



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

6th Session

11th Assembly

HANSARD
Official Report
DAY 22

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 1990

Pages 483 - 507

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

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 1990

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

--Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Richard Nerysoo): Prior to proceeding with orders of the day, I would like to bring honourable Members' attention to a visiting dignitary to this House, the Hon. Mary Collins, Associate Minister of National Defence and Minister responsible for the Status of Women. Welcome.

--Applause

I would also like to draw Members' attention to the visiting grade five and six students from JH Sissons Elementary School and their teacher, Mr. Rob Chartrand, and of course, Clinton Jewell.

Orders of the day for Thursday, March 22, 1990. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Ministers' Statement 38-90(1): Fur Trapping Economy

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am very disturbed about suggestions that our government does not support the traditional fur trapping economy. That is not the case. Given the past economic and social benefits to trappers from the harvesting of furs, the government is fully committed to any effort designed to help restore this important economic base.

Mr. Speaker, both myself and my cabinet colleagues understand very clearly that people in the Northwest Territories have depended on the land and all that it offers for thousands of years and that their strong cultural traditions will ensure a continuation of this reality. It is a reality that is respected by this government and Members of this House. It is a reality that is reflected in the programs, services and support we have always provided, and will continue to provide, to trappers in the Northwest Territories, to Indigenous Survival International and to the Fur Institute of Canada. Mr. Speaker, the fact that trappers still trap in the Northwest Territories, despite the low fur prices triggered by the anti-trapping movement, is a testimony to the strong cultural ties northern people have to trapping furs. My government recognized these cultural roots and it also recognized its commitment to do whatever it can to fight the anti-fur lobby.

The speech delivered on my behalf yesterday to the Science Council of Canada Conference was read from notes prepared for my consideration. I regret that the section in the notes dealing with fur farming was not as complete as it should have been. The government's position on fur farming in relation to trapping is clearly stated in its economic development strategy, specifically the publication called, "Renewable Resources: Building on a Tradition". Page 20 of that publication talks about a demonstration project and notes: "We would be wise to proceed cautiously to ensure that traditional (trapping) activities are not adversely affected." Mr. Speaker, we intend to do just that. Qujannamiik.

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to give a Ministers' statement on the Environmental Ministers' Conference which I filed less than one hour ago.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to give a Ministers' statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Minister.

Ministers' Statement 39-90(1): Canadian Council Of Ministers Of Environment Meeting

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Canadian Environment Ministers met on March 20th in Vancouver to make decisions on a number of environmental issues. All Ministers agreed that global warming due to climate change now demanded full attention and that Canada should respond nationally and internationally to this issue. Through the Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, our government is conducting an inventory and analysis of territorial sources of carbon dioxide, which is one of the gases causing global warming.

Environment Ministers adopted a "Statement on Interjurisdictional Co-operation on Environmental Matters". This statement provides a framework for ensuring co-operation on transboundary environmental issues within Canada. It emphasizes development of formal environmental agreements and information sharing among all governments in Canada. It also encourages similar action on an international level. Mr. Speaker, one immediate example of this statement is the "Canadian Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Emergencies" which was adopted by all Ministers. This memorandum is a means of sharing resources and expertise during environmental emergencies. This means that in the event of an environmental emergency in the Northwest Territories, such as a large spill of a hazardous substance, our government will have access to resources and expertise from other provincial and federal agencies.

Environment Ministers also announced a commitment to develop a strategy to control water pollution from pulp and paper mills across Canada. This strategy will provide, on a priority basis, an approach to: 1) establish consistent pollution standards; 2) co-ordinate monitoring and enforcement; and 3) provide consistent environmental protection. Our government has sent a letter of support for the development of new regulations to the federal Minister of the Environment.

At the meeting we also reviewed progress in the development of the \$250 million cost-sharing program to clean up high risk contaminated sites in Canada. This program was announced at the annual meeting in 1989 and our government will continue to pursue the inclusion of contaminated land sites in the North in this program. Significant progress in developing regional approaches to the management of PCBs and other hazardous wastes was noted for Atlantic Canada and western and northern Canada. Western and northern Ministers agreed

to meet very soon to discuss a comprehensive hazardous waste management plan for western and northern Canada. Our government welcomes this initiative as a possible means of disposing of territorial hazardous wastes.

All Ministers endorsed a national packaging protocol to reduce packaging by 50 per cent by the year 2000. This protocol will help the government and residents of the Northwest Territories to address the problem of garbage and waste disposal.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, we reviewed opportunities for increased federal, provincial and territorial co-operation in joint environmental impact assessment. Efforts will be made to establish frameworks to allow joint environmental assessment in appropriate cases. Our government will be involved during the consultative stage.

Mr. Speaker, as we all know, environmental issues are one of the foremost concerns of Canadians. I was encouraged to see the commitment of all Canadian Environment Ministers in assuming leadership roles on these important issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ministers' Statement 40-90(1): Appointment Of Deputy Judges

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that effective March 14 of this year, four deputy judges have been appointed to the territorial court of the Northwest Territories. Three of these are aboriginal persons who are provincial court judges in other jurisdictions in Canada and the other is the chief judge of the Yukon territorial court.

Associate Chief Judge Murray Sinclair, of the provincial court of Manitoba, has had extensive experience with native justice issues. He completed his law degree at the University of Manitoba in 1979. Since that time he has been an instructor at the same university in their Department of Native Studies, he has worked in private practice, and he has acted as legal counsel for many aboriginal organizations. He was appointed to the bench in 1988. As a judge hearing cases in native communities in Manitoba, he asked elders from the communities to assist him in deliberating on the cases heard. Last September, Judge Sinclair visited Yellowknife to speak at the arctic public legal education annual general meeting. Presently he is co-commissioner of the aboriginal justice inquiry in Manitoba.

Judge James J. Igloliorte of Goose Bay, Labrador, is responsible for the central and eastern coast of Labrador, which entails extensive circuit travel. He graduated from Memorial University of Newfoundland with a Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Education degree in 1973. He pursued a career as a teacher and vice-principal until he became a provincial court judge in Newfoundland in 1980. From 1982 until 1985 he attended law school at Dalhousie University and, after obtaining his law degree, he returned to his work as a provincial court judge. His circuit experience in the small communities of Labrador makes him well suited to our northern situation.

Judge Ken Bellerose has been a judge on the provincial court of Saskatchewan since 1977. He attended the University of Saskatchewan from 1961 to 1968, obtaining a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Bachelor of Law degree. During his career as a lawyer he was a deputy assistant city solicitor in Regina, Saskatchewan, and then an assistant city prosecutor in the same community. His long years of experience on the bench will be of great benefit to us.

Chief Judge Heino Lilles, of the Yukon, graduated in 1967 from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, with a Bachelor of Science, Honours degree, and in 1968 with a Master of Science degree. He obtained his law degree from the same university in 1971, and a Master of Law degree from the London School of Economics in England in 1972. He was a professor of law at Queen's University from 1972 to 1987, after which he became a judge of the territorial court of the Yukon, and then the chief judge of that court. He has written some of the authoritative Canadian works on young offenders and children's law.

Deputy territorial judges have all the powers, duties and functions of our territorial court judges. They fill in, as their schedules permit, when extra judges are needed for court circuits in the Territories. All of these judges come well qualified, and I am pleased that people in our communities will have the opportunity to see aboriginal persons sitting as judges.

I was very pleased to recommend to the Commissioner these judicial appointments and I hope that these appointments will bring us one step closer to a justice system that truly reflects the values and traditions of all of our people. Thank you.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Ministers' statements. Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements. Members' statements. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Returns to oral questions. I have called returns to oral questions. Does the honourable Member wish to seek unanimous consent to return to Members' statements? The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre.

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to return to the item, Members' statements.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent. Are there any nays? Proceed, the honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Government's Position On Fur Industry

MR. LEWIS: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, for your patience. I was also concerned yesterday, Mr. Speaker, about the notes that had been prepared for the Government Leader to deliver and I accept his explanation that had he been delivering this particular address to the Science Institute, he would have, in fact, modified the comments somewhat. Because the public impression is that this government has suddenly changed its position in its defence of the fur trade. This government has been known for the amount of work it has done in support of the Fur Institute.

I was even more surprised yesterday to find that my colleague, Mr. Wray, confirmed what had been prepared for Mr. Patterson by indicating that this was, in fact, a lost industry and it was something that we should put behind us. I should point out, Mr. Speaker, that maybe it does not make an awful lot of money but people that have engaged in this activity for a long period of time in fact use skills that are traditional. Although they may not be rich, they would be rich in soul and spirit because this is something that they have learned over a lifetime and it enables them to live a fulfilling life. For that reason, I regret very much that Mr. Wray, the Minister responsible for the Department of Economic Development, has not seen how important this particular activity is in the general economy of the Northwest Territories, even though it does not make people rich.

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

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

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As most Members are aware, the students from the Chief Sunrise Education Centre visited Yellowknife yesterday and left this morning. I would like to thank the Members and the Ministers that took the time to meet with the students. The students wrote to individual Members. I would also like to thank the principal, Ms Blesse, and their driver, Pat Martel, for taking that initiative to come over here. Once again, I would like to thank the Ministers and the Members that did take the time to meet with the students. Mahsi cho.

---Applause

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

Member's Statement On Regional Disparity

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish today to talk about regional disparity. I think we all know that the NWT is divided into five administrative regions. These regions normally have certain facilities allocated to them for the purpose of carrying out their responsibility as a region. Some of these facilities include high schools, Arctic College facilities, student accommodation for these facilities, hospitals, courthouses, libraries, visitors' centres, cultural centres, the provision of law services, Canada Employment Commission offices -- although a federal responsibility, nevertheless an important thing -- senior citizen facilities, corrections facilities, et cetera, et cetera.

I want to point out, Mr. Speaker, that the Kitikmeot Region, of which I represent one of the constituencies, has none of these facilities, not one of them. And that despite that, in certain other regions in student accommodation, for instance, some \$13.7 million will be spent over a three year period. In regions that have a hospital already, we are contemplating in this budget another \$40 million expenditure; courthouse, \$4.7 million; cultural centre, \$3.7 million. In my region I find that under schools we are not even mentioned. Under business development we are not even mentioned.

Mr. Speaker, it is becoming a very frustrating experience to be an elected Member for a region that does not seem to be recognized as existing. I do, however, have one possible solution for us. My regional council may or may not back me in this. But I would suggest to the government that they could either let the Kitikmeot become part of the Keewatin or better still, let us be considered to be a suburb of Iqaluit. Perhaps we would do better.

