. Speaker, the Minister is correct that the authority had advised the lady that they were going to do these renovations. However, the fact remains that as I speak here I received a message that nothing has changed since I was there yesterday evening. The trades people have not returned to complete the work; the kitchen is in the living room and there are young children involved here and there are no meals for these young children. It appears that the situation will not change by the end of today. What is the housing authority going to do to help that individual today, not the next time it occurs?

**MR. SPEAKER:** While I will allow the Minister to respond I will just ask you to take note that when you are asking questions, those questions must fall within the administrative responsibility of government or the specific Minister to whom the question is addressed. I raise that point because the responsible agent here is the housing authority of Yellowknife which is another jurisdiction, despite the fact that the honourable Member has overall responsibility. The honourable Member for Inuvik.

**Further Return To Question O348-90(1): Policy On Assistance To Tenants Of Public Housing Under Renovation**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, thank you for your words. I would suggest, through you sir, to the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, that the problem should not be debated in this House. As I see it there is a problem but the problem can be most quickly resolved if the Member or the lady or myself indicates to the Yellowknife housing authority that this is still a problem. I do not think that we can solve it here. I am not going to solve it. The Yellowknife housing authority can go to the contractor and say, "What can we do to fix this up?" I believe somebody has phoned her or will be visiting her so I hope that there have been some steps taken to correct the situation.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Oral questions. Supplementary, the honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

**Supplementary To Question O348-90(1): Policy On Assistance To Tenants Of Public Housing Under Renovation**

**MR. WHITFORD:** The Minister knows perfectly well what I am talking about and that I am not sloughing it off into any other department because it is his department. What I was referring to, sir, was the fact that Public Works have other units available and that is all they were asking; another unit while the house is being renovated and that is all the Minister had to respond to. I ask him the same question, is he going to instruct his officials to temporarily relocate them out of a dangerous situation?

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

**Further Return To Question O348-90(1): Policy On Assistance To Tenants Of Public Housing Under Renovation**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, the Yellowknife housing authority, I am quite sure, in consultation with the tenant and the contractor would make arrangements so that the work could be carried out without disruption to the tenant. I do not know the situation here but I would believe that if there is major work and renovation to be done and a house was available that the housing authority had control of, I assume that they would have that person move at their own convenience and expense to that unit. But of these are some things that I do not know.

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

**Question O349-90(1): Provision Of Carpeting In Public Housing**

**MR. PEDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation and related to Mr. Whitford's questions. This is a question on policy, Mr. Speaker. I notice with interest that one of the problems with the Yellowknife tenant in public housing is that the carpet strips are exposed. Could the Minister advise me if there is a different policy for public housing in the communities than there is in Yellowknife, because to my knowledge carpets are not provided within any public housing that I have been to in any of the communities.

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

**Return To Question O349-90(1): Provision Of Carpeting In Public Housing**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** The Member is correct. Carpets are not provided in the communities. With regard to the current situation as described by the Member for Yellowknife South about the lady's carpeting, I would have to check and see whether that is a rent supplement house or just what type of assistance is provided.

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

**Question O350-90(1): Payment For Alternate Accommodation For Patients From Kitikmeot Region**

**MR. NINGARK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Health. First of all, I would like to

thank her for her earlier return. Since we cannot control the accommodation arrangements of medical patients from the Kitikmeot Region, although we would like to see the Kitikmeot patient boarding home utilized to capacity, and we do not have the control under the existing system, I would like to know, when they use the other arrangements of accommodation, does the Department of Health pay for these accommodations? Thank you.

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

**Return To Question O350-90(1): Payment For Alternate Accommodation For Patients From Kitikmeot Region**

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, yes.

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

**Question O351-90(1): Potential Court Case On Electoral Boundaries Legislation**

**MR. McLAUGHLIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Justice, as a follow-up to a question I asked him in Norman Wells concerning electoral boundaries legislation. At the time, the Minister said that he had not had an opportunity to discuss with his cabinet colleagues the situation of the BC case and the possibility of taking a legal question to court here as a cabinet to find out an answer. I would like him now to answer me, if possible, has he considered the possibility of taking a legal question to the courts to find out if our existing legislation would stand up to a similar challenge as was made to legislation in British Columbia?

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

**Return To Question O351-90(1): Potential Court Case On Electoral Boundaries Legislation**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** I made the decision that I would not. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Pine Point, supplementary.

**Supplementary To Question O351-90(1): Potential Court Case On Electoral Boundaries Legislation**

**MR. McLAUGHLIN:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister might advise the House what the reason was for making that decision, and if one of the reasons was that they were afraid they would not win the court case.

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

**Further Return To Question O351-90(1): Potential Court Case On Electoral Boundaries Legislation**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** I will answer the first part of the question. The second part is hypothetical. I am not sure if I have made any statement about this in the House to amplify my decision in the past, but it was very clear to me that the Electoral Boundaries Commission was a creation of the Legislative Assembly, not of the executive branch of government. The Legislative Assembly set out the parameters for the Electoral Boundaries Commission, and if it was the wish of the Legislative Assembly to have a legal opinion from their legal counsel, or to petition the government to undertake a certain course of action, the government would consider

that. I thought it improper for the government at this particular time, especially before the Electoral Boundaries Commission's report has come out, to take unilateral action, so on that basis we did not. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Pine Point, supplementary.

**Supplementary To Question O351-90(1): Potential Court Case On Electoral Boundaries Legislation**

**MR. McLAUGHLIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the BC court case the challenge was not just to the Electoral Boundaries Commission legislation, but the actual populations of the ridings outlined in the electoral boundaries legislation as well as the Electoral Boundaries Commission. It was both those areas that I was addressing.

I cannot help but make a slight aside here. I know that when I made the motion, Mr. Speaker, to support the appointment of an Electoral Boundaries Commission, I realized that my own constituency was going to disappear. I note the flag for Pine Point is not here any more. I also notice that the flag for Yellowknife is not here, and I wonder if that bodes well for Yellowknife during the electoral boundaries debate.

However, I would like to ask the Minister of Justice if he would ask his cabinet colleagues to reconsider this matter because the fact is that if we do not do something, then we are going to leave it up to the general public to challenge the legislation after we have adopted it in the House under these old rules, which may not be valid, and that will leave us not knowing where the electoral boundaries are until a court case, which may take about six months or a year.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Just for a quick note of information, the flags that are here in this House are the original flags that were flying at Expo' 86 and the Yellowknife flag was here and will probably be going back up again. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

**Further Return To Question O351-90(1): Potential Court Case On Electoral Boundaries Legislation**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. After listening to the Member's comments, I still think it inappropriate at this time for the Executive Council to take that course of action. I also think it is a little bit presumptuous on the Member's part to prejudge the results of the Electoral Boundaries Commission's report. In fact, they might have already dealt with the situation and there may be no problem with the report. We may all agree with it and the matter could be handled in three or four minutes in the House, and everyone in the NWT could be happy. We do not know.

---Laughter

**MR. SPEAKER:** I think that just as a matter of information, I believe that the honourable Member for Yellowknife North has pointed out at least part of the Rules of this House, and he is correct. Basically I wish to make people aware that the honourable Member for Pine Point is very close to dealing with an issue that is before a quasi-judicial administrative or investigative body constituted by this Assembly. I think that until the issue is laid before the Assembly, it has been traditional practice that no questions refer to that particular item until that time. Just as a matter of information for Members. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre.

**Question O352-90(1): Transfer Of Administrative And Legislative Powers Re Oil And Gas Resources**

**MR. LEWIS:** I was disappointed with the answer given by the

Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, who indicates that things are still at the discussion stage after a couple of years. My next question to the same Minister is this: Under the Northern Accord agreement in principle, the federal government has agreed to a phased transfer of administrative and legislative powers to administer oil and gas resources onshore. Will the Minister indicate when the details of the GNWT's proposal addressing the transfer of powers will be available, not to caucus, but to this Assembly?

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

**Return To Question O352-90(1): Transfer Of Administrative And Legislative Powers Re Oil And Gas Resources**

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, we have a final meeting with the aboriginal groups just to go over some other details and immediately after that I would think that it would be a general discussion paper. But we did make a commitment to the aboriginal groups that we will be phasing in a series of meetings and this meeting should take place -- I do not have the date right now but I can give you the date and once we have concluded those meetings the document can be made available.

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

**Supplementary To Question O352-90(1): Transfer Of Administrative And Legislative Powers Re Oil And Gas Resources**

**MR. LEWIS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Minister then commit herself to having a full and frank discussion on this paper in the fall session, if that is the wish of this Assembly?

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

**Further Return To Question O352-90(1): Transfer Of Administrative And Legislative Powers Re Oil And Gas Resources**

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, certainly if it is the wish of the Assembly. I hope that at any time in any matter of the discussions and ongoing responsibility that I have been given as a cabinet Minister that all our discussions will be full and frank. By that time, hopefully, we will have all the details and hopefully if there is an opportunity before, I certainly hope that we will have concluded most of the commitments we have with the aboriginal groups in finalizing the documents. So yes, Mr. Speaker, in short terms.

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

**Supplementary To Question O352-90(1): Transfer Of Administrative And Legislative Powers Re Oil And Gas Resources**

**MR. LEWIS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I noted in listening carefully yesterday when we went through the main estimates, or at least the preamble to it, in the Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, a response to a question about expertise in this whole area, whether in fact in addition to the several mining experts that the deputy minister referred to in their 26.9 man years, whether there are experts in the field of oil and gas in that department to help prepare this paper that we are all looking forward to debating next fall.

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

Nunakput.

**Further Return To Question O352-90(1): Transfer Of Administrative And Legislative Powers Re Oil And Gas Resources**

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question O353-90(1): Establishment Of Fur Farms In NWT**

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Government Leader and it refers to some comments that he made to the northern science conference. I take it he has already made the speech to the conference. In it it refers, Mr. Speaker, to the fact that anti-trapping animal rights activists have had very much of an effect on the market for wild furs from the Northwest Territories. It also states that the fallout may in time be so severe that we will not recover from it and our trappers may end up being unable to make a living from this traditional way of life. Mr. Speaker, the Government Leader talks about developing fur farms. My question to the Government Leader is this, Mr. Speaker: Is the government talking about establishing actual fur farms like fox farms in the Northwest Territories, Nunavut?

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

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Mr. Speaker, I did not make a speech to the science council today. I was scheduled to, but I did not because of the developments in New Brunswick. Mr. Speaker, there were notes prepared, which the Member has, but I did not make any speech, although my assistant made remarks on my behalf at that particular conference. Mr. Speaker, with regard to the Member's question, I would like to refer that to the Minister of Economic Development.

