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

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

MONDAY, MARCH 26, 1990

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

--Prayer

Speaker's Ruling

SPEAKER (Hon. Richard Nerysoo): Prior to proceeding with the orders, I wish to provide a ruling with regard to the point of privilege raised by the honourable Member for Kivallivik, on Thursday, March 22, 1990. I wish to provide to the House my ruling on the point of privilege. The point was raised by Mr. Wray under Rule 32(1) whereby the Member for Kivallivik believed that the Member for Yellowknife Centre, Mr. Lewis, had deliberately misquoted him and tried to misunderstand what he had said on March 21, 1990, in his response to a question on the establishing of fur farms in the Northwest Territories.

I have reviewed in detail the unedited Hansard surrounding the question put before the Chair. In most cases on a point of privilege of this nature the interpretation given on statements could be interpreted differently by two people hearing the same comments. I feel that this is the case here and my review of the unedited Hansard leaves no doubt in my mind that the honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre had misunderstood the comments of the honourable Member for Kivallivik who had not stated, "...that this was a lost industry and it was something that we should put behind us". As I stated, I do not find this to be the case; I find that the honourable Member for Kivallivik did not use that statement and in fact, the whole issue was tied to a statement made on the Government Leader's behalf, outside the House, and the Government Leader, Mr. Patterson, has explained the unfortunate circumstances surrounding this to the House.

If the honourable Member for Kivallivik had followed the Rules on his point of privilege and had filed notice with the Speaker in accordance with Rule 32(2), I might have ruled that he did have a point of privilege against Rule 32(1), but I cannot rule on this particular point, as he failed to follow the provision at the appropriate time. Thank you.

Orders of the day for Monday, March 26, 1990. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Ministers' Statement 42-90(1): Tribute To Gina Blondin

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to pay tribute to Gina Blondin who died late last week after a lengthy illness. She was a very strong person, deeply committed to the North and to indigenous people. Ms Blondin was a person who cared; she was a person who had time for other people; who worked hard and always seemed to find the strength and determination to finish a job no matter how large.

Ms Blondin's work history was extensive in the Northwest Territories with our government and native organizations, as well as the private sector. She was involved in various programs and projects related to education, training and

human resource development. As my own executive assistant for a three year period, I was very grateful to work with a person so committed to education and aboriginal rights, who was also a strong supporter and a good friend. Most recently, Ms Blondin had served in an advisory capacity to the Minister and deputy minister of Education. As well, she was actively involved in community activities within the NWT, with northern cultural events including serving as a board member with the Northern Arts and Cultural Centre, the Tree of Peace Friendship Centre and the Folk On The Rocks Festival. In addition, she participated in a variety of forums relating to topical northern cultural issues, both in the Northwest Territories and at a national level.

It is tragic that Ms Blondin's life ended when she was in her prime, having just received her Masters degree in Education, with a specialty in native issues, and not long after having been appointed as the first native woman to a deputy minister position in our government; a position she was unable to accept because of her illness.

Mr. Speaker, I know that Ms Blondin must have had some comfort last week from the realization of a project which was very important to her and which she worked extremely hard to see become a reality, the launching of her father, George Blondin's book, "When The World Was New". The dedication to the book, written by Gina, underlines the importance she placed on her cultural traditions as reflected in the stories told by her father. "Listening to the stories", Gina wrote, "reminded me again and again why they are so important to a knowledge of why and where you are going in life, and more importantly, who you are."

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the government and the Legislative Assembly, I am sure, I would like to extend our sympathies to Gina's daughter, Fiona, to her mother and father, and to her brothers and sisters. Mr. Speaker, I understand that there will be a memorial service for her today at St. Patrick's Church at 5:30 p.m. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. I note that this is an emergency statement and the House joins in condolences to the family and will indicate that at the appropriate time directly to the family.

Ministers' statements. Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Nahendeh.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Fort Simpson Elder Sent To Edmonton Mental Institution

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, my statement today is about an elderly man, 80 years old, from Fort Simpson who ended up in a mental institution in Edmonton a few weeks ago. The story starts off innocently enough. This man was a relatively happy elderly man, a respected Dene, living in the old folks home in Fort Simpson. He had a history in the past few years of suffering from epileptic fits and some loss of memory.

On March 7th of this year he was sent out to Edmonton for

medical treatment. The family believed that he was going out to an Edmonton hospital to have some checks done about his epileptic fits. Even a brain scan did not seem unusual, as the family believed that was part of a normal checkup for such a sickness. To the family's horror, they discovered that the Edmonton hospital, Alberta Hospital, was really a mental institution. On further investigation, it was discovered that their father was being committed by a doctor in Fort Simpson under section 10 of the Mental Health Act as a crazy person, to get a psychological assessment and brain scan done. Fortunately, the family intervened, travelled out to Edmonton, spoke with doctors at the hospital and eventually had him released on March 16th and returned with him to Fort Simpson, his own home. The doctor who assessed the old man told the family the only thing he was suffering from was old age. The family is very upset and the whole incident was very traumatic for both the old gentleman and the family.

The questions that the family want answered now from our government, the department who is responsible, is why was the family not told that their father was being committed under the Mental Health Act? Why did the doctor in the hospital in Fort Simpson not advise the family that they were committing the old gentleman under the Mental Health Act? Why did the old folks home in Fort Simpson, where the elderly people are being kept, not advise the family of any problems that they were experiencing; problems of wandering or anything of that sort? Why does the hospital in Fort Simpson not have any staff, nurses or administrative staff, who are native and can speak the Slavey language?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sibbeston, your time has expired – two minutes and 30 seconds. The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to extend his Member's statement. Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. SIBBESTON: I am very grateful for this, Mr. Speaker. Another question that the family wanted to know is, how can the medical doctors in Alberta Hospital assess an elderly person who understands only Slavey, without any interpreter?

Mr. Speaker, this is the 1990s, not the dark ages of the 1950s and 1960s. We pride ourselves, in this government, on being closer to the people. Our government has taken over health from the federal government on the one argument that our government can do a better job than the federal government has in the past; they can be more sensitive and more effective. So it is shocking to find that such an incident has happened. The family in question are totally upset that such an incident has happened. Now they do not trust the old folks home, they are keeping the old gentleman at home and they do not trust the doctors and nurses in the hospital in Fort Simpson. Mr. Speaker, I will be pressing the Ministers of the departments involved for some answers today.

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

Member's Statement On George Porter And Ernie Lyall

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I rise before this house to recognize two men of great stature who have lived and worked among the Nattilik. While most of us will not step aside from our responsibilities to help out our fellow men in times of need, these two men have often assisted people in need when both were serving as Hudson Bay managers.

Mr. Speaker, I am speaking of George W. Porter and Ernie W. Lyall, who are deceased. In my memory book they were both larger than life. They were both part Inuk, they both spoke Inuktitut and both married Inuit women. They were both very

well respected and I am sure each Member of this House has heard, Mr. Speaker, only good things about them because all I can tell you is that what George Porter and Ernie Lyall lived for was to serve the people and only do good things for people. The signs of spring have reminded me of these two great men. Thank you.

--Applause

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

Member's Statement On Presence Of Steel Nails In Gravel On Yellowknife Streets

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have been in the habit, on the weekends, of walking through my constituency and talking to various people. Sometimes I would even conduct a telephone poll to find out what people think about various issues. The issue from this past weekend, Mr. Speaker, does not seem a very large one on the surface but there was some concern that there is no distinction made between the level of authority, whether it is the city, the territorial government or the federal government, that seems to have a responsibility for something. In this particular case, a constituent was very concerned that this House and people who visit from out of town should know that all the gravel that was put down on the sidewalks, along the main drag, in Yellowknife, was done in order to stop accidents, because people, especially older people, fall down and get injured. The City is taking precautions to make sure that this does not happen by putting liberal amounts of gravel both on sidewalks and on the main highway. However, it has been pointed out that in this gravel, especially along Franklin Avenue, there are literally hundreds and hundreds of steel nails that have caused some concern for taxi drivers and even ordinary motorists. I am therefore passing this information to the House, so that if you decide to travel down Franklin Avenue, by taking a detour you could avoid potential damage to the tires of your vehicle. On behalf of one of my constituents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Members' statements. Members' statements. Item 4, returns to oral questions. I would just like to draw the attention of honourable Members to the presence of the deputy commissioner, Mrs. Ann Hanson, who is in our gallery.

--Applause

Returns to oral questions. The honourable Member for Sahtu.

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

Further Return To Question O317-90(1): Proposed New Residence Program

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, this is in response to a question asked by Mr. Lewis on March 20, regarding the deletion of residence activity in the Education budget. The residence activity was consolidated into the schools activity two years ago in the 1988-89 main estimates.

This change was made for two reasons. The first was to present the Education programs to the Legislative Assembly in a consistent manner. In the Department of Education main estimates, directorate and administration, schools, advanced education, and Arctic College are separate and distinct programs. Student residences, however, are an integral part of the schools program. The same approach to residences has been taken in the main estimates for Arctic College.

The second reason for consolidating residences into the schools activity is to avoid potential conflict with the Financial Administration Act. The Financial Administration Act does not

allow the Financial Management Board to delegate authority to move moneys between activities. Thus, to ensure that education boards have the flexibility they need to manage, all board contributions are budgeted in one activity. More detailed information is available to the Legislative Assembly in the budget document provided to the standing committee on finance. This document discloses the budget for residences as a separate task under the schools activity. Thank you.

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

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question O396-90(1): Referral Of Fort Simpson Elder To Mental Institution

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to start off by asking the Minister of Social Services a question regarding the elderly man who was inadvertently sent to a mental institution in Edmonton. The Minister knows that the family has written to her, a letter dated March 20. I would like to ask the Minister if she has had a chance to review the letter and provide a response.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Slave River.