---Applause

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

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

Return To Question 269-90(1): Funding For Franco-Tenoise Federation

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: The Franco-Tenoise Federation have not received any cuts in their grants from the federal government during the recent rounds of budget cuts. For the information of the honourable Member, I have obtained copies of the native communications program and official languages program descriptions, which I will make available to him.

Thank you.

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

Further Return To Question 208-90(1): Hay River Plebiscite To Withdraw From Regional Council

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The honourable Member for Tu Nede asked on Friday, February 23, 1990 if I, as Minister responsible for regional and tribal councils, could instruct the Town of Hay River to hold a plebiscite to determine if residents wanted a seat on the South Slave "Tribal" Council. I assume that since his earlier question referred to the South Slave "Regional" Council, the honourable Member was referring to the regional council in this case as well.

The short answer to this question is no. Before a regional council or its members are subject to the provisions of the Regional and Tribal Councils Act, the council must officially be established as a corporate body under this act. For example, the Baffin Regional Council is such a corporate body, and therefore, its members are subject to all the provisions of the act, such as subsection 3(3). Consequently the Town of Iqaluit would have been legally obligated to hold a plebiscite in order to determine withdrawal of its membership from the BRC. However, the South Slave Regional Council is not incorporated under the Regional and Tribal Councils Act, and therefore, the act is only a guideline for the regional council's day-to-day operations. Thus an unofficial member community such as Hay River is not legally required to hold a plebiscite if it wishes to withdraw its membership. There are no provisions within the Regional and Tribal Councils Act or elsewhere, for that matter, that would require a community to hold a plebiscite to see if it wanted membership on a regional or tribal council. I would, therefore, have no authority to instruct the Town of Hay River to undertake such a plebiscite.

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

Return To Question O181-90(1): Better Equipment To Cope With Permafrost Conditions

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I have a return to a question asked by Mr. Ningark on February 22, 1989, relative to the provision of better equipment to cope with the permafrost conditions found in the Northwest Territories. I am aware of the problems experienced with the operation of heavy equipment in permafrost areas. Soil and permafrost conditions vary throughout the North and, therefore, equipment working in permafrost must be carefully selected to suit both the soil conditions and the job to be done.

When equipment is purchased to work in permafrost, a significant amount of community consultation is undertaken to ensure that the correct equipment is obtained and that careful consideration is given to the local conditions. My department's standards and criteria for mobile equipment specify the equipment performance criteria, while the Department of Public Works prepares the detailed specifications for tendering purposes.

The equipment that my department regularly provides is intended for community works operations such as snow removal, road maintenance, and solid waste site management. I can assure the Member that the standards used by my department ensure that all heavy equipment is specially equipped for northern conditions. At the same time, however, my department continually strives to balance technology with economics to provide equipment that combines good service with low operational and maintenance costs.

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

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question O354-90(1): Territorial Government Action On Federal Cuts To Native Communications Organizations

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Culture and Communications. We all know that the last federal budget included cuts to the native communications societies across this country, and I know that our Native Press here was badly hurt because it lost all its money. I think the intention was that the federal government would pass the burden on to provincial and territorial jurisdictions. My question to the Minister is, has he capitulated and buckled and provided the local Native Press and the native communications authority the money that they were seeking from the federal government?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Amittuq.

Return To Question O354-90(1): Territorial Government Action On Federal Cuts To Native Communications Organizations

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, since the break I have met with the federal Minister, the Hon. Gerry Weiner, on this issue. The agreement that we reached was to establish a high level officials' committee to meet and find possible solutions to this problem. I understand that the intergovernmental committee has been struck and the regional directors of the department will be meeting with the native organizations who are affected by the cuts. I was also assured that my department will be fully involved in this process.

Mr. Speaker, at the present time, without a decision being made by that committee, I am reluctant to see what sort of funding is needed to keep the native organizations intact. I will have to wait for the committee's findings before we approach the Member's question. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O354-90(1): Territorial Government Action On Federal Cuts To Native Communications Organizations

MR. LEWIS: Will the Minister then confirm, Mr. Speaker, that no interim funding has been provided for the Native Press or the native communications authority until this issue has been resolved?

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

Further Return To Question O354-90(1): Territorial Government Action On Federal Cuts To Native Communications Organizations

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, there is ongoing year to year funding provided to native organizations to the tune of \$30,000. Although my budget has not gone through this House, I have a proposal to increase their funding. At the present time my department and the Executive Council are reviewing all options to see what areas should be covered. Thank you.

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

The honourable Member for Baffin South.

Question O355-90(1): Funding For Caribou Survey On Baffin Island

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be directing my question to the Minister of Renewable Resources. I was a participant on March 13 and 14 in Iqaluit when the Baffin Region Hunters and Trappers Committee was meeting. I came up with a question with regard to caribou. In the Baffin Region some communities have good surveys and studies being done, but in some areas they are not being surveyed. The Wildlife Council wanted to increase the caribou quota but this is not to be, because they would have to have a survey or a study done first. The wildlife biologist, from Pond Inlet, indicated that they would want more funding for the service to be done. I wonder if the Minister of Renewable Resources could support this project with regard to funding because this cannot go ahead without having more money available. They definitely have to have surveys done first, before they can increase the quota. Also, Broughton Island has no caribou around that area and even though there is a small population around there I am wondering if you can check into it further. I am asking you if it would be possible to get more funding. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Amittuq.

Return To Question O355-90(1): Funding For Caribou Survey On Baffin Island

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the Baffin Region the caribou are surveyed and counted, and they have been looking into parasites in caribou. They have done studies in the south Baffin but the surveys are not completed yet. Once the studies are completed they will move to another area in the Baffin Region, to study caribou and count the population. Once the count is completed they will try to solve the problem of increasing the quota for commercial purposes. I cannot really give you a definite answer right now. I do not know what they are going to do about this in the central Baffin but I will get back to you with it at a later date. Thank you.

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

Question O356-90(1): Construction Of Regional Courthouse, Kitikmeot Region

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the Minister of Justice inform me if there are any plans in his department for the construction of a regional courthouse for the Kitikmeot Region?

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

Return To Question O356-90(1): Construction Of Regional Courthouse, Kitikmeot Region

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: No, at this time there are no plans.

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

Question O357-90(1): Construction Of Regional Library, Kitikmeot Region

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Culture and Communications. Could the Minister advise me

if there are any plans in his department for the construction of a regional library for the Kitikmeot Region?

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

Return To Question O357-90(1): Construction Of Regional Library, Kitikmeot Region

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, at the present time, to my knowledge, no.

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

Question O358-90(1): Transfer Of Funds To Hamlet Councils For RCMP Payments

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am going to direct my question to the Minister of Justice. During the caucus meeting I asked a question about the guards in the cells. I was informed that it takes a long time for them to get paid. Today, I received a letter from the Baffin Region and they were asked by the people on July 18, 1989, in Iqaluit and I am wondering if it would be possible for the hamlet council to look after the funding for the guards that are hired in the communities so it would not take so long for them to get paid. The letter that I received states that the guard has been waiting for six weeks to get paid and from the time he signed his time sheet it will take another six weeks for him to get paid. So, I am asking the department if they can transfer their funds for the hamlet councils to look after this? The hamlet councils in the communities have no objections to that idea. Thank you.

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

Return To Question O358-90(1): Transfer Of Funds To Hamlet Councils For RCMP Payments

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. I know that the Member asked me that question during the standing committee on finance meeting. I brought it to the attention of the RCMP and they said that they would look into it and I understood that it was under control. The problem that we have is that the RCMP bill us every month and they have their own payroll system. It is, again, another problem that is somewhat similar to the problem that Mr. Sibbeston talked about. It is a very rigid centralized system which has a lot of problems.

Presently, it would be very difficult to deal with it by having the hamlets administer it. I will go back again to the RCMP and I will also make note of this so I will have, in our negotiations for a new contract, more flexibility in the system. I can assure the Member that I will pursue this quite aggressively. Thank you.

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

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said before, because it was a concern of Cape Dorset, this letter that I have in front of me is from the Baffin Central communities. I believe it is like that and it has to be solved. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: No question. Oral questions. The

honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre.

Question O359-90(1): Appointments Of Members To Round Table On Environment And Economy

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Government Leader. In both the Commissioner's Opening Address to this Assembly and a statement by the Minister of Renewable Resources, a round table on the environment and the economy was announced and I believe that that was very much welcomed by Members of this Assembly. It was something that the special committee had recommended and I know that the public was very interested in this issue.

In the statement it was announced that membership will be announced this fall. Since the issue of membership on various boards has been questioned from time to time in this Assembly, will the Government Leader indicate to this House how he intends to appoint members to this very important round table?

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

Return To Question O359-90(1): Appointments Of Members To Round Table On Environment And Economy

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the honourable Member for his positive comments about this initiative, which was recommended by the special committee on the northern economy.

Mr. Speaker, the cabinet made a decision to establish the round table on the environment and the economy but we need time to consider its structure, who should be members and how they should be recommended and appointed.

Mr. Speaker, at the moment I am working with the Minister of Renewable Resources to canvas the experience in the provinces, in our sister territory and the experience of the federal government to see exactly how they operate their round tables; to review the memberships of those round tables so that we can profit from that experience and develop a proposal, based on that experience, that is also suitable to the needs of the people of the Northwest Territories. Mr. Speaker, I am in the process now of reviewing that other experience and developing proposals which I will take to cabinet about the structure and membership of such a round table. I have nothing more to report at this time than that we are working on it and the House will be kept apprised. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O359-90(1): Appointments Of Members To Round Table On Environment And Economy

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are always very happy to be kept apprised so that we know exactly what the Executive Council is doing. But what I would like to ask the Government Leader is, although he does not have all of the information yet and because this is an issue of great public interest, will there be some process at all in which Members of the Assembly will have some say in how this is going to take place? Will it just be simply an Executive Council initiative or will this Assembly be involved?

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

Further Return To Question O359-90(1): Appointments Of Members To Round Table On Environment And Economy

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as I told the honourable Member, I have not got quite that far yet in considering how we are going to set up this round table on the environment and the economy, nor has it been considered by cabinet. However, Mr. Speaker, I welcome the Member's suggestion that MLAs should have some role. It is not unusual for this government to consult with MLAs on appointments to boards and so I will bear that good advice in mind as I develop these proposals for consideration by cabinet. Thank you.