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

**Return To Question O353-90(1): Establishment Of Fur Farms In NWT**

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The statements, or what Mr. Ernerk read, are in fact quite factual. The fact is that trapping is no longer a major source of income in the Northwest Territories. It accounts for less than one per cent of our income. The fact is that very few trappers are making a living from trapping. There are only a very select few who make their full-time living from trapping and almost all of those are in the Fort Smith Region. The income from trapping in what you call the Nunavut region is minimal, to say the least.

We have funded fur farms. There is an active fur farm in the Hay River area that is run by Wade Magrum, that was funded partially through our government. There is an experimental fur farm in Arviat that has been running for several years to test the applicability of country foods with fur farming. The status of that fur farm is now being looked at, and whether or not we continue. But certainly fur farming is a way of the future. It is our hope, though, that we can continue trapping as an activity and strengthen it economically by, perhaps, instead of shipping raw furs south, perhaps ship more manufactured goods south. But there is no question that trapping is in trouble and that the income being realized through trapping, particularly in the Nunavut regions, is not significant at all in terms of people's real income. Thank you.

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

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

#### ITEM 7: RETURNS TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS

**CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):** Mr. Speaker, return to Question W10-90(1), asked by Mr. Ernerk of the Minister of Health concerning health costs in the Keewatin; return to Question 17-90(1), asked by Mr. Morin of the Government Leader concerning non-residents sitting on NWT boards.

#### Return To Question W10-90(1): Health Costs In Keewatin Re Specialists' Travel

Hon. Nellie Cournoyea's return to Question W10-90(1), asked by Mr. Ernerk on February 19, 1990, regarding health costs in the Keewatin: I have been requested to provide specific information related to health care costs in the Keewatin Region. The costs incurred by the Department of Health for general practitioner/specialist services in the Keewatin 1987-88 and 1988-89 are as follows: GP salaries, 1987-88, \$279,622, 1988-89, \$314,275; benefits, 1987-88, \$25,424, 1988-89, \$31,296; consultants/specialists, 1987-88, \$51,660, 1988-89, \$43,534; clinic support staff, 1987-88, \$125,367, 1988-89, \$148,054; ancillary costs, 1987-88, \$159,260, 1988-89, \$159,980; consultant and resident travel, 1987-88, \$91,451, 1988-89, \$106,719; GP travel and staff travel, 1987-88, \$148,752, 1988-89, \$111,402; meals, accommodation, GP transportation, 1987-88, \$28,834, 1988-89, \$48,462; other (i.e. overhead), 1987-88, \$75,355, 1988-89, \$84,393; for a total cost in 1987-88 of \$985,725 and 1988-89 of \$1,048,115. All amounts have been rounded off to the nearest dollar.

Dental services in the Keewatin are provided either by the resident dentist in Rankin Inlet or by dentists from Winnipeg and Churchill. Travel and accommodation costs for 1988-89 are listed below. The travel costs include travel to communities within the Keewatin in addition to travel from Churchill and Winnipeg: April, travel, \$5883, accommodation, \$1,981.28, for a total of \$7,864.28; May, travel, \$4544, accommodation \$1,876.32, for a total of \$6,420.32; June, travel, \$6902, accommodation, \$5892.06, for a total of \$12,794.06; July, travel, \$7296, accommodation \$4,120.30, for a total of \$11,416.30; August, travel \$4103, accommodation, \$1,239.42, for a total of \$5,342.42; September, travel, \$4642, accommodation \$2,515.99, for a total of \$7,157.99; October, travel, \$6374, accommodation, \$3,516.77, for a total of \$9,890.77; November, travel, \$16,063, accommodation, \$2,312.06, for a total of \$18,375.06; December, travel, \$2848, accommodation, \$3,898.54, for a total of \$6,746.54; January, travel, \$3564, accommodation, \$2250, for a total of \$5814; February, travel, \$4432, accommodation, \$7,969.14, for a total of \$12,401.14; March, travel, \$14,522.76, accommodation, \$9,349.63, for a total of \$23,872.39; for a yearly total for travel, \$81,173.76, accommodation, \$46,921.51, total costs, \$128,095.27.

#### Return To Question W17-90(1): Non-Residents Sitting On NWT Boards

Return to written Question W17-90(1), asked by Mr. Morin to the Government Leader concerning non-residents sitting on NWT boards.

Hon. Dennis Patterson's return to Question W17-90(1), asked by Mr. Morin on February 27, 1990, regarding non-residents sitting on NWT boards: There are some 45 committees, boards or agencies whose members are appointed by the Legislative Assembly, the Executive Council or Ministers.

Elected or local boards are not included in this number. Our January, 1990, survey of these committees, boards or agencies indicated that of over 350 members, 10 are not territorial residents: Commissioners's Award Committee, Dr. W.O. Kupsch, Saskatchewan; Highway Transport Board, Eve Comrie, Alberta; Keewatin Regional Health Board, J. McGlynn, Churchill, Manitoba; NWT Power Corporation, John Parker, Sydney, BC and J.N. Olsen, Richmond, BC; Public Utilities Board, M.H. Patterson, Alberta; Science Institute of the NWT, John Parker, Sydney, BC, Dr. A.E. Pallister, Alberta and Dr. B. Postl, Manitoba; Territorial Hospital Insurance Services Board, D. Emery, Yellowknife/Toronto.

There are also some joint boards, such as regional land use planning commissions, caribou management boards and the NWT Water Board, with members appointed by other federal or territorial governments or other organizations. All territorial government representatives on these joint boards are from the Northwest Territories, although those appointed by other governments may not be territorial residents.

The Government of the Northwest Territories Public Committees, Boards and Councils Handbook, revised as of January, 1990, is presently at the printers. When it is available, it will be distributed to Members as has been done in the past.

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

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

#### ITEM 9: PETITIONS

**MR. PUDLUK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am filing Petition 5-90(1). They attached 50 more names to the petition I tabled on February 27, 1990, concerning student financial assistance. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Petitions.

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

Item 11, tabling of documents. Tabling of documents. Item 12, notices of motion. Notices of motion. The honourable Member for High Arctic.

#### ITEM 12: NOTICES OF MOTION

#### Notice Of Motion 8-90(1); Compensation To Inuit From Resolute Bay And Grise Fiord

**MR. PUDLUK:** (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on March 23, 1990, I will move, seconded by Mr. Peter Ernerk, that we are against what the federal government did at the time when the Inuit were moved to Resolute and Grise Fiord. Furthermore, that the Legislative Assembly encourage the federal government to compensate the Inuit from Northern Quebec that were moved to Grise Fiord and Resolute in the 1950s. I would like to make that motion if it is okay with the Members.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member is indicating that he wants to seek unanimous consent at the appropriate time. Notices of motion. Notices of motion. Item 13, notices of motions for first reading of bills. Notices of motions for first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Yellowknife

North.

**ITEM 13: NOTICES OF MOTION FOR  
FIRST READING OF BILLS**

**Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 14-90(1):  
Tobacco Tax Act**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, March 23, 1990, I shall move that Bill 14-90(1), An Act to Amend the Tobacco Tax Act, be read for the first time.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Notices of motions for first reading of bills. Item 14, motions. Motions. The honourable Member for High Arctic.

**ITEM 14: MOTIONS**

**MR. PUDLUK:** (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I would like to go on with my motion at this time.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The honourable Member for High Arctic is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with the motion that he has given notice of. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed, Mr. Pudluk.

**MR. PUDLUK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps it would be better if the interpreters are provided with a copy of the motion because I will be speaking in Inuktitut.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The motion is being delivered to the interpreters. Proceed, the honourable Member for High Arctic.

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

WHEREAS the question of compensation to the Inuit from Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord, who were moved from Northern Quebec by the Government of Canada in early 1950, is being discussed before the House of Commons Committee on Aboriginal Affairs;

AND WHEREAS the actions of the federal government in the 1950s should be redressed;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member from Aivilik, that this Legislative Assembly condemns the actions taken by the federal government in the early 1950s of unilaterally transporting Inuit from Northern Quebec to Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord;

AND FURTHER, that this House strongly urges the federal government to take the necessary action to compensate the Inuit and their families from Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord who were affected by this move from Northern Quebec.

**MR. PEDERSEN:** Point of order.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member for Kitikmeot West.

**MR. PEDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The motion that I have in front of me contains a line which was not read over the microphone and that line reads: "And whereas the Inuit are demanding compensation from the federal government." Should that line be included? Was that line not read by the interpreters or is it not in the motion?

**MR. SPEAKER:** If I could ask the honourable Member for High Arctic if he could read the motion into the record again. Point of order. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On the third "whereas", in Inuktitut, the third whereas, as a matter of fact, is not within the Inuktitut version of the motion. It is in the English version.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Chair will recess for five minutes to get a complete translation for the honourable Members.

---SHORT RECESS

**MR. SPEAKER:** For the record, would the Member for High Arctic please read his motion into the record?

**Motion 8-90(1): Compensation To Inuit From Resolute Bay  
And Grise Fiord**

**MR. PUDLUK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to do this.

WHEREAS the question of compensation to the Inuit from Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord, who were moved from Northern Quebec by the Government of Canada in early 1950, is being discussed before the House of Commons Committee on Aboriginal Affairs;

AND WHEREAS the actions of the federal government in the 1950s should be redressed;

AND WHEREAS the Inuit are demanding compensation from the federal government;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Aivilik, that this Legislative Assembly condemns the actions taken by the federal government in the early 1950s of unilaterally transporting Inuit from Northern Quebec to Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord;

AND FURTHER, that this House strongly urges the federal government to take the necessary action to compensate the Inuit and their families from Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord who were affected by this move from Northern Quebec.

Thank you.

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

**MR. PUDLUK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This issue has been dealt with quite a long time after this move, the people were moved in the 1950s. I can make long comments, but the people that I represent are Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord residents and they informed me of the progress they are making.

After I moved to Resolute Bay in 1959, the people who were originally from Northern Quebec often talked about how they were treated when they were being moved from Northern Quebec. When they start telling their stories of how they were treated by the federal government they say that just before they were moved from Northern Quebec they were told by the federal government that there was more wildlife in that area and that it would be easier to make a living up there. They were promised that after two years of staying there they would be returned to their original homes.

This land was foreign to them, they had never seen it. When they arrived in the High Arctic, probably in the middle of August, it would be fall, and there was snow already. In Northern Quebec the fall is in September or October. With that drastic difference in weather in those communities, they

found that a great difference. They were told, "This will be your new home", and they did not have anything, there was no wood, no boats, no equipment. They had to stay in igloos for the whole winter. They were not sure as to what they were supposed to do because they had never seen 24 hours of darkness before. It was completely different than where they were from, and they were not sure where to go and they were not sure which part of the land had more animals; and they did not know what kind of animals existed there.