Return To Question O396-90(1): Referral Of Fort Simpson Elder To Mental Institution

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have had a chance to review the letter, although I have not had time to reply to the family. I have questioned whether the referral was done on the responsibility of our department or the Department of Health. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O396-90(1): Referral Of Fort Simpson Elder To Mental Institution

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, while the Minister is checking this situation, I wonder if she would use this case as an example and begin to really wonder and check all of the old folks' homes in the North to see whether there are old folks, elderly people, who because of loss of memory or some other reason are being sent out to Edmonton and then being sent to a mental institution when the biggest problem would simply be that they are getting old and perhaps losing some of their memory. They are inadvertently being sent, and have to go through the horror of being sent, to a mental institution.

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

Further Return To Question O396-90(1): Referral Of Fort Simpson Elder To Mental Institution

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am aware that in many different areas or a few different senior citizens' homes, there are senior citizens that are referred to mental institutions, mainly as a result of Alzheimer's disease. There are no particular institutions that I am aware of that look after patients with Alzheimer's disease. It has just recently been brought to my attention that there are senior citizens referred in that particular manner. Thank you.

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

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, the same subject, but different Minister.

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

Question O397-90(1): Update On Developments Re Contaminated Tailings Pond, Rankin Inlet

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. It is in regard to the contaminated tailings pond at the old mine in Rankin Inlet. Could the Minister update this House on any new developments, if any, to clean up the hazardous contaminated tailings pond in Rankin Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Return To Question O397-90(1): Update On Developments Re Contaminated Tailings Pond, Rankin Inlet

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, the joint committee, comprising representatives from the federal government and the Government of the Northwest Territories and the town, did recommend that further studies be carried out to determine and detail the serious nature of the spill. To effect that, a subsequent research project has been identified as required and as recently as this morning this government did approve an amount of up to \$50,000 to contribute, along with the federal government toward hiring the services of the researcher who can look into the unanswered questions relating to the Thurber report and the steering deliberations of the committee. So there has been some movement on this. As a result of the approval I have received from the Financial Management Board, I will be approaching the federal government as soon as possible to determine that they will be cost-sharing this particular study.

I would just point out one thing. The contamination occurred during the five year period during which the mine was in operation between 1958 and 1963 and, as the Member well knows, at that time the territorial government probably consisted of six members plus the Commissioner, R.G. Robertson, who was also the deputy minister for the department. The approval of our funds toward this project is done without prejudice, and we are not accepting the clean-up responsibility, which we feel is not to be determined now but would be looked at, at a later date. But, yes, there has been some movement on that matter, sir.

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

Question O398-90(1): Procedures Followed Re Fort Simpson Elder Sent To Mental Institution

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Health if she is aware of some of the details of this incident of the elderly man from the old folks' home in Fort Simpson being sent out to Edmonton and ending up in a mental institution? I would like to ask the Minister of Health whether she can check into the procedures that were followed in this case and see how it is that an elderly man was committed under the Mental Health Act without the family being fully informed of such an incident occurring.

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

Return To Question O398-90(1): Procedures Followed Re Fort Simpson Elder Sent To Mental Institution

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, yes.

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

Question O399-90(1): Interpretation Services At Fort Simpson Hospital

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister of Health could check into the hospital in Fort Simpson and see why it is that there are no Dene Slavey-speaking persons working for the hospital as nurses or nursing aids, or in the administration office. I am advised that there is nobody, no Slavey-speaking person; and also why does the hospital in Fort Simpson not hire interpreters to interpret and have a means of communicating with some of the patients?

MR. SPEAKER: Please note that that particular item is a new question. However, the honourable Member for Nunakput.

Return To Question O399-90(1): Interpretation Services At Fort Simpson Hospital

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I would be most willing to do that. As well, I have noted the questions in the Member's statement that were asked. We will also be taking those questions into consideration and will attempt to bring an appropriate answer back to the honourable Member.

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

Question O400-90(1): Provision Of Interpretation Services For Patients In Edmonton

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, a final question to do with this incident to ask the Minister if she would check into the arrangements that may be available for aboriginal people from the North going out to hospitals in Edmonton, in particular the Alberta Hospital, to see what arrangements there are for providing interpretation services.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Nunakput.

Return To Question O400-90(1): Provision Of Interpretation Services For Patients In Edmonton

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, certainly.

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

Question O401-90(1): Possibility Of Increasing Minimum Wage

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not sure which Minister I should be directing this question to. I would like to know who controls the minimum wage in the Territories. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Sahtu.

Return To Question O401-90(1): Possibility Of Increasing Minimum Wage

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, it falls under legislation taken care of under my jurisdiction.

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

Supplementary To Question O401-90(1): Possibility Of Increasing Minimum Wage

MR. NINGARK: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. The reason I asked that question is that we have a very limited summer construction season in the communities and some young people that have worked in construction during the summer in small communities like Pelly Bay, Gjoa Haven and Spence Bay, and possibly the other communities in the North, have asked me if I could approach the government to see if this minimum wage rate could be increased. We do not get to see that many jobs, especially in the winter time; I am talking about maybe two or three months at a time. This is very important to the majority of people who do not have a full-time job in the North. Thank you.

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

Further Return To Question O401-90(1): Possibility Of Increasing Minimum Wage

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, last fall I asked a number of individuals to sit on a review panel which would look into a number of pieces of legislation that govern the workplace, including minimum wages. The panel has, last week, submitted its report to me and they have some recommendations in there with regard to minimum wage. We know that very often students are not paid a great deal for the work that they are offered. The other side of the argument is that many of the businesses and companies that are willing to employ students will not be as able or willing to do it if they have to increase the hourly wage. Some of the jobs that are offered often can only function if they can offer minimum wage, part-time employment to groups such as students.

In any case, once I have had a look at the report I will get back to the Members with some of the recommendations of what we plan to do and once I consult with Members of the cabinet as well. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O401-90(1): Possibility Of Increasing Minimum Wage

MR. NINGARK: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Under the same topic, Mr. Speaker, sometimes it is so easy for a contractor to take advantage of this minimum wage rate. A number of times I have seen people that are qualified at the local level working for the companies, as carpenters and other jobs that are not technical, who have remained at the same rate throughout the construction. That was one of the reasons why I asked who controlled the system. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Sahtu. There was not a question.

Further Return To Question O401-90(1): Possibility Of Increasing Minimum Wage

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, I understand what the Member is saying. I was not trying to plead the case of the companies, I was just throwing it in there for discussion purposes. I am not suggesting that is the side I am coming from. As with all cases there are at least two sides to this particular issue and I was giving him the other side.

If the Member wishes, once I have read the report and I have presented it to cabinet then we could look at tabling it in the Legislature so you can all have a look at the report of that panel. You could then decide with me what you like and do

not like about it and we could have a plan of action to proceed or not to proceed with any of the recommendations in there. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Just as a reminder of the Rules. The honourable Member is correct that answers to questions should be as brief as possible and deal with the matter raised and should not provoke debate. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Baffin South.

Question O402-90(1): Rental Increase For Low Rental Units In Baffin

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of the Housing Corporation. I was not here on Friday as I left at 11:00 o'clock in the morning and I did not hear what he had to say. I am going to reiterate the things that he said on the news.

I am from a community where there are people that only rent low rental housing in Baffin South. You were saying in the news that you are going to increase the rent for housing. I am not quite sure, I would like to find out, how much of an increase you are going to put on the rent for housing? Who are you directing these rental increases to? Thank you.

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

Return To Question O402-90(1): Rental Increase To Low Rental Units In Baffin

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I did not hear what the radio station carried with regard to my opening statement in the House on Friday. With regard to the rent scale there is no change in the application of the new scale proposed, over what has been communicated in the communities over the last two years. The expectation is still that 75 per cent of the people currently paying rent in public housing would experience a decrease and maybe 25 per cent would experience an increase. My understanding is that the proposed scale would be revenue neutral and, in fact, we have even, as a result of the third level of consultation, reduced the rental payments proposed on the upper end of the scale to what is currently in place, which is the economic rent.

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

Supplementary To Question O402-90(1): Rental Increase To Low Rental Units In Baffin

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand some of what you said concerning the rental increase. I am not really sure what is ahead. I just merely listened to the radio today. Last year there was going to be an increase and a lot of the people opposed the increase in the rent scales. We are representing our people in the North and I would like to find out if you are going to be informing the people in the North before you increase their rent? I think I would prefer you to inform the people first before you increase the rental scale for the housing in the North. Thank you.

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

Further Return To Question O402-90(1): Rental Increase To Low Rental Units In Baffin

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I feel quite confident that the communities are abundantly aware of the elements of

the proposed new scale. As I say, it has been under discussion for the last two years and there is nothing new in the scale as being presented. In fact, as a result of representations we received from the Member's constituency, Lake Harbour, we have reduced one element of the scale from 25 per cent of gross salary to the economic rent. There have been changes as a result of our consultations and some of those changes have resulted from discussions we have had in the Member's constituency.

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

Supplementary To Question O402-90(1): Rental Increase To Low Rental Units In Baffin

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. My question was about the carvers and some of the people who try to earn a living on their own. Are you going to be making changes toward these people who do not have jobs? Thank you.

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

Return To Question O402-90(1): Rental Increases To Low Rental Units In Baffin

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, for persons unemployed or at the very low end of the income scale, I believe that the application of the rent scale will indicate that the rents are reduced in the case of those individuals.

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

Question O403-90(1): Public Right To Access Information From Territorial Government

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Government Leader. Since there have been several incidents within the last year or so of Members trying to acquire information from the government, some of which has been withheld, I was wondering if the government plans to bring in legislation similar to what the federal government has, which would guarantee members of the general public the right to the access of information?

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

Return To Question O403-90(1): Public Right To Access Information From Territorial Government

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, since this is a responsibility of the Minister of Justice, I might have taken the question on notice, but I can tell the honourable Member that there are no immediate plans that I am aware of to bring forward such legislation. Thank you.