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

Question O360-90(1): Proposed Capital Plans For Education Facilities In Kitikmeot Region

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Minister of Education, this time, Mr. Speaker. Could the Minister advise me if there are any plans in the capital planning process of his department for any high school facilities, expansion to Arctic College, or construction of student hostels to support these facilities in the Kitikmeot Region? Thank you.

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

Return To Question O360-90(1): Proposed Capital Plans For Education Facilities In Kitikmeot Region

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, no.

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

Question O361-90(1): Proposed Capital Plans For Hospital In Kitikmeot Region

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is to the Minister of Health, this time. Are there any plans in her department for the construction of a regional hospital in the Kitikmeot?

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

Return To Question O361-90(1): Proposed Capital Plans For Hospital In Kitikmeot Region

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, there are no plans.

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

Question O362-90(1): Assistance To Persons In Yellowknife Providing Home Boarding

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Education. Last week the Minister assured the honourable Member for Nahendeh that persons experiencing problems as a result of extra income from home boarding of students in his riding would be contacted by his department and advised on how to deal with this unexpected problem. Will the Minister also do the same for other communities? I have had some people contact me with a very similar problem.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Sahtu.

Return To Question O362-90(1): Assistance To Persons In Yellowknife Providing Home Boarding

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, the situation in Fort Simpson is one that came about as a result of a dispute about whether people were properly informed about the tax implications of the additional income they were going to receive as a result of home boarding students. I had said I do not think it is really our responsibility to advise people on tax implications or to help them as a result of them not being informed of the tax implications of receiving additional income from ourselves as a government. But because of the fact that a number of families in Simpson had said letters apparently had been going back and forth, but they had not received any of the letters which we had sent, that they argued we should do something to help them. This is what we had done. I have no idea of what the situation here is in Yellowknife. If in fact letters have been sent to parents, advising them of the tax implications, I would be willing to review the matter. If we could get some more information on it, I would be willing to look at it.

MR. SPEAKER: Point of privilege. The honourable Member for Kivallivik.

Point Of Privilege

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I did not raise it at the time because I was waiting on the transcript, but I am raising a point of privilege with regard to Mr. Lewis' statement. Motor mouth has got his facts wrong again. Like John Crosbie, sometimes his mouth does not know where his brain is. But in his comments, Mr. Speaker, he said that, and I quote from the transcripts that I have just been given, "I was...surprised...to find that my colleague, Mr. Wray, confirmed what had been prepared for Mr. Patterson by indicating that this was in fact a lost industry...."

Mr. Speaker, when I look at Hansard yesterday, I said no such thing. In fact I said quite the opposite of what Mr. Lewis is trying to say. I said "It is our hope, though, that we can continue trapping as an activity and strengthen it economically by perhaps, instead of shipping raw fur south, perhaps ship more manufactured goods south. But there is no question that trapping is in trouble...."

Under Rule 32(1), I believe that Mr. Lewis has deliberately misquoted or tried to misunderstand what I was trying to say. So I raise a point of privilege on that order. It is obvious that his brain is not functioning too well today, the way it does usually other days.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre. Point of privilege.

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, I come from an older generation and in the generation that I was brought up in there was respect for older people who, from time to time, do not see the speaker as well as he should, do not hear quite as well as they should, but I can assure the Member, Mr. Speaker, that my brain functions very clearly and I speak very clearly and my understanding of what he said yesterday I stand by. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: That is not a point of privilege. That is a point of argument. You may have had a point of privilege to raise but that is not for me to say. I will review the situation

with regard to the point of privilege raised by the honourable Member for Kivallivik and report back to the House. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Question O363-90(1): Information On Student Home Boarding

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a supplementary question to the Minister of Education. As much as I support the program of home boarding, there appears to be some misunderstanding by the people who participate in this program as to the financial implications of receiving moneys for providing a service to students and to this government. I wondered if the Minister would assure myself and other Members whose constituents are participating in this program that they will instruct the people that are participating in this program in the financial implications, including taxation of funding, the costs associated with this. In other words, let them know that this is not a money-making situation. Would the Minister assure myself anyway and my colleagues that his department will undertake such a thing?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Sahtu.

Return To Question O363-90(1): Information On Student Home Boarding

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, when the home-boarding program was being proposed as an alternative to hostel life and as a necessity to people who have to leave home to continue their education, perhaps in order to make it more attractive and more readily acceptable and understood by the homes, we should have done a more comprehensive planning process to let people know the full implications of what it was they were getting themselves into. It is a good suggestion. I know we sent some letters to Revenue Canada to see what we could do about keeping it in the non-taxable bracket. But I do not think we were successful. But the suggestion that we look at doing whatever we can to make sure that our parents know the implications of taking on this service, is a good one and we will treat it seriously.

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

Question O364-90(1): Senior Citizens Or Adult Corrections Facilities For Kitikmeot Region

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Minister of Social Services. Could the Minister inform the House if in the capital plans of her department there are any plans for either senior citizens facilities or adult corrections facilities for the Kitikmeot Region?

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister.

Return To Question O364-90(1): Senior Citizens Or Adult Corrections Facilities For Kitikmeot Region

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are capital planning dollars identified in the 1991 capital plan with construction time for 1991-92. The capital dollars are identified for senior citizens' housing. Although I do want to make the Member aware that the proposal in regard to the needs assessment that was tabled for review on January 18th with the housing and services committee for seniors and handicapped people in the Kitikmeot, and the recommendation for the size of the facility, along with the type and the care and the location of the facility, is yet to be determined. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Supplementary To Question O364-90(1): Senior Citizens Or Adult Corrections Facilities For Kitikmeot Region

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to the Minister. The planning for the capital dollars then has not been allocated yet, but we are awaiting the result of this needs survey the Minister is referring to, is that correct?

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

Further Return To Question O364-90(1): Senior Citizens Or Adult Corrections Facilities For Kitikmeot Region

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The capital dollars are identified, however the needs survey and assessment study determines what size of a facility is required and basically where the facility would be located within the region, to be able to address the needs of that particular region. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O364-90(1): Senior Citizens Or Adult Corrections Facilities For Kitikmeot Region

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a further supplementary, could the Minister advise us the amount of capital dollars identified?

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

Further Return To Question O364-90(1): Senior Citizens Or Adult Corrections Facilities For Kitikmeot Region

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, because my budget has not been before this House and has not been approved, I will be in a better position to advise the Member at a later date. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O364-90(1): Senior Citizens Or Adult Corrections Facilities For Kitikmeot Region

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a final supplementary. I realize the Minister's budget has not been up, but the minute it is tabled in this House it is a public document and all Members of the public who wish to have access can have access to it. So again I would like to give the Minister an opportunity to answer that very simple question. What is the amount of the dollars that has been allocated so far?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Slave River.

Further Return To Question O364-90(1): Senior Citizens Or Adult Corrections Facilities For Kitikmeot Region

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, as I had indicated, capital planning dollars are identified in 1990-91. These funds are basically identified for the planning with regard to the facility. I will have to take the time to find out exactly where the funding is located within the budget, and I

will be able to give the Member a better idea when my budget comes up. Thank you.

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

Question O365-90(1): Oil And Gas Find At Cameron Hills

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources and it concerns a discussion earlier this week in committee. There has been some find by the oil and gas industry at Cameron Hills, and I wonder if the Minister has had time to gather some information, and if she has would she share that information with the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Return To Question O365-90(1): Oil And Gas Find At Cameron Hills

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Yes, Mr. Speaker, with regard to the Cameron Hills issue, that particular area of the Northwest Territories is located on latitude 60 North and between longitude 117 West and 118 West. Cameron Hills on the NWT/Alberta boundary is approximately 110 kilometres southwest from the town of Hay River.

From the indications that we have, the area is of interest as a potential oil and gas producing region. Currently there are two exploratory licences in effect within that region. The site has very good prospects. The current drilling season in the Cameron Hills region has been more active than in recent years, resulting in the drilling of four wells by Paramount Resources on licence 312. There is also an additional well currently being drilled on this extension licence. Paramount drilled one well on the Petro-Canada acreage, and Petro-Canada drilled an additional well on this same extension lease. The well data for these wells is summarized for you, and I can provide that to the Member.

Permission to conduct an extended flow test on Cameron L-47 was granted subject to certain conditions. The extended flow test had to be designed so that the maximum reservoir of information could be obtained and reported to the regulator, Canada Oil and Gas Lands Administration. The Cameron Hills region is an area with high prospects which will likely see land sales and commercial development in the near future. I believe that would be subject to some degree to land claims when the land claims are settled, and the court is in place.

Permission was granted to the company to take out 100,000 barrels this year. That is the extent of what has been granted to them, and they have to take out the 100,000 barrels this year, so they are working actively to see the permission that was granted to them is carried out. The company is working quite hard. The last two weeks of warm weather has put them behind schedule, and they are aggressively trying to meet their schedule. The 100,000 barrels that they were permitted to take out is only for this year. If Paramount wants to do any more work, or take out any other amount of gas, they would have to do that by requesting and being granted permission to extend beyond the 100,000 barrels. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O365-90(1): Oil And Gas Find At Cameron Hills

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So there are 100,000 barrels of oil that will leave the NWT out of this field

this year. By my calculations, it is somewhere around a two million dollars price tag on that oil, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if the Minister could tell us, does the Northwest Territories get any royalties or any benefits from that two million dollars worth of oil leaving this country? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Nunakput.

Further Return To Question O365-90(1): Oil And Gas Find At Cameron Hills

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, no.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Prior to proceeding with oral questions, I would like to bring the honourable Members attention to a dignitary in our House, His Excellency Yves Fortier, Canadian Ambassador to the United Nations.

---Applause

Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable Member for the High Arctic.

Question O366-90(1): Polar Bear Surveys

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Renewable Resources. As you stated before, the polar bear surveyors will be going to the communities. I wonder if you know which communities they are going to go to?

Return To Question O366-90(1): Polar Bear Surveys

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our funding has not been approved in this House yet, but once it is done we feel they will start in the spring, but we have not scheduled the communities that will be visited. We will start this spring and we will try to visit all the communities that have polar bears.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Honourable Member for High Arctic, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O366-90(1): Polar Bear Surveys

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Prior to the visits to these communities, perhaps you could inform the communities because they have some concerns about this issue. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Amittuq.

Further Return To Question O366-90(1): Polar Bear Surveys

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions, the honourable Member for Baffin Central.

Question O367-90(1): Problems With Rental Arrears In Communities

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question to the Minister responsible for the NWT Housing Corporation. For those of us renting from the Housing Corporation, some people owe a large amount of rent. Some have part-time jobs and sometimes they do not pay their debts to the housing associations. I wonder if they could consider a regular rent before they jack up their rent to the top ceiling. Could the Minister advise if this is in the policy, that if the tenant has a seasonal job then the rent goes up.