They went through very hard times. Their leader was an elder, but the elders did not stay around for too long, they passed away. Once they passed away, the people had to explore and take care of themselves. As they lived day to day, that is how they had to learn, just like us when we are children, we learn by experience. The people who were affected by that move went through the same procedure and they had to learn to use the different resources so they could make a living because they were going to be there for the next two years. After two years they said they wanted to return to their home communities, but they were denied this. Once the federal government put them there, they did not worry and they knew perfectly well the people would not be able to go back by themselves. The only vehicles they had were dog teams, and the federal government knew that they were not going to attempt to go back by dog team. I do not think they knew exactly where Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord were. It was as if they were put on a different world.

For that reason, I fully support those people who were originally from Northern Quebec, who were moved to those two communities. I have made relatives with some of the people because I have been with them since 1959 to the present. These people cannot forget the experience they went through because of this move. What those people are asking for, even if they can get an apology from the federal government, or if they can be compensated, because they could have had a better life if they had stayed in Northern Quebec. Their plans for their lives were ruined. That is why I made that motion, and I would like the support from the Members. I can give more reasons, but I just wanted to clarify the intent of the motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. To the motion. The seconder of the motion, the honourable Member for Aivilik.

**MR. ERNERK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise with regard to the motion that was made by the Member for High Arctic. I seconded this motion and I will strongly support the motion. I am aware that this is not something new in the North. Different organizations in the Northwest Territories, even in Ottawa, have brought this up before. The Inuit Tapirisat of Canada board, more than once, have dealt with this issue of those people who were moved from Northern Quebec to the High Arctic, to Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord, in the early 1950s. I am happy that the House of Commons Committee on Aboriginal Affairs is dealing with this issue and they are getting different people to tell their stories; the people who moved up to the High Arctic. They were told by the federal government that where they were going was better than where they were but they soon found out that there were more obstacles and inconveniences at the place they were put on. A lot of times the way they kept warm was to cuddle up between dogs. Those are the comments that John Amagoalik made. Some of the people were told that they would use the women of the aboriginal people and after the white man uses the women that they would get food. This is unacceptable to the Inuit. (Translation ends)

Mr. Speaker, I stand by my statement this afternoon, that I made to the House, that we should demand that the Government of Canada apologize to the people of Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord and admit full responsibility for this

outright discrimination against human beings. Mr. Speaker, and Members of the Legislative Assembly, what was done to the people of Northern Quebec, those who were transported to Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord, was not acceptable. I mark the words and I make a particular emphasis on this statement that was given to us, was made public to us, by the Minister of Justice, the Hon. Michael A. Ballantyne. He made a reference to the Sharpeville situation, March 21, 1960, in which he indicated to this House that the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution proclaiming March 21 as the day to officially mark this tragedy and to remind us that racial discrimination is not acceptable.

Mr. Ballantyne further indicated to this House that in the Northwest Territories we have an opportunity to demonstrate the importance we place on respect for one another. I would like to underline those words, those statements, Mr. Speaker.

I stand to support this motion because I think we in the Northwest Territories have a grand opportunity to do better, to be better, to be the best and to demonstrate to the rest of the world that discrimination is not acceptable in any form, in any society. Mr. Speaker, I fully support this motion. Thank you.

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

**MR. NINGARK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my understanding that an Inuit family from that area of Quebec were relocated to a totally new environment to them. The reason of the relocation was to have the Canadian Inuit inhabit the area so that the Canadian government would have the sovereignty over the High Arctic region. I do not know if there were any provisions provided or given to this family. If there was any I would not want to speculate because the provisions given to them would be too small of an amount to talk about.

(Translation) Mr. Speaker, for those people who were moved it would be too expensive for the federal government to get the armed forces to move up to that area, that is why they moved these Inuit families. They did not know why they were brought up to the High Arctic. They were not given anything from the federal government when they were placed in the High Arctic, just to satisfy the federal government. They have suffered physically. I know that this has touched a lot of people because we are from one. Even when I am standing right now my legs feel weak. If they are going to be compensated for the suffering that they have received then I will support this motion. If the armed forces were there they would have brought ships and have some airstrips and houses. Perhaps it would have been too expensive so that is why these people were brought up. I feel for them very much and I will support the mover of this motion. Thank you.

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

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to stand up to indicate that I support this motion. I remember when they were in ships and I was with them at that time. We were happy when we were on C.D. Howe because there was food available to the people. I have heard from different people that they were told that there was going to be more wildlife. They are not the only people that have been cheated by the Qallunaq. I also know that the Northern Quebec people came into Lake Harbour, a family, and they had to stay on the land. A lot of Inuit in the communities, when they did not leave the community, the police were directing them to leave, around 1950.

We used to work for The Bay at a very low salary during that period. I think there was a lot of cheating going on because the Inuit did not know what was being imposed on them. For

this reason I also feel that the people from Pond Inlet and the people from Arctic Bay that were also moved up to that area, they are not mentioned in this motion and I wonder why? They only mentioned the people from Northern Quebec so I wonder if there is any consideration for these people too that were moved; even if they are not mentioned in the motion, I will support them because this issue has been talked about for a long time, ever since ITC started. For this reason I believe it from my heart and I have heard before from a priest a long time ago from Cape Dorset, before they were moved up to High Arctic. I fully support this motion because I have seen it myself. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. To the motion. To the motion. The honourable Member for High Arctic, final argument.

**MR. PUDLUK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to mention briefly, perhaps I could talk to the Member for Baffin South. The people from Pond Inlet and Arctic Bay that were moved to High Arctic, I do not think they are talked about because Pond Inlet and Arctic Bay are not very far from Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord. These people from the two communities already knew how to live on the land in that area. The people of Northern Quebec did not know how to live in that kind of condition; they never experienced that and they were suffering a lot. It is true what they have said when they were moved to Resolute and Grise Fiord, they used to try and survive with body warmth. After they recuperated then they built their igloos for warmth. The garments that they used, they did not have the fur garments that were made for the North. They were not used to those conditions. It must have been very traumatic for them moving from Northern Quebec all the way to High Arctic. I would like the vote on this motion to be recorded.

#### Motion 8-90(1), Carried

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The honourable Member for High Arctic has requested a recorded vote. All those in favour?

**CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):** Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. Pedersen, Mr. Pollard, Mr. Sibbeston, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Ernerk, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Whitford, Mr. Wray, Ms Cournoyea, Mr. Ballantyne, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Kakfwi, Mr. Butters, Mr. Ningark, Mr. Gargan.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. All those opposed? None opposed. All those abstaining? No abstentions. Mr. Clerk.

**CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):** Seventeen in favour, none against, no abstentions.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. For the record the vote was unanimous in favour for the motion. Motions.

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

Item 16, second reading of bills. Second reading of bills. Item 17, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Committee Report 1-90(1), Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on the 1990-91 Main Estimates; Bill 9-90(1), Appropriation Act, 1990-91; Committee Report 2-90(1), Special Committee on the Northern Economy Report: Building Our Economic Future; Consideration of the Issues of Family Violence and Abuse; Motion 5-90(1), Opposition to Exploration and Mining of Uranium in the Northwest Territories, with Mr. Gargan in the Chair.

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

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

Department Of Energy, Mines And Petroleum Resources

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** The committee will now come back to order. We are dealing with the Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, O and M, on pages 16.08 of your main estimates. Would Madam Minister like to bring in witnesses?

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Yes, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Does the committee agree?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, the deputy minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, Pierre Alvarez.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Thank you. General comments. Mr. Ernerk.

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you very much, Mr. Chairperson. I am wondering if the Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources has had a chance to take a look at this news release, the story which appeared in Nunatsiaq News. The clipping I have states -- February 23, 1990 -- the headline reads: "Major Gold Discovery Announced Near Baker Lake Area." I am wondering if the Minister has had a chance to take a look at this and if she could confirm, in fact, that there has been a major gold find 60 miles northwest of Baker Lake by the Lucky Eagle Mines Ltd. If she confirms, then I have some questions I would like to ask.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Madam Minister.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, I have, as well the department has, gone over the article and to our understanding Lucky Eagle Mines is a joint venture name and the joint venture is between Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd. and Hecla Resources Ltd. This joint venture has a number of properties in the Keewatin, several of them with known gold showings. I cannot really say much more at this time on that. It is an article in the paper and it is a statement made from comments probably by the joint venture, but we could not at this time clarify the magnitude of findings or exactly what level of operations this group of people are planning.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Mr. Ernerk.

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. What the Minister is indicating to me is that she is not prepared to answer any questions that I might have which appear in this piece of paper here. If that is that case then I will reserve my questions for formal question period either tomorrow or the next day.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Madam Minister.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, what I attempted to say is that I just do not have the information at this time to

respond to the item that the Member is referring to.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Mr. Ernerk.

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you very much, Mr. Chairperson. Continuing with questions that I have established here. I understand that a company by the name of Asamera Minerals Inc. has been doing some drilling around Big Meliadine Lake in Rankin Inlet this summer. Is the Minister aware of that company doing some work around Rankin Inlet this summer?

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, Asamera also has a joint venture property in the Meliadine River area near Baker Lake, as the Member has stated. The joint venture partner is Complex Ltd. and they plan to do geological mapping and geophysics, but they do not plan to do any drilling. We have the contact name that the honourable Member can get in contact with, and Murray Pike of Complex plans to be in Rankin Inlet on March 27th and 28th. We have a telephone number of the project geologist if the honourable Member wants to contact that person, because I believe we will still be here on the 27th and 28th of March.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Mr. Ernerk.

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that is Meliadine Lake near Rankin Inlet and not Baker Lake, as the Minister indicated.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Madam Minister.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, I stand corrected on that.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Mr. Ernerk.

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Geophysics situation around Big Meliadine Lake -- will this company be using helicopters to fly around?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Madam Minister.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, I would presume that they would be using helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft. I do not know any other way that they would get around to supply their small camps and work in the area.

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

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Have there been any meetings with the hamlet of Rankin Inlet, any consultations with the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, who gave me this information in the first place? Have there been any concerns raised with regard to the possibility of disturbing caribou? Because the area around Meliadine Lake, extending to the northwest and some to the northeast, is our hunting grounds for caribou in the summertime. Have there been any concerns raised with regard to that particular situation by any of the concerned citizens of the Rankin Inlet area?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Madam Minister.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, to my knowledge, I do not know of any concerns that have been raised, nor am I aware whether they have actually met with the community of Rankin Inlet. But we could look into that and see if there are concerns and exactly what time the company plans to conduct their activity.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Mr. Ernerk.

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you. I do not really have any further questions. But it would certainly be appreciated if the two levels of government would consult with the people of Rankin Inlet, meeting the hamlet council as well as other concerned groups like hunters and trappers and other organizations, including perhaps the Keewatin Inuit Association, before this project really goes ahead.

I personally have some concerns with the regard to the flying of aircraft. I understand from way back in 1974 when I lived in Baker Lake, we were told by a company that used to be called Meetalgeeselchaft that they had to fly at least 300 or 400 feet above the ground in order to do some geophysical work. If that is the case, then I have some concerns about the height of the aircraft of any kind flying over the wilderness.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Thank you. General comments. Mr. Lewis.