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

Question O404-90(1): Adequacy Of Federal Legislation On Access To Information

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since the federal government has such legislation in place and, in a legal sense, through the NWT Act and possibly through DIAND acts, our government has an extraordinary, special relationship with the federal government, I would like to ask the Government Leader if he feels that the federal Access to Information Act is adequate enough for people up here to go

that route to obtain information on what this government does.

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

Return To Question O404-90(1): Adequacy Of Federal Legislation On Access To Information

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we do have a special and probably unique relationship to the federal government compared to other provincial-type governments in Canada. However, that special relationship, Mr. Speaker, certainly does not prevent us from taking our own positions and finding our own solutions to issues such as the honourable Member has raised. Mr. Speaker, it is certainly not my place to comment on the adequacy of the federal legislation, although I do know that it has caused frustrations to people who have tried to take advantage of it. However, Mr. Speaker, I think it is not appropriate for links to be made between such federal legislation and our particular situation in the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O404-90(1): Adequacy Of Federal Legislation On Access To Information

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Regarding access to information, again, has the cabinet become aware of any situations where individual residents of Canada or elsewhere have tried to acquire information on this government through the federal Access to Information Act?

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think that is one question I should take on notice and get back to the Member.

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

Question O405-90(1): Restoration Of Old Stone House, Repulse Bay

MR. ERNERK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Culture and Communications. John Rae in 1847 went to the Repulse Bay area. This person was a scientist. He went to the North Pole River at that time and found a particular kind of stone and built a house. Today that stone house is broken. I would think that this house should be rebuilt. Has the Minister heard from the people of Repulse Bay concerning this stone house, as to how much it would cost to rebuild the stone house in Repulse Bay area? This area is very interesting and people are interested in seeing it, especially the tourists that come up to the Repulse Bay area.

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

Return To Question O405-90(1): Restoration Of Old Stone House, Repulse Bay

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During our visit last fall to the riding of the Member for Aivilik, we went to Repulse Bay and they told me about this situation at our visit from the hamlet council in Repulse Bay. My Department of Culture and Communications has

looked into this situation, especially concerning the stone house. I will get back to the Member when I find out what has been happening with my staff concerning this project. Thank you.

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

Question O406-90(1): Priority Of Social Services Issues

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have recognized for some time some of the very serious social problems we have had in the Northwest Territories which continue with us. I am thinking about some of the early attempts to combat alcoholism through the publication of comic books like "Captain Alcohol", various other attempts to deal with things like violence and spousal assault, and the current interest seems to be in child sexual assault. I would like to ask the Minister of Social Services, all these various problems that we have which various people seem to be trying to resolve or solve in different ways, how are these going to be coordinated?

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

Return To Question O406-90(1): Priority Of Social Services Issues

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, the many different social problems are problems certainly which affect all different parts of society. Hopefully, within the communities people will make an effort to coordinate their expertise and try to work together to approach these problems. Particularly with child sexual abuse, as the Member had questioned, there has been a significant amount of funding by the department in the past couple of years in regard to trying to deal with the issue of child sexual abuse. With that, we have recently set up a protocol which basically indicates to the community the mechanism that people should use if a case of suspicion arises concerning an individual or child that may be a victim of child sexual abuse. We have recently set up a protocol, whether or not it is brought to the attention of a teacher, a social worker, or whoever it may be in the community, that by law it is a crime and it is to be initially reported to the RCMP, although Social Services has to be made aware of it because of the Child Welfare Act; and from there, because it is a crime, the RCMP takes the steps dealing with it. However, I do want to indicate to this House that a substantial amount of money is being put forth by the department to take the awareness out to the communities and to get the communities to understand the protocol in the event that they identify a child that is being either sexually or physically abused. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O406-90(1): Priority Of Social Services Issues

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. These problems have been with us for some time, and we tend to give priorities and then suddenly drop them. For example, there was a three year program to deal with spousal assault and suddenly it is no longer an issue. My question to the Minister is, does it mean that the major issue in the NWT now is no longer alcohol or spousal assault, but the big issue is now sexual abuse of children?

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

Further Return To Question O406-90(1): Priority Of Social Services Issues

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, I certainly do not want the Member to think that that is the main issue. There are many main issues in Social Services that come to mind that are problems. There is the suicide issue that we are trying to deal with, the child sexual abuse issue, and I would not like the Member to think that the three year spousal assault program is now not considered by the department. In fact, as a department we are committed to dealing with the spousal assault program. Instead of a three year term program, we included it in our base as an ongoing program that we try to deal with.

I must indicate to the Member that alcohol and drug abuse is certainly a program that is of significance and an issue that is being dealt with, not only by the department but by the many different communities. It is very difficult to indicate to the Member which social issues are going to be a priority when many social issues with different components and different elements all affect different communities in very important ways. I do not want the Member to feel that one social problem is a priority over another. I do not think that if we as a government cannot recognize collectively and emphasize that each social problem is of importance to this government -- if we had that type of attitude, it would be difficult to deal with social problems right across the Territories. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O406-90(1): Priority Of Social Services Issues

MR. LEWIS: My concern, Mr. Speaker, is that perhaps we are taking a piecemeal approach to many of these social problems. I would like to ask the Minister, has her department identified a common underlying cause for all these social issues we are continually trying to resolve?

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

Further Return To Question O406-90(1): Priority Of Social Services Issues

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There has not been a common underlying cause which has caused many of the social problems, but I can certainly advise the Member that one of the major causes is probably the abuse of alcohol and drugs. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O406-90(1): Priority Of Social Services Issues

MR. LEWIS: If that is the case, Mr. Speaker, if drugs and alcohol have been identified as a major underlying cause, and if that could somehow be solved, why is the department not making that the priority issue in order to attract the kind of expertise and the funds to solve it?

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

Further Return To Question O406-90(1): Priority Of Social Services Issues

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I had indicated to the Member, it is one of the most

common and critical areas that probably causes many of the social problems in the Territories. I believe that the department has made a substantial effort in trying to deal with this. If the Member would be willing to look at our upcoming budget for Social Services, we have had an increase with regard to the funds we allocate to alcohol and drug abuse in the Territories. I also think the commitment of this government in allowing the construction of two alcohol and drug treatment centres in the Territories is another indication of our commitment to try to deal with such a social problem.

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

Question O407-90(1): Approval For Access Road To Yellowknife Forward Operating Location

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. Mr. Minister, on Tuesday, March 20th, I asked you a question on an access road to the Yellowknife forward operating location, and your response to me was that you would be responding to Mr. Blondin's request in a matter of hours and, "When the response is in Mr. Blondin's hands, I will advise the Member of my response." I naturally assumed that you would advise me shortly, maybe the same day or the next. It is a week now, Mr. Minister, so can you advise me of your response to the Dene/Metis, please?

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

Return To Question O407-90(1): Approval For Access Road To Yellowknife Forward Operating Location

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I will provide the Member with the letters that have been sent to both Mr. Blondin and Mr. McKnight. The letter to Mr. Blondin in effect said that while the approval would be granted for the construction of the road access on Commissioner's land, there would not be any further action on turnover or approvals until the environmental study had been submitted and had been deemed acceptable.

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

Supplementary To Question O407-90(1): Approval For Access Road To Yellowknife Forward Operating Location

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, supplementary. Mr. Minister, on what grounds did you approve this permit to cross Commissioner's land when an environmental study is not done? Later the same day, I did ask the Government Leader if he agreed that an environmental study should be done prior to approval being given, and he agreed on that. Why is our government changing the rules in midstream here and giving approval for these types of projects without environmental studies being done? We ask other jurisdictions not to do that, but we turn around and do the same thing.

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

Further Return To Question O407-90(1): Approval For Access Road To Yellowknife Forward Operating Location

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, approval was not given to the project. Approval was given to an access road into the site. The Department of National Defence quite clearly has been advised and understands that the approval for the access road is not approval for the project, and if the environmental concerns cannot be addressed and assuaged,

then they have a chance of losing approval for the main project.

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

Supplementary To Question O407-90(1): Approval For Access Road To Yellowknife Forward Operating Location

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, supplementary. Mr. Minister, once you give approval for the land use permit, once you give them approval to start doing the project, and they have the tenders in the paper now, you are basically supporting the project. That is what this government is doing. Do you not see it that way, that you are supporting the project once you give approval? It just does not seem right, Mr. Minister. Without the environmental assessment done, then the proper thing for this government to do was not to give their approval until that environmental assessment was done. Why should you let them go ahead at all, and lead them on to thinking that they are going to go ahead without an environmental assessment? Is there not a proper process that you should follow and rules that you should follow?

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

Further Return To Question O407-90(1): Approval For Access Road To Yellowknife Forward Operating Location

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I would reiterate that the project has not been approved. The access road has been approved. In my letter to the federal Minister, as the Member will well see, I have indicated that this government has been put into a very difficult position on the way the contracts were let and the timing for the environmental hearings. I have also indicated to him that I feel that the Dene/Metis should be involved more closely in the environmental hearings and discussions and I warn him again that only an aspect of the project has been approved. I have discussed this decision not only with the Associate Minister of Defence, Mary Collins, when she was in Yellowknife last week, but also Mr. Erasmus last week.

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

Supplementary To Question O407-90(1): Approval For Access Road To Yellowknife Forward Operating Location

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary. With all these concerns that you do have, and I hope they are real concerns, then what justified your issuing the permit to cross Commissioner's land? What pressure was put on our government to issue that permit?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Inuvik.

Further Return To Question O407-90(1): Approval For Access Road To Yellowknife Forward Operating Location

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, no pressure was put on me nor upon the government. I would point out to the honourable Member that this project lies within the boundaries of the city of Yellowknife. The City of Yellowknife over the last eight months has had a number of public hearings at which any environmental concerns could be brought forward. The mayor, at a meeting of some six or eight days ago, indicated to both this government, DND and the Dene/Metis, that they had no concerns with regard to the environmental aspects.

There is one environmental aspect that is still under consideration, as I understand it, and that is the engine noise during the run-up for some 40 days a year, during the time

the F-18s are in the community.