Maybe it can be arranged where they pay off their arrears, or is it up to the local housing authority? People require this information. Can the Minister give me a reply?

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Inuvik.

Return To Question O367-90(1): Problems With Rental Arrears In Communities

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, the concern raised by the Member is indeed a serious one. Usually it is addressed, to my understanding, in the community itself, with the local housing authorities. In a number of cases, and I cannot tell you how many cases, but in a number of communities there are individuals who are specifically named to work with tenants as rental officers. I would expect that where such problems of arrears are concerned that the individual could work with these officials and failing that, work with the officials of the housing association itself. There are policies and I understand that these policies are known to the housing authorities and the executive of those bodies.

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

Question O368-90(1): Land Leases In Cameron Hills Area

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources with regard to the activities that are happening in the Cameron Hills area. That is within my constituency. Those activities have been ongoing for several years. The more activities that are occurring, the less options the communities have with regard to selection. I would like to ask the Minister if it is possible for this government to be in a position to stop some of the leases that have been given to the petroleum industry.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Member for Nunakput.

Return To Question O368-90(1): Land Leases In Cameron Hills Area

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, the activity in that area has been going on for a great number of years and there was not much we could do about it because the licences are granted by Canada Oil and Gas Lands Administration. The fact is that the company will have to get an extension next year and perhaps we can try to influence some of the activity and how they carry it out. But at this point in time we cannot do anything because the licence and the permit has already been issued.

Now to say whether we can stop any further activity because of the land claims issue, I am sure that we will try to explore that. But I know that this particular area was one of the areas that was deemed to be an activity that was already grandfathered in terms of an activity taking place and being allowed to continue. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Question O369-90(1): Interdepartmental Agency To Respond To Emergencies

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question I would like to direct to the Minister responsible for emergency measures. A week ago today we had a hostage-taking incident here in the city. It is the first one of this magnitude

that I am aware of but as a result of incidents similar to this, there may be a number of individuals who were displaced and who will or have already suffered some emotional or psychological trauma. Is there an interdepartmental agency or contingency plan that will respond to and provide a host of services in situations not uncommon or unlike what we have seen here, such as relocation of individuals, alternate housing, child care and most of all, the counselling of victims and associated individuals, that is post-trauma counselling? Is there an agency, one body, that looks after the co-ordination of all these agencies to provide all these services in incidents such as this, or a major air crash, for example?

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

Return To Question O369-90(1): Interdepartmental Agency To Respond To Emergencies

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, as the Member quite readily appreciates, the body best qualified and equipped to address emergencies in a municipality is the municipality itself. This government co-operates with the municipalities and I believe has indicated and assisted them to develop their emergency measures responses. In my understanding, each community has a definite response stratagem to respond to fires, to floods, to the situation you mentioned, so that although I have not been advised of anything that may have occurred as a direct result of the hostage-taking incident, I am quite sure that Mayor McMahon has been involved and she and her council do have a strategy for dealing with these situations.

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

Question O370-90(1): Proposed Capital Expenditure For Adult Corrections Centre In Kitikmeot Region

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Minister of Social Services. This same question was contained in my question before but the Minister forgot to answer and I did not catch it in the interest of listening to the answer given. I did ask if there were any plans in the Minister's capital budget for adult corrections facilities in the Kitikmeot.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Slave River.

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I did not hear the latter part of the question that the Member had asked. But I would like clarification. Was it requesting adult correctional facilities?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Kitikmeot West. Could you repeat your question, please?

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, that was correct. I was asking the Minister if there are any plans in the capital budget of her department for the construction of any adult corrections facilities in the Kitikmeot Region.

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

Return To Question O370-90(1): Proposed Capital Expenditure For Adult Corrections Centre In Kitikmeot Region

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, none that I

am currently aware of. Thank you.

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

Question O371-90(1): Persons Taken To Court For Rental Arrears

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During the oral questions, there has been no disturbance toward the Minister during the oral questions. My question was asked by a Member from Baffin. For those people who do not pay rent to the houses, sometimes they owe a lot of money. I am just wondering how many people have gone to the courts for their arrears. The Minister of Housing, does he know how many people now went to court already for rental arrears?

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

Return To Question O371-90(1): Persons Taken To Court For Rental Arrears

HON. TOM BUTTERS: No, I do not, Mr. Speaker. I would be surprised if any have been taken to court, or if they have, it would be one or two. However, I will obtain a number, if such exists, and inform the honourable Member. I would indicate, too, that in the case of arrears that are insurmountable, I do believe that the local housing associations do examine the various individual conditions and situations and can make recommendations to the NWT Housing Corporation's board of directors to have either all or a portion of the arrears reduced or removed.

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

Question O372-90(1): Hiring Of Housing Authority Employees

MR. NINGARK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is directed to the Minister of Housing. In the smaller communities the local housing authorities members and sometimes the members' relatives usually owe a lot of money for rental arrears. Perhaps in different regions the local housing employees and the members should perhaps be more aware of who they are going to be hiring or who they are going to be electing as board members for the local housing authorities.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Inuvik.

Return To Question O372-90(1): Hiring Of Housing Authority Employees

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, I would agree with the suggestion I understood the Member to make. It is reasonable.

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

Question O373-90(1): Proposed Capital Expenditures For Piped Water And Sewer Services In Kitikmeot Region

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs this time. Could the Minister advise me if there are any plans in his capital budget for the provision of piped water or sewer services to any community in the Kitikmeot Region?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for

Inuvik.

Return To Question O373-90(1): Proposed Capital Expenditures For Piped Water And Sewer Services In Kitikmeot Region

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, the expenditure in the particular area questioned by the Member in our capital book, 1990-91, gives a figure of \$837,000 for various expenditures in various places.

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

Supplementary To Question O373-90(1): Proposed Capital Expenditures For Piped Water And Sewer Services In Kitikmeot Region

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the Minister confirm for me that that is for the Kitikmeot Region and that is for piped water and sewer services?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Inuvik.

Further Return To Question O373-90(1): Proposed Capital Expenditures For Piped Water And Sewer Services In Kitikmeot Region

HON. TOM BUTTERS: No, Mr. Speaker, that is not for piped water and sewer services.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Honourable Member for Kitikmeot West, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O373-90(1): Proposed Capital Expenditures For Piped Water And Sewer Services In Kitikmeot Region

MR. PEDERSEN: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker, could the Minister advise me how much there is for piped water and sewer services?

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Inuvik.

Further Return To Question O373-90(1): Proposed Capital Expenditures For Piped Water And Sewer Services In Kitikmeot Region

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I can find no funds allocated for that purpose, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Honourable Member for Deh Cho.

Question O374-90(1): Land Claims In Cameron Hills Area

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Government Leader. It is with regard to the activities in the Cameron Hills area. Just recently we put a stop on the pulp mill that was going to be built just outside our own jurisdiction. There is always a delay with the mine or a final report of a mine to be established in the Eastern Arctic. I would like to ask the Minister if this government could stop further development in my constituency with regard to the expansion of the petroleum industry.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Member for Iqaluit.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, that is the responsibility of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources and I would like to refer the question to her.

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

Return To Question O374-90(1): Land Claims In The Cameron Hills Area

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, when the Dene/Metis in their claim went forward – I am sure the honourable Member, Mr. Kakfwi, can elaborate on that – there were certain areas that were agreed would be outside the consultation process because those activities were there already. So anything that had been proceeding and had been active would be the areas that the Dene/Metis agreed were all right. These are small areas, and there are three or four in the Dene/Metis land claim area. The other areas, we do have to go through a process, with respect to the claim, to gain permission. These were the areas that would be agreed to that would be grandfathered because the activity was already taking place. There is a process for the other areas, where the Dene/Metis are consulted if anybody wants to open up areas over and above these three or four areas.

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

Question O375-90(1): Piped Water And Sewer Services, Fort Providence

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. Are there any plans for any piped water or sewer system in my constituency?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Inuvik.

Return To Question O375-90(1): Piped Water And Sewer Services, Fort Providence

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I believe there are some preliminary plans being examined, but that is the extent of the activity at the present time in our budget.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Member Kitikmeot West.

Question O376-90(1): Loans And Grants For Kitikmeot Region

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Minister of Economic Development, could he advise me how much money was dispensed, used up, given out, in loans and grants from the various programs that he administered in the Kitikmeot Region last year?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Member for Kivallivik.

HON. GORDON WRAY: I do not have that information available. I know that it was not as much as I had hoped it would be....

---Laughter

...but I will get back to the Member with a breakdown.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Time period for oral questions has expired. Prior to proceeding with Item 6, most Members noticed that I was concerned about a response given by the honourable Member for Inuvik to the honourable Member for Yellowknife South. What I was concerned about was how close we were getting to an issue that was in the process of a court proceeding. I know the intent may have been to ask generally about an issue of an emergency response, but in

two instances there was a situation where an incident which is before the courts was dealt with. So that was a concern I had. There is a convention called a sub judice convention, which most parliamentarians adhere to, that does not allow us to get into the practice as parliamentarians of dealing with those issues. So that was a concern that I had. So I just wanted to make you aware of that.

Item 6, written questions.

Item 7, returns to written questions.

Item 8, petitions.

Item 9, reports of standing and special committees. Item 10, tabling of documents. The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

ITEM 10: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table three documents. The first one is Tabled Document 46-90(1), the consolidated text presenting the New Brunswick companion resolution to the Meech Lake Accord; secondly, Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 47-90(1), the motion adopted by the Nova Scotia Legislative Assembly, March 21, 1989, concerning the Government of New Brunswick initiative on the Meech Lake Accord; and thirdly, Tabled Document 48-90(1), a set of documents received this morning, pertaining to Newfoundland's resolution to revoke support for the Meech Lake Accord. Thank you.

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

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 49-90(1), a Deninoo Community Council motion opposing the Hanging Ice Bison Buffalo Ranch on the grounds that they could not go ahead with this until the Environmental Assessment Review Panel's final report. If I may, Mr. Speaker, there are two more with it. A motion opposing the same ranch by a coalition of Treaty 8 chiefs. Also a proposed course of action by Agriculture Canada for replacement of diseased bison in northern Canada.

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

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, in this House we sometimes pass notes among ourselves. This one was a very simple one that I sent to Mr. Wray in which I said, "You may just get 13 Members angry at one time!" It was a very simple comment and I got a response which I think is completely unacceptable and I would like to table it, Tabled Document 50-90(1).