#### Allocation Of Department's Resources

**MR. LEWIS:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have had a chance to look at Hansard today and the discussion that we had yesterday about the work that the 26.9 PYs in this department are engaged in. I watched the development of this department from a secretariat through its phases so that it is now a full department, even though it is a small one. Although it has some planning to do, I find it very, very difficult to see how the major mandate that it was given when it was set up is really being carried out.

For example, Mr. Chairman, if you look at 16.06, the page that has the five year expenditure comparison at the beginning of the main estimates for this department, following the departmental overview and objectives, if you look at the pie chart at the bottom and you look at where the various parts of the budget are being spent, you can see 4.3 per cent to look after utilities. We did take over NCPC, so we have a responsibility for energy, and I can see that you need a directorate, and I see you have a need for managing the budget, your finance and management services. But then if you look at the rest of it, and this confirms what I heard yesterday, that many of the resources of this department are being spent on a function that we still have not taken over. We are still hoping that one day we will have responsibility for minerals, but if you look at the way this budget is split up you have 9.7 per cent for minerals and then 29 per cent for minerals and the economic analysis of mineral potential.

It seems to me that the major initiative that was announced two years ago, the Northern Accord, the oil and gas, really is hidden somewhere in here. It is not spelled out exactly what we are doing in oil and gas. When I asked the Minister yesterday what she took to be a technical question, we were told by Mr. Alvarez that the major pieces of policy work and legislation were to develop a territorial version of the Canadian Petroleum Resources Act and also another version of another piece of legislation called the Oil and Gas Production Conservation Act. Those seemed to be the two major activities being undertaken by this department.

Since two years ago we were told that the big thing this government was going to do and was going to ensure our survival as a government, whatever happened in our relations with the federal government, as long as we had a Northern Accord and a resource sharing agreement, that would be the basis for our future well-being as a government. Yet I do not see anything, and from what I have heard for the past couple of years, what I see in the budget, what I see in the way the PYs are organized in this department, the government's heart is really in the Northern Accord. I just see no evidence of it in the way the resources are being allocated. You could say they are hidden somewhere in this 31.6 per cent resource



policy and economic analysis; it is hidden there somewhere. But you would think that since the department has been given the mandate, and it is a major one, of getting this Northern Accord nailed down, that somewhere there in black and white you would see resources allocated so that we would know this is what we are doing on the Northern Accord.

I would like to ask a very specific question. Could the Minister or her staff tell me, if I wanted to talk to someone who is an expert in oil and gas, and all the work that is related to the Northern Accord, who of the expert people that she has in the department could I go to to clearly get an understanding, an education if you like, about oil and gas, pipeline development and all this other stuff? Who are the technical people, or the people that really can help me to get a handle on where we are going, just for my own education? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** I hope that the honourable Member does not feel anything is hidden. The area of the accord and the work on the accord and oil and gas is under the 32.2 per cent, resource policy and economic analysis. The two pieces of legislation that the Member referred to are the legislation that would put into effect the Northern Accord's implementation on how the Northern Accord would work in the NWT. To the second part of the question, Mr. Alvarez can refer to that.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Mr. Alvarez.

#### Technical People Who Work In Department

**MR. ALVAREZ:** Mr. Lewis, I will go in random order of functions. The director is Mr. Graham Nicholls who has a masters degree in economics. He is the head of the group and has spent a number of years working on major projects and is heading the working group on the Northern Accord that is working with each of the aboriginal groups. He has a series of staff working for him.

Mr. Doug Burch, who spent a number of years working with Dome, is a geologist by trade with a masters degree in economics, has many years of experience in the field, does the fiscal work in the relation of project development, royalties that we would put in place after the accord, which forms part of the Canadian Petroleum Resources Act. We have Rob Hugo, who is a 10 year qualified land man with considerable industry expertise on how new exploration rights are issued and would be issued, such as the Fort Good Hope case, such as the acreage in the Beaufort Sea that is to be released. Cara McCue has a number of years of experience in the Ontario energy department, worked for Polar Gas and the Ontario Energy Corporation for a number of years. She is coordinating the environmental review and regulatory review of the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline and the Mackenzie Delta pipeline development.

Mr. Doug Matthews is located in Inuvik, has been there for a number of years, works very closely with the companies on their ongoing activity in the Mackenzie Delta region. Lorne Matthews is head of the planning group. He has a masters degree in planning and is involved in major project review such as Kiggavik and the community consultation portions in the Mackenzie Valley.

Those are the key people. If you want someone who works specifically on the accord, Mr. Nicholls or myself are the key players. If there are specific areas within the oil and gas business you would be interested in, that is a rough breakdown, or I could give you more detail if you would like.

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

**MR. LEWIS:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not denying that you have good people, trained people and well qualified people. What I am specifically asking is whether you have on your staff people that know this particular industry. For example, you can get agricultural economists. You can specialize in all kinds of economics. You can have people that are experts in various branches of economics, and you can get a masters, if you like, in agricultural economics. My question is, do you have people, even though they have economics degrees, that actually have expertise in this particular sector of our economy? I am talking specifically about oil and gas.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Mr. Alvarez.

**MR. ALVAREZ:** Yes, sir, I do.

**MR. LEWIS:** Okay. That is good enough. Thank you.

**MR. ALVAREZ:** I would make one small addition. Through the contribution agreement we are providing to each of the aboriginal groups, they have brought forward some of the best oil and gas and resource law people in the country to work with our working group. Not only do we have our internal resources, we have people such as Francois Bregha, Nigel Bankes and Pedro Van Meurs, who are part of our working group and who essentially have been with us on every step of the process.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Thank you. General comments. Mr. Ernerk.

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First, I should also correct myself. I think I indicated that in order to do some flying -- what are the words that they use here -- for detecting certain minerals you have to fly at about 300 to 400 feet. I have looked at the figures here and I understand that it is 300 to 400 feet. So I stand corrected with that one.

However, Mr. Chairman, with regard to this Asamera doing some work in and around Rankin Inlet this summer, how much involvement will there be on the part of the native people, on the part of the Inuit from the Rankin Inlet area? I would suspect that support for the people of Rankin Inlet should be there so that there is more involvement in different areas; employment opportunities for the local people as well as monitoring of the exploration work that will take place around Rankin Inlet this summer. Thank you.

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, I will just restate that the department and myself, at this time, do not know the extent of the program that they intend to carry out in the area, but we have committed ourselves to find out what the program is, as well as the environmental issues and the issue of community involvement. We have committed ourselves to do that and we will do that at the earliest opportunity.

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

#### Deficiencies In Baseline Data On Ecosystem

**MR. GARGAN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, last April I was assured by the Government Leader that the environmental assessment review panel will be doing a baseline study on the ecosystem of water, land, plants, air, animals and people. The assurance was that the FEARO panel would do those baseline studies.

Mr. Chairman, the Minister, in his statement yesterday on the Urangesellschaft report, stated that the baseline data has either not been provided or that parts of it were missing or there was not a sufficient baseline study done with regard to the Kiggavik mine. In my opinion, the FEARO panel has not done a good job in doing the baseline study. I believe the Minister is confirming that.

I would like to ask the Minister, if you look in your operations and maintenance, there was a contribution last year of \$60,000 but this year there is nothing with regard to the Kiggavik mine contribution. So I have a concern, Mr. Chairman, that we might be in a situation in which, if we do not have a baseline study, then we cannot determine or measure the effects of uranium mining in any way. I would like to ask the Minister whether or not, because of the insufficient information provided, this government should do some studies in that area.

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, the Member is correct that the analysis of the application that was put forward, or the EIS, the environmental impact statement, was very deficient in those areas and we are still looking at where the total deficiencies are. I would like to state that there will be no hearings until such time as those baseline studies are done. The panel and ourselves, as a government, feel it is necessary to have the work properly concluded, so certainly the hearings are not, or the FEARO panel feels that there is no way that the work can be completed at least until the fall. So we will be pursuing that area to see how that deficiency can be corrected.

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

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Chairman, with regard to the Minister's statement. There are about seven areas in which the government has identified a deficiency. Between now and the fall, is it possible for four people to actually come up with results, given the length of time and the amount of manpower that is there, that they could actually come up with all the critical areas that the government has identified? Is it possible that those people could actually do that? It is a big task and I just do not see how the FEARO panel can actually come up with a final result by the fall.

Another area that I do not feel having one report would satisfy me, I know it is not in my area but I am talking about uranium mining in general and, whatever the results are, it will eventually affect other regions. I would like at least to have the government come up with its own baseline study so that you do have two opinions. Get a second opinion on whether or not the FEARO panel has done a sufficient job and if there are deficiencies in that area the government might pick it up. So you should have two studies to determine whether or not 10 years down the line the people of the area are in the same condition as in 1990. Or, this is the condition that they are in now and it has gotten worse -- to be able to determine that kind of an analysis which is not, in my opinion and the Minister's also, there. I would like to ask the Minister whether or not there should have been some money identified under that Kiggavik contribution so that this government might be able to do its own baseline study, parallel with the FEARO panel's.

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, I would say that the company has been given until this fall, an extension to this fall, to redo the EIS statement. If they cannot complete it by that time there could very well be further delays because I do not believe that the FEARO panel would wish to hear their

presentation unless the evidence is all there, answering some of the questions you have put forward. But there could very well be another delay because the FEARO panel, as well as the proponents who are making representation, which are 11 departments from the government who are doing an assessment -- so it has been found deficient in many areas. The areas that you outlined from the paper are general areas but the deficiencies are numerous. The company at this point in time is looking at what they have to do to satisfy the panel that the correct information and accuracies are there and the baseline is there. So I would think that it would be very, very difficult to meet that extension period deadline. It may very well be that the extension will be even longer than that.

We do have some funds allocated to participants in the panel and the total amount for this coming year is \$185,000. But the 11 government departments will continue to screen and be involved in making sure that the appropriate information is brought forward under the EIS.

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

#### Baseline Needed To Measure Changes

**MR. GARGAN:** Am I correct in saying, for example, maybe the Department of Renewable Resources would do some studies and the Department of Health will be doing some areas of studies, so that they come up with an actual baseline study to say that these are the conditions this year, before the mine has started -- to be able to say that? Mr. Chairman, the effect of uranium mining is something that nobody is clear on, such as what level of radiation is good; but the high risk is there with regard to your health. Because previously those kinds of studies have never been carried out, it is difficult to blame the uranium companies for the ill health of people that do work in that particular industry. That is what I am concerned about; that is what I am worried about. So we have a position in which there are deficiencies, and I think if the government could pick up on those areas and come up with a position, then at least in the North we can say, with some assurance and expertise, "This is the condition that existed before the mining started, and this is the state that the people are in now." You cannot say that the people are not being affected by uranium mining and be able to determine that based on your own analysis, which is not the case at this point in time.