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

Question O408-90(1): Devolution Of Programs To Communities

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question that I will direct to the Government Leader and the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. Our main concern now is the budget, which concerns the government and also the hamlet councils in the Territories. Have those two leaders looked into providing something for the councils? Perhaps they could get more funding from the department, for example, Social Services, DPW. Perhaps some of the projects in the communities can be looked after by the hamlet councils. The funding could be provided to hamlet councils by government departments. These are the main concerns for the regions of the Territories. I think there is a way the hamlets could take over some of those projects. Perhaps DPW could provide more funding and work closer with the councils in the communities on these projects. Perhaps the councils could be given the authority to do the projects in the communities

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Inuvik.

Return To Question O408-90(1): Devolution Of Programs To Communities

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, the Member has described a very active initiative of the Government of the NWT. It recently was called the prime public authority approach, but more recently it is identified as community self-government. Now the Government Leader has named two Ministers to work in consultation with the communities to identify the programs that could be devolved, myself for Inuvialuit and Inuit communities, and Mr. Kakfwi for Dene and Metis communities. In such an examination of administrative projects for devolution, obviously the Minister delivering the program is a key factor and key element, and that Minister, too, would be involved in these discussions at the community level. So I would assure the Member that the process that he has identified in his question is seriously considered and I expect we will see active movement during the life of this House, to see a number of programs devolved.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Member for Baffin Central.

Supplementary To Question O408-90(1): Devolution Of Programs To Communities

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I am not really pushing him to do that exactly. I just want him to keep this in mind. If you want to appoint someone to talk with the communities -- I am mostly concerned with social services. I think the hamlet councils should be more responsible in the communities for social services programs. The responsibility for social services should be more at the local level.

MR. SPEAKER: I will just remind Members that in putting a supplementary question, the preamble should be as short as possible. The honourable Member for Inuvik.

Further Return To Question O408-90(1): Devolution Of Programs To Communities

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I agree and I am sure the Government of the NWT agrees with the general statement made by the Member in the preamble to the second question.

I would indicate that there is a process to proceed, and if the community of Pangnirtung wishes to get involved in that process, then the individual who should be alerted to that process would be the regional director. The regional director acts as a liaison person in the process and works with the program department and the Minister responsible for Municipal and Community Affairs to identify the program and set up a timetable for such a devolution. That is, if the community is keen to go ahead on it once it learns the pros and cons regarding the program management responsibility.

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

Question O409-90(1): Cancelling Registered Traplines

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister responsible for Renewable Resources. On February 14th I asked the Minister if his department was able to remove registered traplines in the South Slave region that were registered without community consultation. Does legislation permit you to cancel a registered trapline?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Amittuq.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, I will have to get back to the Member with the answer.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member is taking the question as notice. The honourable Member for Natilikmiot.

Question O410-90(1): Income Considered When Setting Rental Scales

MR. NINGARK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. When you are setting up rental scales, do you consider family allowance income or old age pension and welfare payments?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Inuvik.

Return To Question O410-90(1): Income Considered When Setting Rental Scales

HON. TOM BUTTERS: That is the case, Mr. Speaker, yes.

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

Supplementary To Question O410-90(1): Income Considered When Setting Rental Scales

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a supplementary. I am asking why the rental scales are always increasing. It was not so bad when they were not so high but they are going up all the time and I am concerned about that.

MR. SPEAKER: I did not hear a question but I heard a statement. The honourable Member for Inuvik.

Further Return To Question O410-90(1): Income Considered When Setting Rental Scales

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned, it is not intended to get more money from the current occupants through the new scale. At the present time the Housing Corporation, with its partner, CMHC, is only receiving nine per cent of the operating costs which we are currently experiencing. To come back to the Member's comment, while we do include all of those items in the calculation of the rent

scale, there is a household expense deduction which all the households are able to take right off the top.

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

Question O411-90(1): Date That Amendment To Wildlife Act Will Be Tabled In House

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Renewable Resources. Mr. Minister, on Wednesday, February 28th in committee of the whole this Legislative Assembly passed a motion asking you to table in this House an amendment to the Wildlife Act to allow the Minister to recognize hunters and trappers associations or band councils or other organizations to serve as the department's contact for communities' normal hunting areas. Can you give me a date as to when you will table that in the House, Mr. Minister?

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

Return To Question O411-90(1): Date That Amendment To Wildlife Act Will Be Tabled In House

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, I have written to the chairman of the legislation and house planning committee requesting that the legislation be drafted. I believe the amendment to the Wildlife Act is in the process of being drafted. Therefore, I cannot give a date at the present time as to when we will be dealing with the amendment.

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

Question O412-90(1): Name Changes Of Various Communities

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister for Culture and Communications. Over the last few years we have seen changes of the names of places in the Territories, particularly Iqaluit, which used to be Frobisher Bay and Eskimo Point which is now Arviat. My question to the Minister is, are there any plans to change the names of any other places in the Northwest Territories?

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

Return To Question O412-90(1): Name Changes Of Various Communities

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, at the present time there is in the neighbourhood of about 6000 names being requested to be changed. These places are not necessarily community places but these are names of places that people have known and names of mountains and rivers.

My department, at the present time, is revising the policy which would make it easier for the people in the Northwest Territories to change names. We are requesting that policy to be changed so that in order to change a name it will be more streamlined and it will be more efficient.

At the present time the policy has not gone up to the Executive Council but there is in the neighbourhood of 6000 place names that people have requested to be changed so far. Thank you.

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

Member for Yellowknife Centre, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O412-90(1): Name Changes Of Various Communities

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister has answered all of my supplementary questions as well with the answer. I would like to ask him, since there are 6000 names, could he tell us, even though there is no policy in place yet, what the process will be? What policy or process will determine which ones will be changed first?

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

Further Return To Question O412-90(1): Name Changes Of Various Communities

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At the present time the process is complicated by the fact that there is a committee in Ottawa and the present policy states that we will have to go through this committee. What we would like to see happen is the easier place names that could be changed would be places where a community, the government and the people in the Northwest Territories in general would agree to a name. Those places would be a lot easier. There will be places where there will be complications, where there is a present name, usually an English name, those place names will take a lot longer. As far as I know, all of the place names that would be changed would go through the Executive Council. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O412-90(1): Name Changes Of Various Communities

MR. LEWIS: Would the Minister confirm that the places that will be easiest to change or the names that will be the easiest to change will be the names of places where people live, communities where people live, because there will be more discussion and more possibility of an agreement? Will he confirm that is what he just said?

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

Further Return To Question O412-90(1): Name Changes Of Various Communities

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The places where a name would be easier to put in place would be a place where there is no name at the present time. But generally when a community is going through a name change there is quite a bit of opposition, in our experience so far. When the communities want to change their names it would be helpful if the community could give support to the new name.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The time period has expired for oral questions.

Item 6, written questions. Written questions.

Item 7, returns to written questions.

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

Item 9, petitions. Petitions.

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

ITEM 11: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to table Tabled Document 53-90(1), a letter from Arctic Bay businessmen directed to me. Thank you.

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

ITEM 12: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 10-90(1): Appointment Of Members To The Special Committee On Constitutional Reform

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to give notice that I will move on March 28, 1990 the following motion: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Iqaluit, that the following Members be appointed to the special committee on constitutional reform: the Member for Yellowknife North, Mr. Ballantyne; the Member for Sahtu, Mr. Kakfwi; the Member for Yellowknife Centre, Mr. Lewis; the Member for Natilikmiot, Mr. Ningark; and the Member for Kitikmeot West, Mr. Pedersen; and further, that notwithstanding Rule 89(1) and (2) the following Members be appointed as alternate Members to the special committee on constitutional reform: the Member for Deh Cho, Mr. Gargan; and the Member for Pine Point, Mr. McLaughlin. I will be asking for unanimous consent to move this motion today. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Notices of motion. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

Notice Of Motion 11-90(1): Short-Sighted Action In Repulse Bay In 1940

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On Wednesday, March 28, 1990, I will move the following motion: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Natilikmiot, that this Legislative Assembly request of the Government of Canada an apology to the people of Repulse Bay for the short-sighted action taken in 1940. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Notices of motion. Notices of motion.

Item 13, notices of motion for first reading of bills. Notices of motion for first reading of bills. Item 14, motions. The honourable Member for High Arctic.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I am seeking unanimous consent to go ahead with my motion.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with the motion that he gave notice of today. Are there any nays? There are no nays. The honourable Member for High Arctic.

ITEM 14: MOTIONS

Motion 10-90(1): Appointment Of Members To The Special Committee On Constitutional Reform, Carried

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS the special committee on constitutional reform was established by Motion 9-90(1) on March

22, 1990;

AND WHEREAS Rule 89(2) establishes the membership of a special committee at five Members;

AND WHEREAS the striking committee of this Assembly are recommending that two alternate Members be appointed;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to name Members to the special committee;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Iqaluit, that the following Members be appointed to the special committee on constitutional reform: the Member for Yellowknife North, Mr. Ballantyne; the Member for Sahtu, Mr. Kakfw; the Member for Yellowknife Centre, Mr. Lewis; the Member for Natilikmiot, Mr. Ningark; and the Member for Kitikmeot West, Mr. Pedersen;

AND FURTHER, that notwithstanding Rules 89(1) and (2) that the following Members be appointed as alternate Members to the special committee on constitutional reform: the Member for Deh Cho, Mr. Gargan; and the Member for Pine Point, Mr. McLaughlin. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, those present know them all. I do not think I have to make a speech.

MR. SPEAKER: To the motion. The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the motion speaks for itself. I would simply observe, Mr. Speaker, that I believe it was also agreed in caucus that you, Mr. Speaker, and myself would be ex-officio Members of this committee in order to ensure that we are involved as necessary with the important work of this committee. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

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), SCON 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

NWT Housing Corporation

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The committee will come to order. Would the Minister like to bring his witnesses in at this time?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I might move to the witness table and at the same time bring in the president of the Housing Corporation, Mr. Jake Heron and the vice-president responsible for Finance, Mr. Jim Pratt.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Please proceed. Would the chairman of the finance committee have any comments at this time?