MR. WHITFORD: Shades of Tagak Curley.

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

Item 12, notices of motion. Notices of motion.

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

Item 14, motions. Motions.

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

Item 16, second reading of bills. Second reading of bills. Item 17, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Committee Report 1-90(1), Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on the 1990-91 Main

Estimates; Bill 9-90(1), Appropriation Act, 1990-91; Committee Report 2-90(1), Special Committee on the Northern Economy Report: Building Our Economic Future; Consideration of the Issue of Family Violence and Abuse; Motion 5-90(1), Opposition to Exploration and Mining of Uranium in the Northwest Territories, with Mr. Pudluk in the chair.

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

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

Department Of Public Works

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The committee will come to order. Madam Minister, would you like to bring in your witnesses at this time?

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Hopefully, they will be here by the time I get to the desk. Thank you.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Proceed, Madam Minister. The witnesses are not here at the moment.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I think they are on their way.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): We will take a 15 minute break.

--SHORT RECESS

Madam Minister, will you introduce your witnesses? Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Mr. Chairman, we do not have a quorum.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Could I ask the Clerk to ring the bell? The Chair now recognizes a quorum. Madam Minister, could you introduce your witnesses?

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I have with me today the deputy minister of Public Works, Larry Elkin, and the director of finance, Dave Waddell.

Project Management, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. We are dealing with the Department of Public Works, project management, total O and M, \$6,608,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Accommodation Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Accommodation services, total O and M, \$32,416,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Buildings And Works, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Buildings and works,

total O and M, \$25,154,000. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: I wanted to get some clarification on "to develop residual heat agreements with non-GNWT users of residual heat." What is "residual heat"?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the residual heat section is any area where we can work with the Power Corporation to utilize waste heat in our buildings. We would look to see whether we could place a building close enough to access the waste heat from the power plant, to plan to take the maximum advantage of waste heat.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Buildings and works, total O and M, \$25,154,000. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: With regard to the bottom one, "to support with the private sector, the development of new and refined privatization opportunities for the operation and maintenance and repair of GNWT buildings and works." Madam Minister, when do you anticipate this occurring, and how many positions do you anticipate will be eliminated by this initiative?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I will ask the deputy minister to make the points on that particular area.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Elkin.

MR. ELKIN: This policy has been pursued for the past five years and there have been many contracts entered into in all regions to have maintenance carried out by private firms. That applies whether it has to do with building maintenance or vehicles. We continue to look for new opportunities for private firms to play a larger role in this area, although we do expect the private companies to come forward with proposals to us. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, during the five years you have privatized the maintenance and repairs of GNWT buildings and works, how many positions has the department eliminated by moving in that direction?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I could provide the figures to the Member. I do not have them here at this time. There have been a significant number that have been eliminated.

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

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, the other area I would like to touch on is the program in which you might be able to save energy and promote energy conservation. Does this department have anything to do with the power or fuel subsidies, or energy rebates?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Although we do have a small program of \$75,000 to provide interest free loans to individuals or businesses to tap into, we do not have anything in terms of rebates or the normal power subsidy.

Buildings And Works, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Buildings and works,

total O and M, \$25,154,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Vehicles And Equipment, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Vehicles and equipment, total O and M, \$3,743,000. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I have a question on page 10.10. I would like to ask if we could return to directorate.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Does this committee agree to go back to page 10.10?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Continue, Mr. Gargan.

Revert To Directorate, Total O And M

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister, on page 10.10 where it says, "to promote energy management in the private and public sectors and general public", what the amount of dollars are that is being spent in that sector or in that area?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, would the Member just pose his question once more please?

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

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, on page 10.10, directorate, there is a section in there that says, "to promote energy management in the private and public sectors and general public" and what I want to know is, since in order to promote that type of initiative there are dollars that go with it, how much money is being spent in that area?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: I will let the deputy minister answer that question, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Deputy Minister.

MR. ELKIN: Thank you. We spend the funds for energy conservation in two areas. On projects in-house for 1988-89 and 1990, we spent \$440,000 on various projects, including replacement of burner equipment, replacement of lighting in various buildings, including schools, improving the insulation. We do not undertake any of these projects unless we are guaranteed that the cost of doing the work is recovered in a period of five years overall. For the projects that we did accomplish during that year probably the average recovery period was approximately three years.

Also we have energy conservation officers stationed in every region and they provide expertise and help to hamlets, to private firms, and they do extensive work in the schools to help people understand that energy conservation for the North, where our energy costs are extremely high, is very important and it is important to ensure that people at home, when rooms are not being used, are turning off the lights. So they provide an advisory role to all of those residents, firms and hamlets, as to how energy savings can be achieved.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I am not too clear on the amount of dollars that are going to be spent this year in that energy management, or to promote energy management in the private, public and general sector. What are the actual dollars being spent in that area?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, on this section it is \$855,000 in operations and maintenance and in capital \$500,000.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Are we agreed on the directorate? Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, a lot of people in my constituency wonder what the government spends in government buildings as well as in the private sector? Most people in the Northwest Territories are quite conscious of the energy that they save because it is a lot less on their wallets, I guess you could say. I am sure it is the same thing with the government. If the buildings are not being used then the lights are shut off and the heat is turned down or whatever the case may be. I would like to ask the Minister whether or not, regarding this section of the directorate, the promotion and the advisors that you have in those regions have, in fact, made a difference on the management of energy in all sectors?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I believe that I can say that certainly having people working specifically on keeping an update on energy efficiency of buildings and being on site, dedicating themselves, has saved the government a great deal of money. I know that we have a long way to go and the territorial government certainly has to look at other incentives, particularly at whether and how it hits the pocket book of individuals who may not be as energy conservation wise as we would want them to be. It is an ongoing process, but I think there has been a marked improvement in people's behaviour, mostly in terms of improvements to buildings. We wanted to see if we could stimulate even some help to the private sector in creating a pocket of money, which is \$75,000 and which is an interest free loan program. However, we have not been very successful in having people tap into that particular area. We have carried it in our budget this year, even though last year we did not have any applicants, although we did give it promotion.

In year one, because it was such a small amount we did not really go out there and actively promote it. In the second year, we did. However, it appeared that most people wanted a grant or something that they did not have to pay back. What we were offering was a certain amount if they were going to make improvements, but we have not had any takers to this time. We have left it in the budget and it is identified on page 10.10 at \$75,000. We are going to try to take another look at that to see whether it is really something, a pocket of money, that could be used elsewhere. Although I think we can say that we have significant success in having our people in the field doing the job and monitoring, in providing the interest free loan opportunity, we have not had any takers.

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

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to the

statements that the Minister has made, I would like to make a motion if I could, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Proceed, Mr. Gargan.

Motion To Delete \$75,000 From Main Estimates, DPW, Directorate

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that the amount of \$75,000 be deleted from page 10.10 in the main estimates under the activity, directorate, for the program to promote energy management in the private and the public sectors and the general public.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Gargan, could we have a copy of your motion please? This committee will take a five minute recess for the typing and translation of the motion.

---SHORT RECESS

The motion is in order. To the motion.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to this motion I believe the public, private or the general sector, with regard to management of energy, are responsible and the government has taken that responsibility of trying to conserve energy. If I am correct, the Minister also indicated that this was a section of money that was set aside last year for the management of energy conservation but that it was not used and it was put in again this year and perhaps it will not be used again. So it is not money that is going to be affecting anybody and I believe that people in the North are more responsible than that. I would like the Members to support me on deleting this portion, the \$75,000 from the Department of Public Works, directorate.

Just for the record, Mr. Speaker, I will read the motion again. The motion reads: I move that the amount of \$75,000 be deleted from page 10.10 of the main estimates under the activity, directorate, for the program to promote energy management in the private and public sectors and the general public. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Madam Minister.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I just want to note that the honourable Member is quite right that we had very much wanted to put together a program that the private sector could take advantage of. I know it was not a grant program, it was a loan program which we paid the interest on and the reason that we did keep it in the budget this year is because it was felt that we did not do enough promotion on it. However, I know that both the Minister of Finance and the Government Leader had asked the department to look at areas where they felt that there could be a readjustment of funds so this is one of the areas that we were looking at. In any event, I would assume that since it was not taken advantage of, and I think the Member is quite right that we would not really be affecting other people, although I think if people had really taken advantage of it it could have been a good program. It was an attempt to answer some of the questions as to what the territorial government does to support the private companies or private groups. It is unfortunate that the program was not utilized but the Member is quite right that it was not. This was an area that we were going to look at because we do have instruction from the Minister of Finance and the Government Leader to look at the areas where we feel that we can make readjustments.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think in this case the motion neither jeopardizes individuals who are presently employed nor does it jeopardize ongoing programs. I think the government, in this case, will abstain and take the advice of the committee to heart. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be supporting the motion, but I wanted to state for the record that I do support any kind of energy conservation measures. Having had the opportunity to work for five years with Energy, Mines and Resources in the energy conservation section, I know full well that programs that offered financial incentives to people to save energy were well used, but programs that merely promoted it and offered maybe a lesser financial incentive were not used quite as often. In this instance here the information I have indicates that it would be no hardship to anyone to have it removed in the interest of whittling away at the deficit, and this would be a motion that could be well supported by the other Members. I think that the money may be better spent or used in other areas that would promote energy conservation, or programs that are really sought after by the public in that area. If it were a program that was being well used in energy conservation, I would certainly not support it, but this one, by all indications, is not being well used and it would not be a hardship to anyone. Therefore, I will support the motion.

Motion To Delete \$75,000 From Main Estimates, DPW, Directorate, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour, please raise your hands. Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Directorate, Total O And M, Agreed

Under directorate, total O and M, \$6,736,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, this would be the mathematics on the directorate, also on the program summary. Mr. Chairman, could you ask the other Members if they want to come back in now?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Gargan, could you repeat your comment? It did not come through clearly.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, your total would be \$75,000 less, and on page 10.09 it would also be less \$75,000. Is that correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Yes, on the present page. We have not dealt with page 10.09 yet.

Utilities, Total O And M

Page 10.15, utilities, total O and M, \$29,073,000. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister with regard to the power rebates in my constituency that would apply under this task. I would like to know if there is a movement on the part of this government to give more

support to commercial consumers, whether it is power, fuel or otherwise, subsidies. I understand that, through income tax, commercial consumers, although they are profit oriented, still get subsidized through tax write-offs. Yesterday, under the education tax, some of the mines in Yellowknife are given an exemption on the amount of tax they pay for school tax. Mr. Chairman, just recently my constituency asked -- at one time rebates were given to residential consumers and there is a movement that eventually residential consumers would get less of a rebate and the commercial users would get a larger rebate. You arrive at a situation at which the ordinary persons that are making an honest living and paying their tax do not get any kind of a return for their efforts. It comes to a point where commercial, profit-oriented companies, or commercial companies, are given a larger rebate or subsidy, or at least more help, than the ordinary person. I would like to ask the government whether that is the case.