The Northern Saskatchewan areas are a classic example in which the environment has been destroyed, as well as the people, and the socio-economic impact on the native people up there has never been resolved. There are books that speak about the people affected up there. If you do not have any baseline study, then you cannot blame the companies for it. What I am trying to do, hopefully, is to be able to have this government say that they do have one, and yes, "These were the conditions before and these are the conditions now, and we blame it on what is happening now." That sort of thing. If you do not have it, then you have no argument to say that it is them.

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, I certainly agree with the Member's comments. That is basically what the FEARO panel is all about. If we are not satisfied that the proper work and the proper baseline has been established, then the fact is that the approval will not be given. This is the work that is being carried out at this point in time under the FEARO panel. I believe what has been identified is that the work has not been done and an extension has been granted. But I do not believe that the FEARO panel would proceed until the work is properly done and yes, the Departments of Renewable Resources and Health are involved to make sure

that the Member's concerns are addressed. So this is what we are doing right now. I agree that it is difficult. It would be virtually impossible, unless we have the baseline, to identify what existed before a mine ever proceeded. This is what the FEARO panel process is all about.

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

**MR. GARGAN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will not dwell on this issue but just to say that I think as a government responsible for the interests of the northern people and their well-being, we as legislators should encourage this government to do their own baseline studies as well. This is what I am saying. I know what the FEARO panel is doing. I also know what the company is also doing with regard to the Kiggavik mine. But we should also be doing something instead of passing the buck and letting someone else try to deal with an issue which we ourselves also should be addressing, not only the people that are interested in gaining economic benefits from this project.

#### **Proposed Power Transmission Line Near Fort Providence**

The other area that I want to touch on is with regard to the Power Corporation's proposed transmission line between Yellowknife and Taltson dam near Fort Smith to connect with the Snare River dam here. This was discussed in Providence by both the band and the hamlet, that they do not wish to see the transmission line cross at Fort Providence but that it should cross near Fort Providence but not right in Fort Providence, the community of Fort Providence. So this is the position that they will be taking. They do not wish to see a situation like in 1967 when CN put a line right at Fort Providence. It is sort of an eyesore and I do not think the community will support having it again right near the community.

Naturally, they also have concerns about what the magnetic field would be on a high tension power line like that and also having those buzzing sounds from transformers that will be located right in the communities. So I would like to ask the Minister if they could consider building either south or north and crossing the Mackenzie, rather than right in the middle of the community. Because I certainly do not wish to see that happen again. Just as with the Norman Wells pipeline, which is a 12 inch pipeline that ran across in Fort Simpson, it has, to date, never broken and has never had any environmental damage. So is there a possibility, with the millions of dollars worth of a project, that the government should also consider putting that line under the river?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Madam Minister.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, there have been no decisions on exactly where the line is going. Community consultations are taking place at the present time on the particular project. There are some ideas on the possible areas as to where the line will go. Whether the line could be buried under the river, I am not an engineer to determine that, but I know that the community consultations are now taking place to try and get a consensus on what communities feel about the project and what the needs are.

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

**MR. GARGAN:** Just to mention on behalf of my own constituencies, we are opposed to the line crossing right at Fort Providence. Just for the record.

Mr. Chairman, another area which I would like to touch on is with regard to petroleum products. I am a private homeowner myself and I do purchase fuel, but I purchase my own

fuel from Hay River. I just looked at my record from last year. The year before, it was \$780 and this year it is \$800. So it has not gone up by that much. But in Fort Providence and as well maybe in Yellowknife, Fort Simpson, Fort Liard, those are areas where probably there could be some competitiveness in the delivery of fuel to consumers. I am just wondering whether or not it does cost this government a substantial amount of money even in those communities that have access roads, that it is still costing this government quite a bit to purchase fuel. I am just wondering whether or not there are any plans to go through maybe a bidding process for communities -- for the Housing Corporation at least -- to have an open bid to companies to provide fuel to communities. Has that ever been explored? I do not know whether it is your area, or is it possible that that could be looked at?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Madam Minister.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, I know that when government purchases fuel for communities there is a bidding process, in bulk, for the communities. It is done in two or three sections, depending on where the supply is. So the government itself, when it supplies products, does go through a bidding process and from my understanding they generally get a fairly good deal and generally buy from the lowest bidder. But I believe that this is not really my departmental responsibility in terms of the supply of fuels. It is under Government Services. They would be more knowledgeable to answer in detail if there is going to be any change in the policy or not.

But I know for all the communities that rely on government support for fuel delivery -- I know that the major centres have private companies delivering, but that is only in the larger centres where they can make a profit. But I also know that government has attempted to entice other companies to come in and provide that service, such as in Inuvik and Yellowknife. However I guess the companies feel it is not profitable, so the government continues to provide that service. But rather than go into any detail, I think that question would be better asked of the Minister responsible for that area.

#### **Energy, Mines And Petroleum Resources, Total O And M, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Thank you. General comments. Page 16.08, Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, total O and M, \$3,792,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

#### **Details Of Grants And Contributions, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Details of grants and contributions. Total contributions, \$1,594,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Total grants and contributions, \$1,594,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Information items. Northwest Territories Power Corporation. Any questions? On page 16.11

and 16.12, information items. Mr. Ernerk.

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Just for the record, could she provide us with the names of the board of directors for the Northwest Territories Power Corporation?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Madam Minister.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, we can bring the annual report plus those names and have them delivered this afternoon if he wishes.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Information items. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Chairman, under the NWT power subsidy, is this still in effect, so that consumers are given certain rates in Eastern Arctic and Western Arctic? What are the rates? There is a subsidy for them too.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Madam Minister.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** That is correct, Mr. Chairman.

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

**MR. GARGAN:** What are the rates? Is it still \$700 for residential and \$1000 for commercial?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Madam Minister.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, the rates have not been changed. They are still the same.

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

**MR. GARGAN:** What are the rates?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Madam Minister.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** The honourable Member was correct, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Mr. Pollard.

**MR. POLLARD:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is a power subsidy program in the NWT which is based on the Yellowknife rate. I guess my concern is that if the Taltson line goes in then my first question would be, because it is primarily to bring power from the Taltson to Yellowknife, will all the accompanying debt and costs and so on and so forth be charged to the city of Yellowknife and, in effect, drive up the rate in the city of Yellowknife? If it does, sir, then that will automatically trigger rates across every community in the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, the whole question of rates and rate structures is being thoroughly explored at this time and we would be in a better situation to answer that question once we have done that exercise. Certainly, any cost to the Power Corporation has to be recovered from the ratepayers. However, we have not clearly defined them because we have not concluded the exercise on rates and rate structures at this point in time.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Thank you. Are there any more questions? Mr. Pollard.

**MR. POLLARD:** Then the Minister is cognizant of my concern that the Taltson line and the supply of power to Yellowknife should not be reviewed in isolation, in just that one city,

because it does affect everybody across the Northwest Territories. If the Minister is cognizant of that concern and will bear that in mind then it would be greatly appreciated, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Absolutely, Mr. Chairman.

**Total O And M, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Thank you. Are there any more questions on the information items? We will go back to 16.07, Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, total O and M, \$3,792,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Is the O and M concluded?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** There is no capital on this department. What does the Government House Leader wish to do now? I would like to thank the Minister and her witness. Thank you. Mr. Government House Leader.

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Chairman, with the committee's concurrence we would like to proceed with the Department of Public Works.

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

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Does the Minister wish to make any opening remarks?

#### Department Of Public Works

##### Minister's Opening Remarks

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Yes, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, in introducing to this Assembly the proposed 1990-91 budget for the Department of Public Works, I am pleased to provide you with a summary of DPW's recent accomplishments and major plans as we enter this new decade.

As you are aware, the department's operations, maintenance and capital construction and leasing programs play a major role in the creation of employment and business opportunities in the Northwest Territories. The department has played a leading role, over the past several years, in developing the strategy on local and northern involvement in construction, maintenance and leasing. This strategy is an important component of this government's overall economic development strategy. It is built upon the various procedures, directives, policies and approaches which are used by DPW, the Department of Transportation and the NWT Housing Corporation, to provide this government's infrastructure in ways that create meaningful and lasting opportunities for Northerners. Much success has already been achieved by using the strategy. Later in this session I will table a report on DPW's local and northern involvement strategy and accomplishments. I will also now make a few brief comments

on this strategy.

### Approaches Used In Awarding Contracts

Mr. Chairman, the majority of government construction, maintenance and service contracts are publicly tendered in a standard manner and awarded on the basis of price. This standard manner includes a broad range of policies and directives that have been developed and implemented to maximize local and northern business, employment and training opportunities. For instance, for all publicly tendered contracts, we apply the government's business incentive policy, as well as Public Works directives on the use by contractors of commercial room and board, on tender advertisements, and on the selection of architectural and engineering services.

Although all government projects include these local and northern involvement measures, in 1989-90 28 projects worth about \$15 million were undertaken using special approaches. These special approaches are part of the strategy aimed at achieving an even greater level of local and northern involvement than is normally possible through the standard tendering procedures. These special approaches include awarding contracts on the basis of both price and the level of local and northern involvement, negotiating contracts, establishing partial and full authority agreements with Municipal and Community Affairs and community governments, and using construction management. Under construction management, DPW hires a site superintendent to co-ordinate local training, employment and business development efforts. Indicative of the department's success in implementing this strategy to support the northern economy, in 1988-89 the then Department of Public Works and Highways awarded to northern contractors 89 per cent of the number and 81 per cent of the value, of all construction, maintenance and service contracts. The total value of these contracts was about \$76 million.

We recognize that carrying out projects using these approaches takes additional time for design and construction. Also, the overall cost of these projects may be higher because of the need for more on-site project supervision by Public Works staff and the need to provide additional training to workers. However, as noted in the report by the special committee on the northern economy, these additional costs are a worthwhile investment. Long-term benefits will accrue to all Northerners through increased training, employment and business development opportunities.

### Training And Development Programs

The Northwest Territories Construction Association and northern contractors frequently mention the lack of adequately skilled people and businesses to participate in construction projects. While DPW is taking steps to improve or create opportunities for training in respect to its own program delivery, my cabinet colleagues and I know that there is much more to be done to provide appropriate training and development programs for northern labour and businesses. Therefore, the Department of Public Works will be working closely with the Department of Education in implementing the employment development strategy as it relates to the training of Northerners for work in the construction industry. An example of DPW's recent success in training is the power engineering training program. This program is being implemented through the Arctic College and is training Northerners for employment with DPW as building and settlement maintainers and supervisors.