Comments From The Standing Committee On Finance

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, with regard to home-ownership, many NWT residents are unable to purchase a home and therefore they remain in the same NWT Housing Corporation unit for many years. Other jurisdictions have programs which allow people who have been in public housing for long periods of time, to eventually take ownership of the property they have occupied.

Recommendation 14: The standing committee on finance recommends that the NWT Housing Corporation investigate options for allowing long-term renters to take possession of the property after a certain period.

With regard to renovations, the NWT Housing Corporation regularly renovates various units. The committee has asked the Minister to address the issue of where the people whose unit is being renovated are expected to stay during the renovation period. This is particularly critical if renovations are to take place during the winter. And from the questions that Mr. Whitford was asking last week, Mr. Chairman, I would imagine there are other areas in that renovation issue that need to be addressed.

With reference to needs studies, the committee questioned the validity of the needs studies during previous reviews. This concern, Mr. Chairman, has not been adequately addressed.

Recommendation 15: The standing committee on finance recommends that the NWT Housing Corporation review the needs study process, looking in particular for systemic barriers which affect the ability of communities to provide information which would be consistent with information from other communities.

With regard to Fort Smith, Mr. Chairman, I think last year we were informed there was a million dollars worth of housing owned by the government on the ground in Fort Smith. We know that the government owns many houses in Fort Smith which are currently empty, at least at the time of this review.

Recommendation 16: The standing committee on finance

recommends that the NWT Housing Corporation consult with the Department of Personnel regarding empty GNWT housing in the town of Fort Smith. This is before spending additional funds on new units in Fort Smith. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be very brief. This is concerning the Housing Corporation. The people in the communities who are trying to get HAP houses are running into problems with the process. I am wondering why the GNWT employees are getting more HAP houses than the people who are not working for the GNWT? This has been a concern to me from the beginning. Also the person who sits beside me had applied in the past and he was denied. Why do you deny the people who apply for HAP houses? It seems like you are approving the applications from people who do not have enough wages. This is not right. Why are you doing this this way? It looks bad. If they are important people then you approve their applications and then the sons and daughters get HAP houses. Is this a fact? This is especially in my area.

The persons on my left and right tried to get HAP houses and they were denied. These people have jobs. Why are you using this process of approving applications? Is it because they have been employees of the Housing Corporation for a long time that you approve their application?

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: While admitting that there are problems with the home-ownership assistance program, I would also indicate that it is probably the most realistic and popular program we deliver. A number of the charges raised by the Member disturb me. I guess one of the problems we will always have with the allocation of HAP houses or home-ownership houses, is that at the present time we just do not have enough units to go around. There are more applications than we can fill.

I find it difficult to understand that the Member is not aware that the community itself, in accordance with the direction given us by the special committee on housing which indicated that decisions such as the type identified by the Member, should be made at the community level. That is exactly the way the HAP allocation process currently should be working. That is the way it is supposed to work. The one element which the Housing Corporation officials would pursue and advise the local allocation committee on, is the income of each application. Obviously there is an upper limit for how much applicants can earn and if they are over that level, over that core need income threshold, then they are judged, by the allocation committee and the corporation, to be able to move into some type of affordable housing of their own. But we certainly do not favour employees of this government. As I say, the decision is made on the basis of recommendations received from the communities themselves and the special committees that are established to carry out the examination of the applicants and recommend regarding allocations.

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

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Some of the answers are okay. I understand. People who are applying for the HAP houses, even when they supply some in the communities, they just sit around in the community for some time before somebody touches them. They do the framing and leave them for about a year before they start to build them inside. Even though these problems exist, some of the people apply but do not get HAP houses, people who would have built them if they had the approval.

There are many housing shortages in the communities. The people who apply for HAP houses should be told to build the houses as soon as possible.

HAP houses are not the only problems; there are also problems concerning rental houses in the communities. Maybe you could tell your employees who are approving HAP housing to build the houses right away as soon as they arrive in the communities, especially people on Baffin Island. Some of the communities build them right away. Some finish quickly, but some of them work on them for more than a year. Maybe you could push for this so the HAP houses could be built faster in the communities. Thank you.

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

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Also will there be rental increases in the communities? Did you say they would increase 75 per cent for the rental scales for housing in the North?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Before I respond directly to the Member I would like to comment on the suggestion made with regard to HAP applicants who do not build on receipt of their material. Again, the allocation committee attempts to select people who have the capability and the energy to get right at the construction process and get their HAP house up. The contract that we make with the successful applicant is that it should be up and ready for occupancy during a two-year period. In fact, we have suggested that it is possible, in the very high Arctic where the shipping seasons are such, that it might even be a three year contract.

Our experience has been that generally above the tree line and in the Inuit and Inuvialuit communities, completion rates have been very, very good. We have had some problems below the tree line but I think now that we are watching our selection process, we can ensure that the applicants that are chosen and referred are able to get the units up and erected within the time frame that is contained in the contract. But I agree with Mr. Arlooktoo that it remains a problem.

To come back to the matter of the new rent scale. I indicated that in responding to him in the formal session, that I do not believe there are any surprises in the rent scale that I tabled some five weeks ago. The concept is that it would be revenue neutral; that is, we are not going to be receiving any more money to speak of as a result of the new proposed rent scale. However, we would agree that a small percentage of current tenants in public housing, say some 20 to 25 per cent, would be required to pay more than they are paying now under the proposed scale, while some 75 per cent, at the lower income scale, should see and could see the current rent assessments that have been made against their unit, reduced. So the amount of money we will be getting through the year will still be only about nine per cent of the operating costs of the units, but some people will experience a decrease -- the majority, and a minority will experience an increase.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Arlooktoo.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have to make this very clear. There are a lot of applicants for HAP houses. There are three different kinds of rentals. There are different kinds of HAP houses that could be applied for by the local people. Anybody who is paying economic rent for the northern rental house, after a long period of time if a tenant wants to buy the house, will there be a discount for purchasing the house?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, that option described by the Member is possible, but I will ask the president, who has discussed this with CMHC officials, just what cost that option would be to the occupant of the dwelling.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Heron.

MR. HERON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The program we presently have, where it is possible to buy existing government-owned facilities, is called NWT rental-purchase program, which is primarily those units that were built prior to 1975. That program has been in place for some time.

In the more recent discussions members have been inquiring about the possibility of making public housing available to tenants. Depending upon the nature of the house, for example the financing related to it, it is quite conceivable that where we have outstanding mortgages that are of a 50 year duration, even though you may have lived in it for 20 years, it is quite likely that the amount of money still outstanding on the mortgage would be nearly the same amount as when we started to borrow it. So you would be required, in that case, to pay out the total mortgage.

The more recent program where we provide capital funding shared with CMHC and ourselves for rental housing, of course is capital provided between both parties and again we would require the concurrence or the agreement of CMHC to dispose of it, particularly in those instances where CMHC provide 75 cents out of every dollar toward the construction, operations and maintenance of public housing rental units.

Our discussions at this point in time of course have hinged around the fact that when we provide social housing it really is intended for a group of people who financially are requiring some form of subsidy and assistance from the government. Given the amount of shortages that we presently have in public housing, I think we have found, in our preliminary discussions at this point in time, that it does not make any good sense to CMHC to dispose of public housing units before our total needs in the North are addressed. Thank you.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to make some comments specifically on the shortage of houses in the North. I am sure the Minister knows where I am going to go on this, precisely. Since the creation of the NWT Housing Corporation in, I believe, 1974 there have been many good programs instituted and I want to say from the start here that I think that housing has improved immensely. It has become far better and generally people who live in those houses are fairly satisfied with them. There may be some unhappiness with rental scales, et cetera, but I think we can all recognize that quality of housing has come a long way; that is, for those who have housing.

The one mandate that the Housing Corporation was given when it was created that has never been met, not even one year that I can remember, is an adequate number of houses being provided. By the Minister's own figures, I think he said something about 3000 houses we would need in order to provide enough housing for everyone and we are, in fact, constructing this year 400 new housing units but 100 of them are replacement. So we actually end up with only 300 additional new housing units for this year.

It takes no magical ability with a computer or anything to compare the birth rate in the Northwest Territories with the number of houses being constructed in one year and we know that not only are we not catching up, every year that

passes we are getting further and further behind in meeting the prime objective, which is to provide adequate housing for the population of the Northwest Territories. Not adequate housing for a portion of the population but for the population. I am convinced, Mr. Chairman, that the capital allocation process that we have used over these many years does not work. It has not worked to construct an adequate number of houses and it will not work in the future. Obviously if we look at the difference between what we are constructing of additional new units, 300, and what is needed and then if we then multiply by 10 to catch up we can see that we will never ever have that kind of capital funding.

Lease-Back Arrangements With Private Enterprise To Provide More Housing

Quite some time ago, several years to be precise, through the Government Leader's office, I wrote a letter with a suggestion that we should change the method of supplying the public housing units in the communities in order to catch up. The suggestion that I made was that we should go to providing public housing units through a lease-back from private enterprise as we now do it with staff housing in many communities and which, in fact, we do in what appears to be selected communities throughout the Northwest Territories. During the year advertisements can be found in the newspapers. The one I happened to keep, for no particular reason, and this one was from November 6, is an invitation for proposal from the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation to lease six one-bedroom units in Inuvik. It tells you what they should be supplied with and that they must be in good condition and ready for occupancy December 1, 1989 to November 30, 1990. Then it says that the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation will be responsible for the payment of rent and electrical power and that the apartments will be rented as social housing units under the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation, under a rent supplement assistance program.