I also realize that the executive are the utilities board. I would like to ask where the department puts itself when you are in the position to actually put a person in a situation where they are not given a fair share of rebates?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, there are several different ways that private enterprise and mining operations get incentives. The flow-through share incentive policy was a federal program for the mining industry, and there were several others, but those are federal programs. The Department of Public Works takes care of government buildings and the question that the honourable Member is posing is really probably better asked of the Minister of Finance.

Certainly there is a rebate on power and that is done through the Department of Finance. The equalization on fuel is handled by Government Services. The Department of Public Works really does not deal with those particular issues.

Utilities, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Page 10.15, utilities, \$29,073,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Operations, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Page 10.16, operations, total O and M, \$3,345,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Details Of Grants And Contributions

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Details of grants and contributions, total contributions, \$75,000. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, with regard to the motion that I made, is this the same money? So it should be deleted, right? Mr. Chairman, this dollar sign is not there any more. That is what the Minister is saying.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the motion refers to this \$75,000 that is on this page, so since the motion is carried then this will be a deletion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 10.18 and 10.19, information

items. Page 10.20, detail of work performed on behalf of third parties. Page 10.21, 10.22 and 10.23, total department, \$12,160,000. Are there any questions?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Page 10.09, Department of Public Works, total O and M, \$107,075,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Does this conclude operations and maintenance?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Directorate, Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. We will now go to capital. Page 10.10, detail of capital, directorate, buildings and works, headquarters, total headquarters, \$54,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total buildings and works, \$54,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Directorate, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total directorate, \$54,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Project Management, Buildings And Works, Headquarters

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 10.12, project management, buildings and works, headquarters, total headquarters, \$3,032,000. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister, in the details it says, "To increase northern and local training, employment and business development opportunities in the implementation of a capital project." What is that doing in this area? I would think that this would be under O and M. How much is it?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I believe this means that when we have a capital project within our northern preference policy, and more recently with the special negotiated contracts we have with regard to offices to serve

communities where we deal particularly with aboriginal groups who want to take on a specific project, we would look at the capital project and have a counselling and working relationship with the specific group of people. For the first time we would be working in that area particularly to try to organize the capital project so that the needs of that particular group would be built into the capital project. This is basically what this means. Last year and this year I think the bands that we have been working with, such as Fort Norman, Fort Simpson and Fort McPherson -- we have office complexes which are going up. A lot of these people for the first time are getting into construction and there are a lot of requirements and needs that if we just went out to basic public tender we would not really have to worry about. This is the area where this is being identified.

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

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the Minister for that information. Mr. Chairman, I do not know if the Minister is aware, but the office complex in Fort Providence has now been deferred to this summer. I have yet to hear what the status is on this. I believe it is your department that has some difficulties or some problems with the arrangements. Madam Minister, has this been resolved and will this project go ahead as planned?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, there is only one outstanding issue on the Fort Providence office complex and that is the utilization of the basement space area. That has to be resolved in the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs before we can proceed with the project. Everything is completely done except the reconciliation on what to do with that particular space. I think the question would be better put to the Minister responsible for MACA.

Project Management, Buildings And Works, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Total buildings and works, \$3,032,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Project Management, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Total project management, \$3,032,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Accommodation Services

Buildings And Works, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Page 10.14, accommodation services, buildings and works, headquarters, total headquarters, \$774,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Fort Smith, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Fort Smith, total Fort Smith, \$87,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Inuvik, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Inuvik, total Inuvik, \$375,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Baffin, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Baffin, total Baffin, \$249,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Keewatin, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Keewatin, total Keewatin, \$177,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Kitikmeot, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Kitikmeot, total Kitikmeot, \$85,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total buildings and works, \$1,747,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Accommodation Services, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total accommodation services, \$1,747,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works

Buildings And Works, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Buildings and works, headquarters, total headquarters, \$1,390,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Fort Smith, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Fort Smith, total Fort Smith, \$48,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Baffin, Total Capital, Agreed

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Keewatin, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Keewatin, total Keewatin, \$184,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Kitikmeot, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Kitikmeot, total Kitikmeot, \$230,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total buildings and works, \$1,862,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Equipment Acquisition, Headquarters, Total Capital

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Equipment acquisition, headquarters, total headquarters, \$25,000. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, with regard to this equipment, in all the regional headquarters you are going to be having these multi-user microcomputers. Do they have those in place now or are these just replacement ones? Mr. Lewis, for example, does not think that we need to buy all new vehicles and I was just wondering about this one. Do we need to buy all these brand new computers or can we do without?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, as the Member knows, there are computers in all of the offices but this is a multi-user microcomputer which is not in the regions at this time. It is a computer that links up to the headquarters office. So this is a new item and a new aid. Although the communities or their offices do have computers they are not multi-user microcomputers which can hook up into the head office.

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

MR. GARGAN: Would it not be just as effective by phoning headquarters and being able to get results that way? Is it necessary to buy this brand new equipment just to link up with headquarters?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the computer age has come to us and certainly with link-ups you can keep track of what is going on in the regions, but to say that it is absolutely necessary I do not think that our system will break down if we have not got these multi-user computers. It is an aid that probably would help us a little bit better in terms of having more updates at the central office or the headquarters office, but it is not something that we could not live without.

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

MR. GARGAN: With the response from the Minister on that, Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a motion, if I may.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Go ahead, Mr. Gargan.

Motion To Delete \$150,000 From Capital, DPW, Re Multi-User Microcomputers

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I move that the amount of \$150,000 be deleted from pages 10.18 and 10.19 of the capital estimates of the Department of Public Works, under equipment acquisition, for the purchase of multi-user microcomputers.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Could we have a copy of that motion, please? We will take a five minute break for translation.

---SHORT RECESS

Order please. Order please. Order please. Mr. Gargan, your motion is in order. To the motion.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just for the record, I will read the motion again. I move that the amount of \$150,000 be deleted from pages 10.18 and 10.19 of the capital estimates of the Department of Public Works under equipment acquisition for the purchase of multi-user microcomputers.

Mr. Chairman, the motion is pretty well self-explanatory. I understood the Minister to say that the system would not break down if we did not have that equipment. I understand, also, that the department said they do have a lot of competent people that could do most of the work that computers do. I agree with the Minister in that I do not want to insult her personnel in the department. I would like the Members to support this motion. We are not affecting anybody by doing this. This is new equipment that they just would not get this year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Madam Minister.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: The Member is quite correct when I say that we would probably not break down. I would like to explain why we put this activity in the department. As you know, the administration of the Department of Public Works maintenance activity involves a very large number of work orders and purchase orders, as well as manpower, schedules and preventative maintenance checks. In order to make all the information more manageable, it is recorded on computers, and these are the computers that we presently have within the regions and communities.

When the Department of Public Works first started keeping the information it was on what we call "simple-to-use individual personal computers", but now that the amount of information on each individual computer has grown, it was felt that the department needs to connect all the individual computers together within each region, so that all of the information which has been stored can be combined and can be used by

more than one person at the same time. This is why we had put this item in the budget. But in order to do this, a central computer is required to tie all the individual computers together. The money identified in this project is to be used to purchase this new computer in each region and the related hardware to go with it.

Savings In Operations By Using Multi-User Microcomputers

One of the advantages that would come from having a highly interactive information source, for example, is that it is possible to reduce the number of trips into each community because it is much easier to identify all projects that need to be done. This would probably also make each trip more productive and, therefore, save money and time.

This would also give us a better grasp of the amount of material and spare parts that are repaired in each community in a centralized fashion, and it could result in decreased barge deliveries and less waste. Most recently, when we were looking at putting together this information in the Kitikmeot, it resulted in a saving of about \$90,000.

Although we could defer this and not suffer too much, I think we have to realize that we have come to a computerized age; and the more we can do in keeping a check on what we have as a government, the more we can cost effectively save time and travel, and we feel that it would be a very advantageous aid to being much more efficient. I just did not want to suggest that the item was put into the budget frivolously, because we had thought this out in detail to see how we could tie all the regions together for greater efficiency. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Ningark.

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On pages 10.18 and 10.19, I see a fair distribution of funds to the regions, including the Kitikmeot Region. For that reason, I will not be supporting the motion. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the Minister is right when she said that we are into the computer age, and I think that any government or any department that fails to take advantage of the electronic age that we are in is going to be in a sad state in not too long a time. I guess I am speaking as a reformed person who wanted to use pencils all his life, scared of a typewriter, and who has discovered computers. I find that there is a distinct advantage. You can do things now that you would not have an opportunity to do under normal human thinking and actions, and I think that it is commendable that the department is getting into multi-user units that are going to do more than just probably the equipment that they have there. It is unfortunate that the computer age is changing as we speak. The technology of today sort of becomes obsolete and we need to look into the future. But you never should wait in an operation such as we have here. We have to keep up with what is going on and I think each department must take full advantage of what the technology is offering us today and keep in step with the times. For that reason I will not support the motion.

In addition to that, it is equally distributed around and I think that if the department is using its resources wisely and it is using the government's system and expertise that is here already to take advantage of a multi-user system, I think they are to be commended for that and supported. That is why I will not vote in favour of the motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will not be supporting this motion. I, like Mr. Whitford, am a late convert to computers, too. I think it is essential that we have the proper computer equipment to link the regions together, particularly for us -- only today a discovered region. If we took this out we would have no way to communicate with anybody.

On a serious note, I think this is one item whereby in saving relatively few dollars we would, in fact, lose a great deal of potential efficiency. As the Minister says, sure we could do without it, but there are many things we can do without that we should not; in fact it costs more if you try to do this little bit of saving.

Further to that, just to backup my colleague from the Kitikmeot, I would like to say that when we met in the five minute pause, the Kitikmeot caucus met, and the two of us unanimously agreed that this late in the day it would be cruel to the government to deprive them of the one page in the budget that proves that the Kitikmeot Region gets equal distribution of funding.

---Laughter

---Applause

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. Again, it looks like we may have to go through these things point by point. In this particular one we think this is a proper allocation of funds and people should recognize that DPW provides services over a huge area -- including the Kitikmeot -- and without the support of modern technology they could not do their job. So the government will be voting against this particular motion.