To further contribute to this government's economic development strategy, Public Works continues to support the GNWT privatization policy. The department supports the

development of privatization opportunities suggested by the private sector. Opportunities continue to exist in the maintenance of buildings, works, vehicles and equipment, and in the leasing of office and staff accommodation. DPW's budget for office and residential facilities that are leased basically only from local and northern development corporations and businesses is about \$29 million.

As an example of our success in implementing this local involvement strategy, the Public Works engineering division manages the program for providing NWT communities with adequate supplies of gravel resources, and the program for community road, site and land development. The recently approved community granular materials supply program, with three million dollars in funding, will now be able to cost-effectively address the problem of supplying granular materials to all territorial and community governments and non-governmental users. Later in this session I will be tabling a report on the local and northern involvement achieved through the delivery of these programs.

### Devolution And Decentralization

In addition to the local and northern involvement strategy, the Department of Public Works is pursuing a number of other objectives. The department continues to be involved in the devolution of federal programs to the GNWT by conducting evaluations of the assets being transferred. This ensures that the assets are in reasonable condition and that the appropriate operation, maintenance and replacement funding is included in the transfers. The programs can thus be properly delivered without drawing on existing GNWT financial resources. For example, DPW is now supporting the Department of Renewable Resources as they start the evaluation process for the devolution of the inland fisheries program.

The department continues to decentralize functions from headquarters to the regional centres. This ensures that the structure of the department allows programs and services to be delivered as close as practical to the people being served. For instance, energy management and property management functions have been fully decentralized to all regions. Also over the past few years, project management functions have been increasingly decentralized to the regions. Project management decentralization will continue and will be supported by new directives governing DPW's management of the project management process. Private sector and community response has been positive. Local residents are better able to deal with resident project managers, who are more familiar with local circumstances and problems.

During the current period of fiscal restraint, the department continues to emphasize the need to cost-effectively manage the use of utilities in GNWT buildings and to encourage the general public to do so as well. This will be addressed by the following measures. The energy conservation capital projects program, with a budget of \$500,000, will continue to implement small projects that have quick payback periods. Also the utilities management system is being implemented to assist in the cost effective management of the utilities budget. As well, various energy conservation public awareness programs will be continued throughout the NWT.

### Services To Client Departments

In conjunction with its client departments, DPW continues to promote the standardization of facilities. The aim of the standardization is to reduce design, construction, operation and maintenance costs. The designs incorporate quality standards based on minimizing the lifetime cost of the systems and buildings. New designs for standardization in 1990-91 include nursing stations, fuel dispensers at fuel storage facilities, electrical grounding procedures and standby power

generating plants. Future standardization will include forest fire operations facilities.

Regardless of measures such as standardization, it is apparent that the present funding that the GNWT receives from the federal government is insufficient to meet the needs of NWT communities.

DPW, together with other major departments, is now completing a well-substantiated and comprehensive capital needs assessment. It will identify capital projects required to either maintain or to bring community infrastructure up to levels of service provided across Canada. The preliminary results indicate that the total capital needs in the NWT during the next 20 years will be approximately \$4.8 billion. Aside from being an excellent internal planning tool, this assessment will be updated annually and utilized by the GNWT to support its funding requests to the federal government.

Another important area of emphasis involves the department providing design, construction, property management, operation and maintenance services to regional health boards. I understand that the new regional health boards are pleased with the level of service being provided by DPW, which is a vast improvement over the service previously provided by the federal government.

The department is continuing its involvement with other circumpolar countries. For example, DPW has negotiated the next phase of the Canada/USSR Arctic Sciences Exchange Program. This program ensures an exchange between our two countries of the latest technology in northern construction. It will thus result in reduced costs for the GNWT and potential economic opportunities for northern consulting and construction businesses. It is also a significant plank in Canada's external relations with the USSR. One of the projects involves GNWT planners, architects and engineers designing a town plan for the small northern Soviet community of Votcha using northern Canadian town planning, design and construction standards. The preliminary design is complete and implementation plans will be developed this year.

I would also like to highlight a few figures from the department's budget. The proposed 1990-91 main estimates for DPW reflect a five per cent increase in O and M and a net reduction of 9.9 person years. The major components of the increase in O and M relate to: negotiated salary increases; additional leases for office space and staff housing throughout the NWT; the inflation of leasing costs, and building and vehicle maintenance costs; and an increase in maintenance costs of new assets identified in the capital plan.

The major components of the increase in capital relate to the enhancement of the community granular program and the upgrading of the Laing Building, which the GNWT now owns.

To summarize, the department's 1990-91 proposed O and M budget is \$107 million and the capital budget is eight million dollars. In addition, the capital project budget that DPW will be carrying out on behalf of all territorial government departments is expected to be \$81 million. A further \$12 million will be used to provide operation and maintenance services on behalf of regional health boards, divisional boards of education and Arctic College.

In implementing these combined O and M and capital budgets of approximately \$208 million, the Department of Public Works will continue to play a very important role in stimulating and supporting the northern economy. The various programs and services that DPW delivers affect all communities in the Northwest Territories as well as all GNWT departments. Public Works will continue to deliver its services and programs in support of overall Government of the Northwest Territories

priorities and objectives, in particular the economic development strategy, in a way which maximizes northern business and local employment opportunities.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the committee agrees, I would like the deputy minister, Mr. Larry Elkin, and the director of finance, Mr. Dave Waddell, to join me at the witness table to help answer any or all of your questions that the committee wishes to put forward. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you, Madam Minister. The chairman of the standing committee on finance, Mr. Pollard.

#### Comments From The Standing Committee On Finance

**MR. POLLARD:** Not nearly as long or as eloquent, Mr. Chairman. Our comments deal with the office space leasing plan, and we are just requesting that the Minister should continue to brief the committee on the status of the office space leasing plan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. Does the committee agree that the witnesses stay?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** My apologies, Mr. Chairman, but we are so glad to be here. I have at the witness table Mr. Larry Elkin, the deputy minister of Public Works, and Mr. Dave Waddell, who is the director of finance.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. General comments. Are there general comments? Does the committee agree that we go to detail? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Page 10.10 in your main estimates. Directorate, total O and M, \$6,811,000. Mr. Lewis.

#### Possibility Of Purchasing Second-Hand Equipment

**MR. LEWIS:** I would just like to ask one question if I could, Mr. Chairman. It is about capital and maybe this would be the appropriate time to do it before we get into all the details.

I would like to ask the Minister, why is it that in private enterprise so many people I have talked to in the mining industry, the transportation industry, see nothing wrong with buying something that is not brand-new? For example, I know many airlines and I fly in their airplanes and some of those airplanes may have changed hands six or seven times. I have flown in some airplanes that were bought from Saudi Arabia or from Ethiopia, from all over the place, and yet I chance my life by flying in those second-hand airplanes. So what I want to know is, why is it that governments always have to buy stuff that is brand-new? Why can they not send the clever people that they have, and they have lots of clever people there, to these auctions where they have sometimes a whole field full of equipment; cranes, tractors, bulldozers, all kinds of equipment that you can buy at a very good price as long as you have good, smart people that know a good piece of machinery when they see it and know good value for money? I know that when I buy a truck, very often I will not buy a brand-new one out of my own money. I look it over and I may even pay some expert to tell me if that is a good second-

hand truck and spend a few hundred dollars and save myself thousands and thousands because I bought it second-hand rather than brand-new. Yet because it is government money it has to be absolutely the latest model, brand spanking new and why can we not, in fact, do what private industry does, which is to look at getting good value for money? It still puzzles me why governments never seem to do that. There must be a good reason otherwise they would not be doing it.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Madam Minister.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** It seems to me that we have done this before. The same answer, it has been determined by experience, particularly in the Arctic, that it is cost effective to buy something new. There is difficulty a lot of time in getting replacement parts; perhaps in Yellowknife things are improving. The fact that vehicles that are owned by the government and used in government projects see many users of these particular vehicles and changes in the person who is using them, and they generally get more abuse than if it is a company or a private individual where there is a limited number of users of that particular vehicle. Certainly in the knowledge of the department it is felt, in the particular area that we operate in, that it is cost-effective to buy new unabused equipment.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you, Madam Minister. Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder how the Minister can make that judgment if we have never tried it? In order to come up with that statement that "we have found through experience," and so on, that it is more cost-effective to use new equipment, how do we know that if we have never tried the other way?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Madam Minister.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, I just want to say this and I am going to let the deputy minister answer because there have been times when the department has bought used vehicles. As well, I am very knowledgeable about a piece of equipment that Sachs Harbour was asked to take over a number of years ago that was a second-hand vehicle from Inuvik which got there, and they could not get the parts. As well, the MOT had shipped equipment into Holman Island that was used in other areas which they said was excess and we could have it and it has not been working since they got it. That is just my personal experience. The deputy minister who has been in the department for many years can relate more particularly how the decision to purchase new equipment has been made and been found cost-effective over used equipment, if you do not mind.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:** As long as this is professional information from his department, not from his own personal experience because I know he drives a vehicles that was built many, many years ago and he has had many years of use out of it.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Mr. Elkin.

**MR. ELKIN:** Thank you. Our experience is based on several years of being exposed to many opportunities to get used equipment which appeared, at first hand, to be a very good deal. As we know, when the DEWline was constructed, through that whole process, at various times DEWline equipment right across the North was made available to various communities at a very good price; free. Quite often we either helped communities or we, ourselves, acquired it for our use. We have found through very sad experiences that

that equipment that we acquired for free, more often than not lasted only a very short time and it resulted in very high costs to repair. We were often in a position that the equipment, in terms of spare parts, as the Minister has already said, was obsolete. In very isolated communities one thing that you cannot put up with is equipment being down for a long time.

Unfortunately we have also had the same kind of experience with buildings as well. Quite often buildings become available throughout the North at what appears on the surface to be a very good price and we have taken a few of those over. What we find is that they are not designed and constructed to the current code and the energy efficiency is not there. Although your initial capital costs may have been lower, maybe even free, your operating costs within the life of the building which are many, many times the capital costs, end up being extremely high. We have found, through good and sad experience, that it is cost-effective and that is the only reason we do it. If we could save money by going used we would but it has proven to be cost-effective to buy new. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you, Mr. Elkin. Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:** I do not want to belabour this point, Mr. Chairman, but there is a difference between getting something for nothing -- whenever somebody offers me something for nothing I get frightened, but there are all kinds of stuff which you can buy, you pay good money for it, but not as much as if you have to buy a new one. Very often if you have got some talented people they can look it over and decide that this is a good piece of equipment, that there is a person or an agency that will guarantee parts and so on, and that is the kind of thing I am looking at; not just gifts that you can pick up locally, but going to places where they do have used equipment for sale, which can in fact even be guaranteed. So that was my question. Why is it that we do not buy second-hand stuff rather than just always buying brand-new stuff? There may be some things that you can buy at a good price and still have the kind of guarantees that will provide you good service.