I have seen similar ads for communities, such as Fort Smith. I know it is certainly done in Yellowknife, where it came to the public's attention when the public housing development was closed down due to the Fire Marshal's orders and we found out that was, in fact, owned by a developer in Edmonton and leased to the Housing Corporation and turned over to the housing authority for allocation as public housing units.

I would like to ask the Minister, as my first question to him, why are we not using this method in the communities so that we can alleviate the urgent need for the numbers of houses?

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I expect that the Member is aware that the rent supplement approach which he indicated is used in the market communities. Currently I am not quite sure how many houses fall into that category but it is an option which the corporation will pursue when it is practical and economical.

I was just inquiring, Mr. Chairman, whether or not there have been any developers interested enough in making a proposal to the corporation from what you might call the non-market communities. There are a couple of factors when such a proposal would be considered. One is that in our communities we find that the major proportion of the houses being requested are home-ownership assistance program houses. In fact, we use the mix that of the 300 houses being built there are about 170 home-ownership to 130, so the lease versus building would affect the 130.

I think the Member also realizes that were we to enter into a massive program of lease-back arrangements, we would not

only be responsible for paying off the developer's capital costs over the years but his mortgage costs plus his interest, plus his investment return on his money. Over a 20 year period you would find that the cost which you would pay out would be considerable.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Let us take 15 minutes for coffee.

---SHORT RECESS

The committee will now come back to order. General comments. Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The committee or subcommittee, I am not sure, it is getting to be a mini-committee, but I will make my comments anyhow. Referring to the reply that the Minister just gave me, I know it is true, but I do not think it is relevant. I still think that if it makes sense to do it in a market community, then it would make equal sense to do it in other communities. I think it is a matter of whether we wish to meet the objective of providing an adequate number of houses for the population of the NWT, or whether we do not want to meet that objective. We can carry on the way we have been going, and we will never meet the objective. To say that we would only be -- and I do not think it is 170/130, I think it is 160/140 between HAP and public housing, according to the figures in the budget book I have. That is not a true figure because that is a figure that the housing associations have given you, Mr. Minister, based on the global allocation you have told them they can have. If you tell them that a community can have eight houses, they make a choice between how many HAP they want and how many public housing units, and normally they put in the number of HAP units they feel they have clients for and make the rest up in public housing units. Undoubtedly, if you came in and said to a community, instead of getting, say, eight houses, four and four, we are going to meet your housing needs in this community over the next three years or whatever, you may make it go from four to six HAP units, but you would sure as heck go from four to 40 public housing units.

I also appreciate what the Minister says, that we will eventually be paying for these houses anyhow, and of course we will. We do in the communities where we now provide this program of lease-back from private enterprise. We do that on staff housing and yet we choose to do it because we have immediate needs. As an example of an immediate need, I could mention a few years ago during an experiment of decentralization, there was a need for 22 staff housing units in my home community of Coppermine. We went out to proposals, I think in the month of May, fairly late, and materials arrived on the barge and we had 22 new staff housing units before Christmas, we had the keys turned over to us. They were excellent units. The costs are what the costs should be in a community such as Coppermine, but as the Minister says, certainly we will be paying for it over 20 years or whatever the lease is, but we also pay for the public housing units. We do now in our present capital allocation process. We pay CMHC mortgage. I think we have a longer period than 20 years on it, but we pay for those as well.

Private Developers Could Deliver More Houses

I think the critical part that I keep coming back to is that we are not meeting that fundamental objective, the goal of the whole purpose of the Housing Corporation to provide an adequate number of houses. I think there may be some drawbacks to doing it through private enterprise lease-back. It may in the long run cost a slight bit more, but I think that if we took our capital allocation for public housing and converted that into annual payments on leases we would get

a heck of a lot more houses than we are now getting. It would reduce the capital requirements over a long period of time, it would surely reduce the contributions that we make to housing associations because we could build the maintenance requirements into the proposal with the developer, and it would greatly encourage the establishment of local businesses in maintenance and also in construction. It would be a tremendous boost to local businesses, be they development corporations or whatever type of company, to go into the development business.

I really urge the Minister to take a very serious look at this. We cannot continue providing 300 additional new housing units per year in the NWT when, in fact, if we are 3000 behind this year, next year we will probably be 3200 behind. The birth rate is in excess of the number of new housing units we do provide. I would urge the Minister to look at this. I have tried to get together with the Minister to discuss this proposal, but we have not been able to do so. I am not attaching any blame for that. I hope we still can.

I would like, though, if the Minister could provide to this committee -- and he probably will not be able to do it now -- before we pass the appropriation bill, a list of those communities where the public housing needs are provided through the lease-back from the private enterprise option and the number of units provided in these communities. Thank you.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: To the Member's question, yes. I do not know if Mr. Heron may have them with him, but while I am speaking it is possible that either Mr. Heron or Mr. Pratt can come up with those particular numbers. I take seriously the concern expressed by the Member and I am just as desirous as he is of finding some magical formula for increasing the number of houses we can deliver in any one year on an ongoing basis. I do agree that I had offered the Member an opportunity to sit with Mr. Heron, Mr. Pratt, senior officials of the corporation and myself to look at this particular issue, along with CMHC members, and to see whether we could come up with a proposal or a method to increase delivery. That offer is still open, and I regret that I was absent from Yellowknife when he was interested in sitting down to discuss it. I know his interest is continuous, and we will have an opportunity in the near future to look at the process for the next fiscal year.

One of the limiting factors, too, for the corporation -- because we no longer are borrowing money at the going interest rate -- that currently has some effect and influence on our decisions, is the Global Agreement on Social Housing which was signed in 1986 whereby the federal government has identified the provision of assistance to some 420 units constructed in the NWT. We have not been able to achieve that amount yet, but that still remains an upper limit to the number of units which the federal government would cooperate with us on a partnership and joint venture basis.

Mr. Heron would appear to have identified the rent supplement numbers. In answer to the specific question regarding the number of rent supplement units currently funded, we fund 25 per cent and CMHC funds 75 per cent. They, too, are partners in this process. In the community of Yellowknife there are 58 units with a total of 58 in the Yellowknife district. In Hay River there are four units, in Fort Smith there are five units, with a total of nine units in the Hay River district. In Inuvik there are 42 units funded with 42 units in the district. I suspect that would be Inuvik itself. In Iqaluit there are eight rent supplement units, and again those are eight units in the Baffin Region, for a total of 117 units. There are an additional 12 units of a similar type of funding

arrangement, six at Rankin Inlet and again an additional 20 in Yellowknife.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Pedersen.

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know I am really requesting details, but it would be helpful, and again it does not have to come right now it could come later, if the Minister could provide me with the annual lease costs -- in Yellowknife it would seem that we have 78, 58 and 20 -- the number of units in Yellowknife and the total annual cost so we can have something to compare it to, please.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Pedersen. Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, we will provide that, Mr. Chairman, and I will also ensure that the figures I read into the record are provided to the Member. I guess I did make an error on the one for Yellowknife. It was 20, but 14 were removed when Lanky Court was closed.

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

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not envy the Minister of Housing in trying to please everyone, especially in this time of budget restraint. Like my honourable colleague for Kitikmeot West, I have a concern about the shortage of housing. To me, living in an overcrowded environment can be very stressful at times. I think medically speaking, I am not a medical person, but I think this sometimes is, if not a primary, maybe a secondary source of physical or mental instability in individuals living in overcrowded homes.

Some time ago I mentioned about the students trying to do their homework in overcrowded homes with no place to do their homework, not even in the bedroom. When I speak about the overcrowded homes, I am speaking of a three or four-bedroom home with two family groups, at times each family with five or six people. This is what I call an overcrowded home. I know during this time of the year, it is very hard to get housing for each of the communities in the Territories when the demand is high, maybe higher than usual. We should look at the consequences at the community level, and I would like to urge the Minister and all Members of the Assembly to support the NWT Housing Corporation any way we can.

I appreciate the fact that we are able to get modern shelters in our communities, but I think we should be looking at some of the consequences that people have to suffer when they are living in overcrowded homes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I thank the Member for his comments, and I agree that the condition that he so aptly describes exists, not only in his constituency but throughout and across the North. In fact, I did make the suggestion in a number of communities I visited that possibly if housing were the number one capital priority and some of the other capital priorities that have been pursued by the community could be put back, they could spend more money on housing. I agree with the Member that the house is much more than a home. It is a centre for learning, it is a centre for study, it is a centre for recreation and family unity. It really is the most important building block in our communities. I would hope that some day the prime and the uppermost priority in our annual capital building process would be the development of more and more housing.

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

Inuit Non-Profit Housing Corporation

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Firstly, I was somewhat encouraged by the Minister's opening remarks last Friday, March 23, 1990. I do not plan to make a long speech, although I have a few questions to ask of the Minister. I was very much touched by some of the statements that were made by my honourable friend, Mr. Joe Arlooktoo, when he was referring to the allocation of HAP houses to different individuals in his riding. I have been approached, as the Minister knows, by one or two individuals especially with regard to the amount of money these individuals make per year, which became controversial, and the Minister knows what I am talking about so I am not really going to get into any of the details. However, I wish to indicate to the Minister that I would hope that within a short period of time the policies regarding allocation of houses to people in the communities will improve so that we could begin to see improvements, and benefit those individuals who need to benefit from such a program which I have supported from the beginning and I still support to this day, in terms of home-ownership programs at the community level.

I do have a question to the Minister, Mr. Chairperson. What is the present involvement, if any, of the Inuit Non-Profit Housing Corporation with the Housing Corporation of the Northwest Territories?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, just to respond very briefly to the Member's opening comments on the problems in assessing worthy applicants for the home-ownership assistance program. As Mr. Arlooktoo pointed out at the outset of our discussion it has given us a number of difficulties and we have been approached by a number of individuals who felt that some of the applicants recommended and awarded such assistance were not entitled to that assistance. In each case that this type of concern has been raised with myself or the president, there has been a discreet examination of the particular case that was brought to our attention. It is not something that one can issue a press release on but I would advise the Members that we do look into these concerns and we do have access to incomes and we do determine that the information being provided to, not only the Housing Corporation but other officials, is accurate and within the guidelines set by the HAP allocation process.