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

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. During the course of going through this Department of Public Works, there were a number of things mentioned about the direction which this department is going and that is to privatize, as much as possible, buildings and works. In other words, for the private sector to start maintaining these government buildings and facilities. So you are in a situation in which, although you might need new technology to keep in touch with other regions and communities, you are also in a way eliminating those functions. Basically the Minister has said that it is to try to keep tabs on what is going on in other regions that they need those computers. But if in the middle of the night the school in Iqaluit blacks out and there is no heat or anything like that, a computer in the office does not serve any purpose, unless there is a person there 24 hours a day. So in this case, you defeat the whole purpose of having modern technology when, in fact, a simple phone call to the person's home would be a lot better than waiting until the morning and then you press your computers to find out where the trouble is and start shooting your men down there.

I feel that my motion was reasonable for that reason. It is strictly for the purposes of maintaining and operating buildings. Most of it will happen or most of the trouble that happens might happen on weekends or on days when you are not available at your computer to find out what the hell is going on in other areas. So I would like to ask other Members to support me on this one because I think I am

being reasonable. I know that there is a fair distribution but we are also making the same kinds of sacrifices in all of the regions if we do.

Motion To Delete \$150,000 From Capital, DPW, Re Multi-User Microcomputers, Defeated

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed? Thank you. The motion is defeated.

Equipment Acquisition, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

Now on to buildings and works, total headquarters, \$25,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Equipment Acquisition, Fort Smith, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Fort Smith, total Fort Smith, \$25,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Equipment Acquisition, Inuvik, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Inuvik, total Inuvik, \$25,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Equipment Acquisition, Baffin, Total Capital

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Baffin, total Baffin, \$460,000. Agreed? Mr. Whitford.

MR. WHITFORD: For the new power generator for Sanikiluaq, Madam Minister, is this in addition to what is there or is this a new unit that is replacing something that is there already? If it is the latter will they be getting rid of the old one, surplus and stuff like that? What do you do with these old units?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the plant is an additional unit. Presently the plant consists of two 330 kilowatt and one 130 kilowatt alternator. A design for plant expansion which will include a new 330 kilowatt alternator to replace the 130 kilowatt this is currently being completed by our consultant and it has to be ready for installation in the 1990-91 period of time. The community is very much in need of this extra facility.

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

MR. WHITFORD: I fully appreciate the necessity of power in Sanikiluaq, being as remote as it is, but is the Minister speaking of a generator or is she speaking of a generator, a total unit, that is a power unit that has an engine and has an alternator that produces electricity or is she just talking about an alternator? It is a complete unit, I trust.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Madam Minister.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, a complete unit.

Equipment Acquisition, Baffin, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Total Baffin, \$460,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Equipment Acquisition, Keewatin, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Keewatin, total Keewatin, \$25,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Equipment Acquisition, Kitikmeot, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Kitikmeot, total Kitikmeot, \$25,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Equipment Acquisition, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total equipment acquisition, \$585,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total buildings and works, \$2,447,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Vehicles And Equipment

Equipment Acquisition, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Vehicles and equipment, equipment acquisition, headquarters, total headquarters, \$82,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Equipment Acquisition, Fort Smith, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Fort Smith, total Fort Smith, \$131,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Equipment Acquisition, Inuvik, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Inuvik, total Inuvik, \$154,000.

Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Equipment Acquisition, Baffin, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Baffin, total Baffin, \$237,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Equipment Acquisition, Keewatin, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Keewatin, total Keewatin, \$211,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Equipment Acquisition, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total equipment acquisition, \$815,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Vehicles And Equipment, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total vehicles and equipment, \$815,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Now back to 10.08. Department of Public Works, program summary. Total capital expenditures, \$8,095,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Now that completes the capital for the Department of Public Works. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, presently the Department of Public Works has a 10 per cent vacancy rate in their department. Before the conclusion of the budget session I will be prepared to entertain a motion to let some of those vacancies go. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): I would like to thank the witnesses at this time. Mr. Gargan.

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The motion is not debatable. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is defeated.

---Defeated

What does the Government House Leader wish to do now?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: With the concurrence of the committee, I suggest we do the Legislative Assembly.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Legislative Assembly

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): We are dealing with the Legislative Assembly main estimates. I would like to welcome the Speaker to the chair. Mr. Speaker, would you like to make your opening remarks?

Speaker's Opening Remarks

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Just a quick correction. The Assembly is not a department. Mr. Chairman, colleagues, it is my pleasure and honour to present the 1990-91 main estimates for the operation of the Legislative Assembly. The budget before you reflects basically a hold-the-line budget and, in fact, you will note that it has been reduced from the 1989-90 revised forecast. The Management and Services Board were pleased to assist the government by reducing the staff complement by 1.5 person years and the overall operations and maintenance by three per cent.

The Assembly now has enhanced its services in the language area with the addition of two permanent Inuktitut interpreter/translators. In response to the Official Languages Act, we now provide certain House material in French. French simultaneous translation has also been added to the existing service we provide in the aboriginal languages.

I am proud of the ongoing work that has been completed to date with the Hansard production. The unedited Hansard is now available on the main frame of the government three hours after the House closes. Members will also have noted the new two-column format of our Hansard, which I feel provides for a better presentation and will be a cost saving in the coming year.

The Management and Services Board continues to meet regularly, and will into next year, ensuring services to the Legislature are being provided in an efficient way.

Before commenting on the capital for the Assembly I would like to express my appreciation, and I am sure that of all Members, for the dedicated work that all our staff provide to us during sittings of this House and intersessionally.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, the capital estimates before the committee today contain one item, the new Legislative Assembly building project. Mr. Chairman, this unique and history-making project will be financed through an innovative approach to funding that requires minimal outlay of capital funds at a time when the government is facing fiscal restraint. Mr. Chairman, the question of establishing a permanent home for the Legislature has been discussed for more than 20 years. The building will be constructed on the land overlooking Frame Lake, in close proximity to the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre. The land was set aside as a capital site in 1968 and is already owned by the government.

For this project a private development corporation will be established to finance the construction of the building and then lease it back to the government. At the end of the lease the government will own the building. Over the next year and a half major planning and design for the project will take

place and the \$450,000 in capital for 1990-91 will be recovered from the development corporation. Ownership in the development corporation will be open to all residents and businesses in the Northwest Territories and various investment vehicles will be established to attract both large and small investors, including the issuance of bonds similar to Canada Savings Bonds. The project will be managed by our own Legislative Assembly's Management and Services Board. All Members will be consulted to get their views on how the building can work for you and how the people of the North will see it. A Legislative Assembly is one of the most important symbols of a free and open democratic government.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening remarks and I will be pleased to answer any questions Members may have on our 1990-91 main estimates.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to compliment the Speaker on two items. I want to compliment him on the approach that he and his office has taken to the Legislative Assembly building. I agree with him that it is innovative and I think it is an approach that other parts of our government should look at and could learn from.

I also want to compliment the Speaker on the size of the budget that he has come in with this year. We were, as every other government department, asked to reduce the PYs by three per cent. With the associated costs and at the level of PYs in the Legislative Assembly that would, in fact, have meant a one-half person year reduction. The reduction that came in is one and a half person years which is eight per cent, rather than three per cent.

I also notice that there was an O and M reduction not associated with PYs of \$113,000 which, of the total budget of the Legislative Assembly, is 1.37 per cent. Mr. Chairman, I think this could serve as an example for the rest of the government. In fact, had those percentages been applied throughout our government where we have \$831 million of O and M and 3260 PYs, it would have resulted in an O and M saving of \$11.3 million and a PY reduction of eight per cent, rather than three per cent, which would have given an additional 163 PYs, depending on the cost of anywhere from my estimate of \$80,000 to Mr. Wray's estimate of \$120,000, and that would have been an additional \$13 million to \$19 million for a total reduction to our government's budget of anywhere from \$24 million to \$30 million, depending on the value of PYs.

Had that in fact been done, Mr. Chairman, we would not be in a situation of looking at a deficit budget today. In fact there would have been a surplus that could have been applied to needed programs. Again, Mr. Chairman, I want to give my unqualified support to this budget and compliment the Speaker and his staff on a job very well done. Thank you.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to just briefly speak in support of the Speaker's comments and the former Speaker's comments, about the good work our Legislative Assembly staff are doing under the leadership of the Clerk. I think, Mr. Chairman, we all know that there are sometimes particular efforts required and sometimes frustrations about the challenging task of making

consensus government work. It is a fragile system at times, although I believe it has many great strengths. I think that it is accomplished and working in large measure because of the extraordinary abilities and devotion of our staff, under the leadership of Mr. Hamilton. So I too would like, on behalf of the government, to say that it is a pleasure working with our staff in the Legislature and making this system work as it does work. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. General comments. Does the committee agree that we go page by page?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): We are on page 1.08, Legislative Assembly, total O and M, \$8,236,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Detail of work performed on behalf of third parties, total department, \$237,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Page 1.10 and 1.11 are information items. Legislative Assembly, program summary, page 1.07, total O and M, \$8,236,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Capital, page 1.08, detail of capital, Legislative Assembly, buildings and works, headquarters, total headquarters, \$450,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total buildings and works, \$450,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total Legislative Assembly, \$450,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Page 1.06, Legislative Assembly,

program summary, total capital expenditure, \$450,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Does the committee agree that this department is concluded?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): I would like to thank the Speaker for his presence here. What is the committee's wish? Mr. Pedersen.

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

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

---Carried

I will rise now and report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to call the House back to order.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Point of order, the honourable Member for Kivallivik.

Point Of Order

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is one of these rare occasions where I have to make a statement and apologize to the Member for Yellowknife Centre. In reviewing the unedited transcripts of today I find that some of the remarks I made were improper. I believe the words should be removed from the official record. I do not know if repeating them would do any good, but perhaps later I can point out the ones that I think are offensive. I think "motor mouth" and "John Crosbie...does not know where his brain is" are the offending words. I would like to withdraw those remarks, Mr. Speaker, and apologize to the Member for Yellowknife Centre.

There is another remark on the bottom where I said, "his brain is not functioning too well today, the way it does usually other days." I am not too sure if I should withdraw that, it is sort of a compliment in a way. I suppose if it is offensive, then I will withdraw that remark too, Mr. Speaker.

I would leave on the floor my point of privilege. I believe the Member has misinterpreted the statement I made in the House yesterday, and that the statements he made today were just simply incorrect with regard to my position. Thank you.