Mr. Chairman, when I asked Mr. Wray about the experimental fishery boat that they were going to buy for the Baffin, he indicated to us that he would, in fact, look at maybe not just buying one, but with the money that is appropriated, possibly getting an even better deal if he went to the Maritimes; and would be prepared to look at the possibility of buying a second-hand vessel rather than buying a brand-new one. So that is what I am trying to get at; buying second-hand rather than brand-new.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Madam Minister.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, I do not think the department has a closed mind for a good deal if a good deal is possible, but certainly in terms of Arctic communities that have only once a year sealift and often times what we are supplying to the community is one vehicle, very seldom even with a back-up support system, communities insist and feel more secure when that equipment is provided new and not second-hand. I think that although we have not got a closed mind if we feel that there is a possibility that there is a good deal, at the same time I would like to stress that the communities themselves, particularly when they have limited equipment to rely on, feel much more secure and certainly their suggestions of "Give us something that we can really count on, not something second-hand" because sometimes that is all you have got. You do not have a back-up facility. So we do not have a closed mind to that if there is a good deal but I think we will see if that is possible. I know even in sewage trucks, communities have had some very bad

experiences on trading back from one community to another.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. Directorate. Mr. Ningark.

**MR. NINGARK:** Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I take it that the honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre is speaking for Yellowknife specifically. I would not want to see second-hand equipment for Pelly Bay, Gjoa Haven...

--Applause

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. Directorate. Mr. Morin.

**MR. MORIN:** Madam Minister, on your capital budget for DPW could you tell me how much on page 10.26, how much of the salaries and wages is designated for the architectural division in Fort Smith?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Mr. Morin, we are on the main estimates. We have already agreed to go through the details of the O and M budget. Page 10.10 is where we are right now. Mr. Morin.

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know where we are. I just need something clarified so I can get into general comments. So Madam Minister, could you tell me how much of the O and M budget is designated for the architectural division office that is operating in Fort Smith?

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, you will have to give us a couple of minutes to find it.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Mr. Ernerk, while we are waiting. Mr. Ernerk.

#### **Application Of Northern Policy In Federal Government Contracts**

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I have a couple of comments and perhaps a couple of questions to ask on page 10.10. I support the government's initiative to increase northern and local training and employment opportunities, business development opportunities. However, with regard to negotiating with the federal government to have it adopt the GNWT contracting procedures, I always have difficulties with the federal government's contracting procedures at the community level. Basically because I sometimes feel that the Government of Canada does not consider communities in the NWT, different communities, as communities that can do things on their own. When it comes to contracting to local firms, the Government of Canada is terrible; it is not good. I give you a good example that I used a couple of years ago when the Government of Canada was building a house for the RCMP in Rankin Inlet. The house apparently cost the Government of Canada in the neighbourhood of \$428,000. They hired a Saskatchewan firm, and this Saskatchewan firm never hired any local people at all. I think that was totally wrong. I am wondering if the Minister could indicate to us as to how these negotiations with the government are doing with regard to the Government of Canada adopting the GNWT's contracting procedures?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you, Mr. Ernerk. Perhaps, Madam Minister, you could respond to Mr. Morin's question first then Mr. Ernerk's.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** We are just clarifying that but I will answer Mr. Ernerk's question and then get back to this. In the two years of attempting to negotiate with the federal government so that it would be possible for them to apply the

northern policy on their buildings and contracts, we have got basically nowhere. They are very reluctant to have our policies applied to any contracts that they put out or on any other proposals. Basically we have not got anywhere, just to put it bluntly.

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

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I find that totally unacceptable because this is one area where I have certain feelings with regard to the involvement of local people at all levels of building in the communities. I would ask the government to continue to pursue the matter with the Government of Canada so that we have some satisfactory solutions when it comes to hiring and involving local people with respect to contracts at the community level.

In the second paragraph, the Government of the NWT states, "to support with the private sector the development of new and refined privatization opportunities". I wonder if the Minister could explain to me what "refined privatization opportunities" are; I want to particularly know the word "refined". I have heard of refined sugar, but I have never heard this word used in describing what you mean.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Madam Minister.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, it might be a poor choice of words, but it is just an attempt to say that as we go along and we have more opportunities, and we have more knowledge, how we can move things more and more to privatization. It is just a restatement that we are committed to the process of privatization. As we go along, generally we can find better ways of doing that.

Before we go on, there was a question that was outstanding asked by Mr. Morin on the Fort Smith contingent. The total wages for that area of support of DPW property management, project management is \$326,000 and 5.5 person years.

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

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the Minister for that answer. I do support this initiative by the government with regard to supporting the private sector in terms of privatization opportunities for the small companies at the community level. I do want to put in at least two cents worth for a constituent who came to me a number of months ago. This company is called Keewatin Automotive Service and they indicated to me that companies like that want to be considered for opportunities to bid on various contracts that are let out to the communities in my constituency. I do support that kind of initiative by the government with regard to the privatization policy. A company like this was the product of privatization and I think the government, having recognized the fact that these companies are viable and they want to be able to compete for various opportunities in the communities, should fully support these companies. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

#### **Directorate, Total O And M, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. Are there any further comments? Directorate, total O and M, \$6,811,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

#### **Project Management, Total O And M**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Project management, total O and



M. Mr. Morin.

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Madam Minister, in this activity of project management, architectural and engineering divisions, headquarters and regional offices, I had asked a question quite some time ago about the cost and I finally do have the costs of the architectural office in the Fort Smith Region. The office I am talking about is the one where you have an architect and 5.5 person years in the Fort Smith Region. I have noticed also that our government has taken the approach and is starting to work more closely with the communities. For example, the band office in Fort Smith was a community project negotiated by the community. The community hired Gino Pin to design it, then basically DPW had the responsibility to come in and do the inspections. The GNWT, I understand, has an electrical inspector that does that inspection, as well there should be some speciality for plumbing and heating and mechanical inspections. I guess the job descriptions of the architects in that division have changed to more of a project officer where they are there to assist the communities and help the communities to put together proposals so that they can take on these types of projects and build them.

It is my feeling, and it has been my feeling for quite some time, that the architectural and engineering division in Fort Smith is basically not of any use any more. I do not know what the other regions are like, the Eastern Arctic, the High Arctic where they are so far away from headquarters it would be better to use people in the region or the regional architectural division if they have them. It seems like a high cost for our government to keep paying when, as far as I am concerned, we have matured in the communities and the government has become more agreeable to working with the communities so that it is making this division in Fort Smith of no use any more.

What the communities do need now is people like Gino Pin, private people, to help them design and build, where they want community input.

I also understand that the government does have this direction where they have certain blueprints already that you should try to follow, like everybody build the same kind of building. If you do have all these blueprints that your department has designed on file, then once again that just adds more wood to the fire to say that the division in Fort Smith is no longer needed, really needed. It may be better to use the 5.5 PYs and put them into the communities or give them to Economic Development or Education, or some place else where the community could make better use of that type of money.

The government, as well as the communities as I have said, are taking the approach of negotiated contracts and that is good. That is why you should have people who are more community-based and there to assist the communities. What department would do that I do not know. That would be up to the cabinet or the government to make that as a manager's decision.

I was going to move a motion on deleting from the top line of this page, from the \$6,149,000 the amount of \$326,000, as well as from your bottom line 97.7 PYs, decrease it by 5.5 PYs. The Clerk is presently typing up the motion and getting it translated so I would like to put that motion on the floor. It is: I move that this committee deletes from page 10.11 of the main estimates of the Department of Public Works under the activity of project management the amount of \$326,000 and 5.5 continuing years for the Fort Smith regional office. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you, Mr. Morin. Could we have a copy of the motion please?

**MR. MORIN:** Mr. Chairman, it is not translated yet.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Okay, we will take five minutes.

---SHORT RECESS

The committee will now come back to order. For the record, would the mover of the motion please read the motion again? Mr. Morin.

**Motion To Delete \$326,000 And 5.5 PYs From Fort Smith Regional Office**

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that this committee delete from page 10.11 of the main estimates of the Department of Public Works under the activity of project management the \$326,000 and 5.5 continuing person years from the Fort Smith regional office.

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

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The year is now 1990 and I realize that the government put this office in Fort Smith quite a few years ago but my feeling is that this office has become non-productive and we are basically wasting that money. I know in my region and my riding that this office is of no use to us. Our people are steadily moving toward negotiated contracts. If there are any capital contracts that are going to happen in my community then we feel that we should have the opportunity to negotiate and design and build them ourselves. The buildings have to reflect our people's culture as well as have as much local employment as possible.

I feel that this office takes far too high a percentage for inspection from the capital project budget. For example, if you have a budget of \$200,000 for a building to build, they take about \$20,000 for inspections and maybe even more. That is well above the private enterprise rate that I know of. I know that if you hire an architect to help your community to design and do the inspections you can get it done quite a bit cheaper.

I understand that it is 5.5 person years that would be deleted out of the community of Fort Smith but I think there would be better ways of spending \$326,000 to help enhance the economy of Fort Smith rather than having an office that does not do a whole lot. The amount of \$326,000 is basically just the tip of the iceberg. Once this is deleted you will also get rid of the high cost of the office itself, as well as all of the drafting equipment, all of the infrastructure, the housing, so you will be making a substantial saving. In the end, what you will have is a more efficient department and a department that is more in tune with the people's needs in that region. You want basically to build buildings that are acceptable to people and bring them in at a fairly reasonable cost. I do not see that this department helps either of those two priorities.

Mr. Chairman, and Members of this Assembly, I hope that you will support this motion. I realize that some of you do not have an architectural division in your region, and I realize that in the High Arctic or the Eastern Arctic it may be of some use, but let me assure you that for my riding it is of no use. With that, I would like to thank you all. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:** Mr. Chairman, at the beginning of this session I tried to get a motion passed which was ruled out of order. In the process of going through this budget, we would in some organized fashion try to examine the total budget so that

we would look at ways in which perhaps we could reduce that \$17 million deficit. Some of us have been very responsibly meeting every morning that this Assembly has been in session, looking in great detail at the work in front of us, and some of us have been keeping items that we thought perhaps we could put together toward the end and then, having looked at all the items, maybe come up with a list of things that would perhaps be priority things which we could all agree on among ourselves and would make sense to the government to cut back on. Therefore, having an item like this coming today, is a surprise deletion. It makes it very difficult for me to support it, simply because when I hear the arguments about waste, it is no use, we do our own thing anyway, we self-design stuff, the inspections cost too much. It seems to me that those costs are going to have to exist whatever way we go about it.