In so saying I must admit that both the president and I have had moments of reappraisal when we wonder whether it might be better to take back to the Housing Corporation this allocation process from the community where it now rests. I say this because we have received criticism, and concerns are raised whether we have a direct involvement in the process or not, so the president and I are still actively examining whether we should not look at taking this responsibility back to the corporation solely and making the decisions and the allocations based on the information that comes to our attention.

To answer the Member's specific question. The involvement currently is a contribution to the Inuit Non-Profit Housing Corporation of a quarter of a million dollars annually.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. With regard to this issue of establishment of what we used to call, when I

was with the Inuit Non-Profit Housing Corporation, this issue of Inuit architectural training programs that we used to request of the Government of the Northwest Territories as well as CMHC. I wonder where that stands now, Mr. Chairperson?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, it would appear and I have had to check with the corporation officials, it would appear that the training program currently is not an active program of either the department or the Inuit Non-Profit Housing Corporation. I believe that the contribution in terms of expertise now just relates to the inventory that the program has built up, but not in the development of new units or other buildings that the association may wish to look at developing.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My other question is with regard to the foundation options which appear in this home-ownership assistance program catalogue which was handed out to us just a little while ago. Here it states, when it comes to basements, and I quote: "Basements are only suited to southern NWT communities where the ground is not permanently frozen. In order to build a basement for your home you must first excavate the ground, construct the basement of either concrete or preserved wood and then build your house over the basement. Basements take more time to build than other foundation types and are more costly to construct." What about building a cement basement right on the solid rock?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The basement option, I believe, was introduced two or three years ago by a previous Minister of the Housing Corporation. However, I do believe at that time the Minister and the corporation agreed that the basement option would only be considered where the ground conditions encouraged it. Not too many communities, I believe, in the Northwest Territories enjoy ground conditions which lend themselves to the creation of a basement. The Member, himself, has indicated that a number of communities in his constituency have a rock outcrop and that we should be looking at some type of a concrete foundation. In those areas we have used steel piles and there have been reports of piles not being as serviceable as they could be.

When we were recently in Mr. Morin's constituency in Snowdrift, we examined the footings for a demonstration project there and the Member for Tu Nede indicated that the cost of creating a foundation with the wedges and locks and screw jacks was quite considerable and again suggested we look at the possibilities of concrete.

So I think that the major element in any decision would be the type of soil or outcrop or ground upon which the house is planned to be built. Obviously the quotation that the Member read out does not have general significance throughout and across the Territories.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The reason I asked about a cement foundation sitting on a solid rock is because I have been to Greenland. I am not sure if the Minister has; maybe he has. But many of the buildings in Greenland have cement foundations sitting on the solid rock. Unless I am totally wrong in terms of what I believe is right, but I believe that Greenland gets just as cold, in many parts, as we do here in Canada. So that is why I make the suggestion that the Minister take a look at building a concrete

foundation on solid rock.

I am aware of two private homes in Rankin Inlet which are built directly on the ground, the tundra. They have been up for several years now and I have not heard of any major problems with having a basement or foundation sitting on tundra like Rankin Inlet has.

Is the Housing Corporation still involved with the building of senior citizens homes in the North?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I believe the involvement relates to the provision of architectural services and advice and design to the community. I believe that the corporation has been very instrumental in providing such services to the community of Arviat.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. The Housing Corporation is involved in conjunction with Social Services, is that correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you. I guess the Department of Social Services identifies a need and the Housing Corporation constructs?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): General comments. Mr. Ernerk.

Importance Of Energy Conservation

MR. ERNERK: Thank you. In terms of saving energy which is very important, I recognize as well that many of the houses that are built nowadays are much better than those that were first built in the early 1960s and 1970s. Energy conservation today seems to be more important than ever because the cost of fuel is so high. We are getting into triple pane windows and things like that. I think that is very good on the part of the Housing Corporation.

In the winter I wonder what arrangements are made with regard to building blocks around the houses in the communities. I have seen in some communities where people put blocks of snow around their houses in order to keep the house warmer, especially the communities above the tree line. Is there a program like this within the Housing Corporation?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the suggestion of the Member is one that I heartily endorse. In fact when I visited Rankin Inlet the previous winter, I was very impressed with the Member's own house, in that not only was it snow blocked, but the doorways were protected by an igloo type structure made of snow. In fact I was so impressed that I asked the regional director there to obtain photographs of the process and circulate them into other communities to ask whether we could see this type of program put in place in other communities, especially in the Arctic. I was willing to look at some type of incentive, through a financial record of costs over the past three or four years, to allow the housing

authorities a portion of the savings that would accrue as a result of that approach, if it were done on a total community basis. Unfortunately I have not been too successful in putting that idea in place in the communities, but I certainly have not given up on doing that.

As a footnote, just a week ago the corporation received a letter from the Aklavik Housing Authority which stressed the same concern that the Member has raised with regard to conservation of energy. The letter indicated that when we bill rental homes occupied by tenants, they know exactly the full cost of electrical power for operating that house. But the Aklavik Housing Authority said that tenants do not know the degree of subsidy that this government pays for fuel oil. They do not know the degree of subsidy that this government pays for water and sewer. There was a recommendation that in the sense of reducing our operating costs, that we should be providing more of this information.

It is interesting to note that in a controlled situation such as Inuvik where you have public housing and home-ownership housing, where you have HAP houses, the owners' of those houses energy costs are about two-thirds of what the occupants burn up in public housing. So there is a real need to develop incentives and to encourage people to save our precious energy. We are not doing it at the present time, but if there is some way that we could move toward achieving that objective, then I would do it and I welcome the Member's suggestion.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I thank the Minister for that positive answer. I do believe that we should use this people power as much as possible. In other words, I think more individuals should be putting blocks around their houses, making porches on their houses, especially in places like Rankin Inlet or places above the tree line. There are those individuals or families who cannot do these kinds of things for themselves, basically because they are older people. So I think we should try to help them out as much as we can, and at the same time helping ourselves to save energy, save dollars.

Especially this year I have noticed there has been much more extreme cold temperatures in the communities and we are not used to them. If I remember correctly, up until last year the normal temperature in the winter was -30 or -35 degrees Celsius. Last month temperatures went down to -45 degrees. The weather system is changing very quickly. It is unusual, but that is mother nature.

What about working this out with other departments who are responsible for the delivery of a STEP program, providing help to the older occupants of the northern rental houses, in terms of building snow blocks around their houses and snow porches? I think it is a good idea.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would welcome the Member's recommendations. It has given me confidence to start this program again. I think now is the time to start it because ideally if you are going to develop such an incentive program, we should begin at the beginning of the winter and not halfway through it. So the Member's suggestion about looking at the provision of snow blocks for individuals who are not able to snow block their houses, I will certainly look at that and I will again look at the possibilities of getting this program going for the winter of 1990 and 1991.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I know that the Minister, the president and a number of his senior staff came to Coral Harbour a few months back to work out an agreement with the whole hamlet of Coral Harbour to construct, I believe, two duplexes in which the local people will do all the work themselves. I am wondering how that program is going?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the report I have is that Mr. Solowy, the vice-president of construction and development, has visited the community and discussed with them and I believe the honourable Member was able to travel to and attend the meetings convened in Coral Harbour. I believe that a second meeting was held in February and that there has been an expression of interest by a number of parties in becoming involved in the demonstration project, which would be to erect the required public housing there. I am not sure whether the arrangement has been finalized yet.

Obviously a key and critical factor in these programs is the community itself. We did carry projects out at Fort McPherson and Snowdrift and without community support and interest, the success that we did realize, I am sure, could never have been achieved. So I would say that the hamlet is studying the various proposals and will be recommending to us the method of approach which it thinks will be the most productive and effective. That proposal from the hamlet has not been received yet, but it is expected momentarily and we believe that it will be in hand soon and we will be able to get started on the demonstration project at Coral Harbour with the advent of the good weather in April and May.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I thank the Minister for that answer. He knows, and the corporation knows, that I fully support this program because I think it is very good for the people at the community level. There are more employment opportunities provided to the local people with regard to the construction of those demonstration houses.

I would like to thank the Minister for his answers and I would like to thank the Minister for having been to my constituency during the latter part of 1989. Come back. People are always happy to receive you and your officials.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Just on that point. It is my hope and expectation that I will be back in his constituency again on about April 20th, accompanied by the federal Minister of Housing, Mr. Redway. I believe that Mr. Ernerk will be in the community and I look forward to having an opportunity to take the Minister around and point out some of the housing problems we are experiencing there. We will be travelling to Baker Lake where we will be opening the senior citizens residence that was constructed some two years ago.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): General comments. Mr. Pollard.

Arm's Length Relationship With President Of Housing Corporation Questioned

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I listened with interest when the Minister said that the board had recommended that the president take over the chairmanship of the board. I think the Minister said that he wanted to make sure that it was at arm's length and therefore he was not able to chair the board. So I would ask the Minister, first of all, who hires Mr. Heron? Does he have the rank or status of deputy minister? If he does have the rank or

status of deputy minister then is he appointed by the Government Leader? Perhaps the Minister could answer those questions first. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, briefly the status of the president is the equivalent, I believe, to a deputy minister's rank and responsibility. The appointment is certainly formalized or finalized by the Government Leader. I believe it is the practice, although it may not happen on all occasions, but I believe it is the practice for the board to be consulted in such appointments and have some input as required.