---Applause

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Point of order, the honourable Member for Iqaluit.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would rise to request unanimous consent to return to Item 12,

notices of motion, to make a motion respecting the establishment of a special committee.

MR. SPEAKER: Prior to seeking unanimous consent, I would like to -- this was an error on my part -- I did not receive the report of the chairman of committee. The honourable Member for Deh Cho.

ITEM 18: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Committee Report 1-90(1) and Bill 9-90(1), Appropriation Act, 1990-91, and wishes to report progress, with one motion carried and one 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: The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With the unanimous consent of the House, I would now request that we return to Item 12, notices of motion, to deal with the establishment of a special committee on constitutional reform. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Iqaluit is seeking unanimous consent to give notice of motion. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed, the honourable Member for Iqaluit.

ITEM 12: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 9-90(1): Establishment Of The Special Committee On Constitutional Reform

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Monday, March 26, 1990, I will move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, that this Assembly establish a special committee to be named the special committee on constitutional reform, and further that the terms of reference for this special committee on constitutional reform be established as follows:

- 1) Review the Meech Lake Accord signed on June 3, 1987, and matters related thereto;
- 2) Review any proposal, suggestion or matters related thereto being proposed or which may be proposed by the Government of Canada, provincial governments, or the Yukon Government, to approve or amend the Meech Lake Accord;
- 3) Undertake any further legal analysis necessary of the Meech Lake Accord or of any proposed changes or additions that effect constitutional reform in Canada and the Northwest Territories;
- 4) Undertake such consultations, discussions or meetings that are necessary with authorized federal and provincial bodies and appropriate territorial bodies that have the responsibility to consider the Meech Lake Accord and matters related thereto;
- 5) Prepare a report with recommendations to the Legislative Assembly on a strategy for the Legislative Assembly to deal with the Meech Lake Accord and any amendments or subsequent constitutional amendments;
- 6) The report shall be presented to the Legislative Assembly at a time to be decided by the committee, but not later than the fall session of 1990;
- 7) A special session of the Legislative Assembly may be called if necessary in accordance with Rule 3(2) of the Rules of the Legislative Assembly;

8) The special committee has the authority, if the Legislature is not in session, to release its report by depositing a copy of it with the Clerk of the House;

And further the special committee on constitutional reform shall:

- a) conduct its business in a manner approved by the committee;
- b) have the power to call for such persons, papers and records and to examine witnesses as, in its opinion, are necessary to the conduct of business;
- c) be provided the necessary funds to carry out its responsibilities from the appropriations of the Legislative Assembly;
- d) as a whole, or individual Members, undertake such travel as is required to carry out the assigned responsibilities of the committee;
- e) be empowered to retain the services of such professional staff and advisers as deemed advisable by the committee;
- f) be provided with the necessary administrative support by the Legislative Assembly office;
- g) have the power to sit during sessions, adjournments and recesses of the House. Thank you.

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I will now request unanimous consent to return to Item 14, motions.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to return to Item 14, motions. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed, honourable Member for Iqaluit.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would now request unanimous consent to deal with the motion that I gave notice of just now, today. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to deal with a motion that he gave notice of. Are there any nays? Proceed, the honourable Member for Iqaluit.

ITEM 14: MOTIONS

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, might I suggest that I could now read the "whereases" in the motion and dispense with reading the text, again, of the motion itself.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Could I seek unanimous consent of the House to dispense with the reading of the resolution of the motion and to have it printed as read into the record during notices of motions? Are there any nays? Thank you. We shall carry out that direction appropriately. The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

Motion 9-90(1): Establishment Of The Special Committee On Constitutional Reform

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS the 1987 Constitutional Accord, Meech Lake Accord, has to be ratified by June 23, 1990;

AND WHEREAS this Legislative Assembly has grave concerns with the effect the accord will have on constitutional matters in the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS this Legislative Assembly has to

ensure that the desires and aspirations of the Northwest Territories are further considered prior to the final ratification of the accord;

AND WHEREAS Premier McKenna of New Brunswick has taken a constructive step to break the impasse over the Meech Lake Accord;

AND WHEREAS it is now possible for discussions to focus on how the Meech Lake Accord can, in a spirit of compromise and statesmanship, be saved through amendments or a parallel accord;

AND WHEREAS substantive concerns about Meech Lake remain to be addressed;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, that this Assembly establish a special committee to be named the special committee on constitutional reform;

AND FURTHER, that the terms of reference for this special committee on constitutional reform be established as follows:

- 1) Review the Meech Lake Accord signed on June 3, 1987, and matters related thereto;
- 2) Review any proposal, suggestion or matters related thereto being proposed or which may be proposed by the Government of Canada, provincial governments, or the Yukon Government, to approve or amend the Meech Lake Accord;
- 3) Undertake any further legal analysis necessary of the Meech Lake Accord or of any proposed changes or additions that effect constitutional reform in Canada and the Northwest Territories;
- 4) Undertake such consultations, discussions or meetings that are necessary with authorized federal and provincial bodies and appropriate territorial bodies that have the responsibility to consider the Meech Lake Accord and matters related thereto;
- 5) Prepare a report with recommendations to the Legislative Assembly on a strategy for the Legislative Assembly to deal with the Meech Lake Accord and any amendments or subsequent constitutional amendments;
- 6) The report shall be presented to the Legislative Assembly at a time to be decided by the committee, but not later than the fall session of 1990;
- 7) A special session of the Legislative Assembly may be called if necessary in accordance with Rule 3(2) of the Rules of the Legislative Assembly;
- 8) The special committee has the authority, if the Legislature is not in session, to release its report by depositing a copy of it with the Clerk of the House;

AND FURTHER, the special committee on constitutional reform shall:

- a) conduct its business in a manner approved by the committee;
- b) have the power to call for such persons, papers and records and to examine witnesses as, in its opinion, are necessary to the conduct of business;
- c) be provided the necessary funds to carry out its responsibilities from the appropriations of the Legislative Assembly;
- d) as a whole, or individual Members, undertake such travel as is required to carry out the assigned responsibilities of the committee;
- e) be empowered to retain the services of such professional staff and advisers as deemed advisable

- by the committee;
- f) be provided with the necessary administrative support by the Legislative Assembly office;
- g) have the power to sit during sessions, adjournments and recesses of the House.

Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order. The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I have a few comments I would like to make respecting this important motion which I am pleased to move. Mr. Speaker, when the Canadian Constitution was repatriated in 1981 excluding aboriginal rights from the Constitution at the time and changing the rules for creation of provinces and permitting the possibility of extension of provincial boundaries into the Territories, our Legislature established a special committee and took very serious and effective action which included travelling to Ottawa to protest this action in effecting changes to the constitutional legislation.

When the Meech Lake Accord was signed in mid-1987, the 10th Legislative Assembly expressed its strong concerns and took many actions. We are now today faced with new and rapidly changing developments on constitutional reform which will have profound effects on our government, our Legislature and on our citizens and their rights.

While this government has been working hard on tackling these challenges and protecting our interests, we also want to work closely, Mr. Speaker, with this Legislature and with you, Mr. Speaker, to add strength to the government positions. The New Brunswick resolution contains a number of important proposals which recognize long-felt concerns of this Legislature. Our government has been working toward this end, lobbying with premiers, our provincial ministerial counterparts, initiating legal action, lobbying with the press, and I think it is beginning to have some effect.

As well, Mr. Speaker, I want to acknowledge the work that has been done by Members of this Legislature; Members who travelled to appear with government Ministers before legislative committees in New Brunswick, in Ontario; Members who used their opportunities through the contact with Members of other legislatures and through the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association to raise the issue at every opportunity. Mr. Speaker, all of these efforts of Members of the Legislature and of our government could, we hope, now bear some fruit in the developments that are going to occur in the hours, days, weeks and months ahead.

I made a statement to this House yesterday about the very significant proposals tabled by Premier McKenna and the New Brunswick legislature. Today the Premier of Newfoundland has tabled another resolution which, if passed by all legislatures, would also affect our interests. The Nova Scotia legislature made a motion on the New Brunswick initiative and on the Meech Lake Accord yesterday, and the Prime Minister will be making a statement on this issue to the country this evening.

Mr. Speaker, it is now time to be prepared to take action and to continue the work that has been done for many years on this issue. The concerns and opinions and actions of Members of this Legislature and our government, I believe, are being recognized in this country. Our opinions are now being sought and considered, as they were not sought and considered when the Meech Lake Accord was first signed. Therefore, I think it is important and appropriate that we should act decisively to establish a special committee on

constitutional reform which will be able to examine these issues and be able to take action as required, including the calling of a special session of this Legislature, should it be required, to deal with developments over the next number of months.

I am very pleased to move this motion, Mr. Speaker, and I am confident that it will have the full support of Members of this Assembly, and I am confident that this committee will continue to do important work on the issues affecting our constitutional future. Thank you.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Seconded of the motion, the honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre.

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can also be very short and brief and careful and prudent in whatever words I would choose to use in supporting this motion. It is one I think of great importance to this House and I believe that everybody will support it. I have great pleasure in seconding the motion.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will also be short and to the point. It was almost three years ago when we started this process and started developing our government's position, and I would like to give some special recognition to two individuals who have contributed literally hundreds of hours of their expertise, hard work and dedicated their experience to this process; that is my deputy minister, Geoffrey Bickert, and the director of our constitutional division, Bernie Funston. Both, I would say at this point in time, are among the foremost experts on this process in this country. They will be supporting the committee's work and the work of this Legislative Assembly as we finish the job that we started some three years ago.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: To the motion. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion 9-90(1), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Question has been called. The honourable Member for High Arctic.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I do not have a comment. I support this motion. I would like to ask for a recorded vote.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Recorded vote has been called, Mr. Clerk. To the motion. All those in favour, please rise.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. Pedersen, Mr. Morin, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Whitford, Mr. Wray, Mr. Ballantyne, Ms Cournoyea, Mr. Alloo, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Kakfwi, Mr. Butters, Ms Marie-Jewell, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Ningark, Mr. Gargan.

—Applause

MR. SPEAKER: All those opposed? All those abstaining?

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Eighteen in favour of the motion, none against, with no abstentions.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Clerk, please notice that the

vote was unanimous.

--Applause

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

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Announcements, Mr. Speaker. There will be a meeting of the special committee on aboriginal languages immediately after adjournment this evening; at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning a meeting of ajauqtit.

ITEM 20: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Friday, March 23rd.

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), 7-90 and 14-90(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 Friday, March 23, 1990, at 10:00 a.m.

--ADJOURNMENT

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