However, I would like to say something briefly about the issue that the Member has raised as it relates to design. One of the concerns that I have had now for about 15 years is that because we want to save money we have moved more and more toward standardizing things. Sometimes you do lose something when you do that. You save money, and in the long run it looks as if you are going the right way, but over the last couple of years, especially when we were dealing with SCONE, we wondered whether, in fact, we had given up something, we had lost something; that perhaps what we have lost is a chance to begin doing things architecturally in the NWT so that people who come from other parts of the world and see the way people live here do not get really disappointed to find that really the people in the NWT, in Rankin Inlet for example, there is nothing very distinctive about them. They are often very disappointed to find that we have become a sort of a homogenized group of people that really have nothing distinctive about the way we live any more. We may have given up something over the last 15 years under a regime where we began to look at the economics of everything and said, "If we standardize the whole works we can save money and it will be much easier to operate." I wonder if we have gone too far in that direction, so that some of the things that we could have done, that would be unique and would give people a sense that they have an architecture that makes sense within the kind of environment that we live in, we have lost all that opportunity.

I suppose the thought first struck me when I was at Expo and I noticed the fact that people who were attracted to that pavilion were attracted because it was a cultural event. People were able to look at people who lived in a different fashion, and then the follow-up from that...

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Excuse me. Mr. Lewis. I would like to remind the Members that we are dealing, under project management, to delete. Could you speak to the motion, please? Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:** Mr. Chairman, we do have architects and I am talking to the motion because what has happened is that where, at one time, we did have a sense that we were going to develop an architecture in the Territories that would be distinctive, perhaps what we have gone and done is to move away from that toward a standard design for everything. Maybe that is the point that Mr. Morin, although it is not stated, has made. The local people want to do things that are not homogenized and are not standardized because they want to do something distinctive.

That is the only support I can give him in this motion. I cannot support what he wants to do. What I would like to see is that the people that do this kind of work look at that reality, that we just cannot homogenize everything. We are a distinct society and perhaps we could be doing things not just simply to make everything look the same. For that reason I will not

be supporting the deletion of this particular activity.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you, Mr. Lewis. To the motion. Ms Cournoyea.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask one question of clarification and then I would like to come back and just say a few things about this particular section. With regard to the motion, is the deletion to delete from Fort Smith, those workers in Fort Smith, and take it totally out of the budget or is it just to delete it from Fort Smith?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** The honourable Member can talk to the motion. If Mr. Morin wants to talk to the motion later he may also have the opportunity but this is not a question and answer period. We are dealing with a motion to delete from project management. Madam Minister, to the motion.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Chairman, on that particular area of deletion we have an assistant superintendent, we have two project officers. One has an engineering background and one has an architectural background. These people do not handle major projects. The major projects are handled out of Yellowknife. These people are responsible for smaller projects, such as renovations. They prepare a design for the renovations and specs and they do working drawings. The Department of Public Works does not hire architects or engineers to do these smaller projects. These people supervise the smaller projects to see that they are done within the specification. For example, in the whole Pine Point area these are the type of people that were working in that project and it took a lot of hours to be able to work with the people to get the project on the road. This particular component, or these five people, are responsible for probably some 60 smaller projects this year.

So they are not large capital project people who handle the large things. It would be difficult for us to carry out the projects as they relate to the renovations, the smaller projects. For example, there was a project in Trout Lake which the Member is familiar with. It was a concrete floor where the specifications were put out by this particular group and the work was not adequately done. So they would inspect it. This component of five people are not architects in addition to the large projects where you get your architect. It would be difficult if you deleted this -- because we have about the same number of projects going in that region this coming year -- to do that job of providing for those smaller projects.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Pollard.

**MR. POLLARD:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The \$326,000 that we would save would contribute to lessening the \$17 million deficit and that is attractive to me, sir. But inasmuch as I do not want to see this deficit spending, I do not want to do it on the backs of people who are presently employed, people who are perhaps married with children, who are going to lose their jobs. I do not think anybody in this Legislative Assembly should be trying to save money by firing people. The way to do it, if we are going to save money, is by allowing no growth, but not by laying people off and getting rid of them.

The second reason is that, once again, Fort Smith is going to take a licking and over the years it has not done very well. It is a government town and it relies on government. It has not managed to diversify its economy, not for the lack of trying, but once again we are going to take a run at Fort Smith.

As much as I want to see the deficit reduced, sir, I am not prepared to do it by these kinds of motions, so I will not be

supporting the motion. I will not be supporting it because I do not want to put those people out of work and I do not want to hurt Fort Smith any more. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you, Mr. Pollard. To the motion. Mr. Ballantyne.

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** I would just like to make a couple of short points. DPW in the main estimates already has a reduction of 10 in their permanent work force. As you know, for the first time ever this year we actually have a reduction overall in the number of person years in this government. I concur with Mr. Pollard's analysis. If we think it through, we do not have to be in a position where we have to fire people and lay people off. I think that if we can continue the trend we started this year and over the next couple of years, to curtail growth we will accomplish the same end.

As I have said before, our escalator in the grant will kick in. Also, we have given a fair amount of thought as to how we will allow our managers to manage. With the 46 PYs that we are proposing to cut this year, we have given them, as you know, until the fall session, through attrition, through transfers, through reclassification, to deal with those 46 PYs and minimize turmoil in our civil service.

Some of us might at times have criticism of our civil service, but it is by and large, I would say, one of the best civil services in this country. We could match it against almost any bureaucracy in any province in this country. I have been involved with some of the senior civil servants and politicians in most provinces.

I think that over the next two or three years we are going to have to take a hard look at everything we do. I think a debate like this is useful because it shows at least some areas where some of the MLAs think that perhaps we should look at dealing with in some way or another; I do not think it is reasonable or fair to expect us to do that, or to expect the management of DPW to do that in a short period of time.

What would be useful for me, as we go through these departments, is where there are areas that MLAs think the activity at one time might have been productive but in their opinion is not now, let us know. As we are starting next year's cycle I can assure you we will take that into consideration. Some MLAs have said that we have not done that. I spend a lot of my time, as Minister of Finance, trying to read through what MLAs have said and I am sorry if I have missed some of them but we try our best. The government will be voting against this, not because we do not take seriously the concerns of the MLAs, but we feel that the timing and the process to deal with this sort of thing, in this case, is not the proper one. I can assure you that we will be taking note as we go through the budget process of areas in the budget that MLAs might think are weak and we will definitely look at those over the next year. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. General comments. Mr. McLaughlin.

**MR. McLAUGHLIN:** Mr. Chairman, you sit over here, you should look over here once and a while. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It was my third of fourth wave. Mr. Chairman, I am generally in favour of taking some areas and making some general cuts that have been planned out, like Mr. Lewis said, specifically in DPW. I have always been under the impression that there are layers and layers of engineers and architects making out tender calls for other architects to bid on and then design the buildings and the architects that work for us look at what the other architects are doing. I know that I am exaggerating a bit but there is some of that going on. So I

look at this department, unlike program departments, as one of the areas that I would not mind seeing some cuts. However, like I said, cuts that are general. Give our managers, the cabinet, the right to manage the funds which we have given them and give them some general direction within a large area of one of the department's budgets and let them react like that, rather than getting specific to one area and one small community where jobs are important. So I am generally in favour of finding some areas to curb, some PYs to cut back the total growth of government, due to restraint, to cut back our deficit but I will not support an on-the-spot motion that picks on one community in particular. Thank you.

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

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess that argument can always be used that you are picking on Fort Smith again but you see some spending of money and you are not getting your bang for the buck, I guess you could call it. It is not picking on Fort Smith or anything like that. The department, in this area, in that region, that job is useless. The communities are going more and more into taking control of things themselves and this may help to ensure that that happens. This may speed things up rather than having a regional office that tries to hang on to what control they have. It does not matter if you have 10 projects or 100 projects or whether they are renovating a sidewalk or renovating a school, all that can be done by the private enterprise, all that can be done by the communities. You can call for proposals and the communities can do that. I am sure there are enough people in the Northwest Territories that the community can call upon and have a cost and put their proposal together to do any type of renovation, as well as capital projects.

It is always good to say that we do not want to see a deficit but then on the other hand say that we do not want to get rid of any PYs. Sooner or later some people are going to have to quit riding the fence and bite the bullet and say, "Are we going to do it or not?" Hopefully that will happen some day but I do not see it happening today.

I still think that we should cut and delete this amount of money and those PYs. Whether they take it completely out of the budget or not that is completely up to them. The government has the opportunity to bring in a supp and restructure it and make it more productive. But the way it is operating right now is unacceptable to me and that is the reason I put the motion forward to begin with. With that, once again, I would like to ask the Members to support the motion and hopefully we will get it passed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** To the motion. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under this task the motion is dealing with the Fort Smith Region which also includes my region, the Dogrib region too. So in all we have something like 20 communities that could be affected by this cut. But it is a motion that is introduced by a person affected from that region. I think as Members we should, wherever possible, try to support each other if the sacrifice by a Member is for their own region. I could understand Members if they decide to go against the motion which maybe is affecting their own region but in this case Mr. Morin is making a motion which affects his own region, and that we, as Members, should understand where he is coming from because he is the one that knows the area and perhaps the areas of deficiencies. We should at least give credit to Members like that, that think perhaps the areas that need to be addressed are best addressed by the Members affected directly from those regions. So myself, I am in a position to support this motion based on the notion that I am sure Mr. Morin has that credibility to make some of the visions in his

own region and make suggestions to the Members for their support. So on that basis I realize that perhaps down the line we are going to be making further cuts but certainly this is a test of whether or not we are going to be standing up and saying that we do support certain cuts and be able to do it. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** To the motion. Mr. Morin.

**MR. MORIN:** Recorded vote, please.

**Motion To Delete \$326,000 And 5.5 PYs From Fort Smith Regional Office, Defeated**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** A recorded vote has been requested. All those in favour, please stand.

**CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):** Mr. Pedersen, Mr. Morin, Mr. Ernerk, Mr. Ningark, Mr. Gargan.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** All those opposed, please stand.

**CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):** Mr. Pollard, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Whitford, Mr. Wray, Ms Cournoyea, Mr. Allooloo, Mr. Ballantyne, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Kakfwi, Mr. Butters, Mrs. Marie-Jewell, Mr. McLaughlin.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Abstentions?

**CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):** Mr. Arlooktoo and Mr. Kilabuk.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** Mr. Clerk.

**CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):** Five in favour, 12 against, with two abstentions.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** The motion is defeated.

---Defeated

Mr. Pedersen.

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

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):** The motion is not debatable. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried. I will report progress.

**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. Chairman, your committee has been considering Bill 9-90(1) and Committee Report 1-90(1), and wishes to report progress with one motion being defeated.

**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 Thursday, March 22: ajauqtit at 9:00 a.m.; at 10:00 a.m. public accounts; at 10:30 a.m. legislation; and at 12:00 noon caucus.

**ITEM 20: ORDERS OF THE DAY**

Orders of the day for Thursday, March 22nd.

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

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Thursday, March 22, 1990, at 1:00 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT

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