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

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Then I would fail to see, with Mr. Heron as the president, sitting as the board chairman, the arm's length relationship, Mr. Chairman, and I would encourage the Minister to reconsider the situation. I respect the fact that the board unanimously suggested that this is the way they would like to go, but I would still question the arm's length nature of the board if a deputy minister, president of the corporation appointed by the Executive Council -- I would question whether that is arm's length if that person sits as the chairman of the board. Although I am making a comment, before I turn to another subject perhaps the Minister would like to comment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the NWT Housing Corporation Act was developed, in fact, as a result of a task force on housing that I chaired back in 1973. At that time we established a body in law that was quite removed, quite arm's length, from the government because the government was all appointed bureaucrats. Since that time obviously the government has become elected people, not appointees, and has become more and more responsible for the day-to-day administration and carrying out of programs.

The board's role in the interim has seemed to have changed and the board has, in my understanding, recently had difficulties in determining what its role is vis-a-vis the Minister and its role vis-a-vis the president. In fact, some two years ago a motion was put and approved by the board to have the then chairman, Gary Jaeb, look into the matter and report back to the board. Mr. Jaeb did this and he did this with the assistance of the president, Mr. Heron. They travelled to a number of provincial jurisdictions and examined just how the housing corporations or bodies operated in the various jurisdictions. The report that Mr. Jaeb provided to the board members -- I was not there when he made the presentation -- was that the role of the board should be more and more in the area of policy and that the chairman of the board be the president so that it would have a pretty direct input into the policy that is being developed.

I respect that particular approach if that is the way the board wishes to go. If that is the case, then when the board makes recommendations and makes policy decisions and determinations, I think that unless the Minister has very good grounds for not doing so, he or she should be extremely careful to work co-operatively with the board and put in place policies that the board approves and has recommended.

So I guess I am saying that this is what the board recommended and I do not feel that I wish to second guess them either individually or collectively at this time. I think that we should see how this works out and if it does not meet their expectations then we can look at doing something else.

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

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess, Mr. Chairman, the Minister hit it right on the head. The board sets the policy, sir, and then the president and chief executive officer and all of the people who are management people in the corporation go away and execute that policy. What I am saying is that if you are formulating the policy it would be exactly the same as if we who are sitting around in this room, formulated policy and then went out and executed the policy as well. I think that if we start to combine the two things, we will get into a problem. I have nothing against Mr. Heron; I am just talking about the position. I would much rather see it at arm's length from the government, that there be an independent chairperson, exactly the same as we have with the Worker's Compensation Board. I fail to see why we have different policies throughout the Territories on how we make certain boards work. I am not going to debate it with the Minister but I would question that decision by the board and I would want to know that the board is absolutely sure of what it is doing.

Moving to another subject. I asked this question, I think, in the House, Mr. Chairman. I am informed that in Alberta and in Quebec when there are tenders for their particular brands of housing corporations that they have, their agencies responsible for housing, and these people are funded by CMHC as well, that these people have a selected list of people to whom they send tenders within their particular province, whether it is Alberta or Quebec. Apparently they do not go outside of the boundaries of their province to tender work in the supply end of this particular venture. So I wonder if the Minister has done any research on that and if he has, could he tell us what he has found out, Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I believe I indicated to the Member that I would do research and as a result of the question I had a telephone canvass conducted of all of the provincial and territorial housing corporations to ascertain the rules and guidelines under which each operates with respect to tendering for supply of goods and services. In saying that, the Member knows that the response of the federal government to the Territories was that where CMHC is involved the lowest tender must be accepted.

What we found as a result of the canvass, was that most provinces and territories maintained lists of qualified vendors. They advertise only within their own provincial/territorial boundaries and they provide preference with respect to Canadian content and even, in some cases, provide preference for companies located within their own province, but only for projects wholly funded either provincially or territorially. However, without exception, all representatives agreed that in circumstances where CMHC funds were involved, no preference is applicable.

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

MR. POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, there is no need for preference if you do not send a tender to anybody outside your provincial boundaries. Can the Minister ascertain for me if, in fact, when they are using CMHC funds, do they allow bidders from outside the provincial boundaries? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, they do, Mr. Chairman.

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

Criteria Used In Assigning HAP Units

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Some of my questions were touched on a bit already by some of the other Members. I was looking at the HAP catalogue that was sent around, and I see in there you have a list of six eligibilities. I know you get more applications a lot of times than you do have units available. What criteria do you use for weeding down the list to the number of HAP units you actually have when there are more qualified applicants according to these eligibilities than available units? What do you use as criteria in assessing who actually gets them?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I think there is the criterion that they are within the core need, but probably the major element of decision relates to the ability of the applicant to erect the house and put it in place within the contract period. The type of situation that Mr. Arlooktoo described, where HAP units are left unfinished for an extended period of time, is certainly something that we wish to get away from. This is why the president and I have wrestled with the matter that where the major recommendations for HAP units would occur would be the community, because of the special knowledge that one's neighbours or one's fellow townsmen would have about one's ability to accept the contract requirements and responsibilities to put the house up and occupy it in the time identified.

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

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Just one question on the five year residency rule. Is that applied in all cases? Are there exceptions made? Going to the other extreme, is there also the ability for communities to put residency requirements above and beyond that? In other words, you have to be a five year resident of the NWT, but can local associations make additional rules for residency requirements in a particular community?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the current elements of the program and the criteria of the program as it currently exists were developed jointly with the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. The guidelines that are provided to the communities are those guidelines that have been agreed upon between the two funding partners. Admittedly, the matter of residency has been brought to the attention of the corporation by its board of directors and others, and we have indicated to our funding partner that possibly we should look at extending the residency period to ensure that there are fewer opportunities for a windfall profit to be made by somebody who comes in, lives for a very brief time in the Territories, turns the dwelling over and disappears.

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

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Are you talking about extending the residency you would have to have before you could apply, or are you talking about extending the time period a person would have to occupy the house for before he could sell it?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The residency requirement is five years. The length of time of occupancy before you can resell an unit and not have the Housing Corporation involved in the deal is five years as well.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Which of those two are you suggesting you extend, or both of them?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The period of occupancy is the one that is being looked at for extension. The residency criteria would remain at five years.

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

MR. McLAUGHLIN: One part of my question that the Minister did not answer is, is it possible for communities to put additional rules in place? In other words you have to be a resident of the Territories for five years, but can individual communities or local authorities put a rule in place that you have to reside in that community for a certain length of time as well?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Not really. To change the criteria for the program would require CMHC approval, and the communities do not have that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. McLaughlin.

MR. McLAUGHLIN: A final question. What do you have in place, or do you have anything in place, so the person who maybe has their HAP application turned down annually for several years can appeal? Is there anyone they can appeal to beyond the local housing authority?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the role of the allocation committee is the one admittedly of examination and recommendation. It should not propose and dispose at the same time. However, the recommendation would go to the district manager, and I would expect that concerns relative to those recommendations would and could be put to that individual. Also, I believe that the president has had appeals put to him regarding the recommended allocations, and I have also had similar expressions of concern.

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

Housing Problems Above The Tree Line

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the Minister for visiting my constituency. People were appreciative that he was up there to visit after he became the Minister of the NWT Housing Corporation. The communities above the tree line have always had problems or concerns about the lack of adequate housing. It seems like the problem of housing will always be a concern to the people, especially after the houses have been built by the government — there is always a lack of housing in the communities and there are also a lot of people who would like to have their own houses through the HAP program. I know that the problem of inadequate housing will not be solved overnight; it is going to have to be worked at for a long time in order to catch up. For instance, if 10 residents would like to get housing, there is only one that is allocated, and if there are 20 people that need housing they would allocate them two houses in the community. For that reason it takes a long time for individuals to get houses in the communities.

To summarize it, Mr. Chairman, there was a special committee on housing several years back and that special committee visited the communities in the NWT. There was a recommendation made by the special committee on housing

that the communities would have the authority or be able to decide in their own community in regard to providing housing. It seems that the secretary-manager is the one with the authority to make decisions -- the decision that was supposed to be given to the communities when they had this special committee on housing. The recommendation was made but it was never followed. It just seems like the secretary-manager of housing is the person with the authority but the housing authority members are the ones that have to approve the decision of the secretary-manager of housing associations. Even if they want to make another decision they cannot do that. This is not so in all of the communities but this is so in some communities, that the secretary-manager of each housing authority seems to be the person that is running the whole show. That is the problem that I have encountered in the past.

Some houses are very old and have to be retrofitted. The problem that we have is say, for instance, an individual's house has to be retrofitted and the people that occupy the house have to get out while their house is being maintained and they do not have any place to go. They have to go into another person's house, another family's house, while their house is being renovated. That is one of the problems that we encounter. All of the furniture in that house that is being maintained has to be taken outside the house and they do not have any place to put the furniture. The people have to go and live with another family while their house is being maintained. It takes quite a while to do maintenance on a house. In my constituency it takes a while to do the maintenance or retrofit of a house. A person will have to live in a tent in the fall and it is pretty cold to live in that tent, especially when it runs into the fall.

Another concern is mostly a question that I have. There are some people in the wage economy that own their own houses through the HAP program. They have to pay for water services, heating, garbage and other services. For instance, when a person reaches the age of 65 and no longer works, the old age pension he or she receives is not enough to pay for the operation of their HAP housing. If that individual that is collecting the old age pension now would like to stay in his HAP house but does not have enough money to maintain his house for services and the rent and so on, would they be able to be provided with some kind of assistance to help them with the payments of their services?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Roles Of Housing Boards And Secretary-Managers

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The first comment made by the Member related to the role of the board of the housing authority or association and that of the secretary-manager. The Housing Corporation did indeed attempt to accede to the recommendation, one of the recommendations of the special committee on housing, to put the decision-making responsibility into the community. It has turned over to the communities and to the members of the housing associations and authorities decisions on the day-to-day operation and maintenance of the housing inventory in that community. The second thing it did was to set up the HAP allocation committees, again on a local basis, so local input could occur and drive the recommendations. The third thing that was done was that the committee also, because of its knowledge of the community, recommended with regard to the mix that would occur between HAP units that were constructed in the community and public housing, where the need for such was identified.

So in the Housing Corporation's estimation the key bodies of advice and recommendation and management are the housing boards, the boards that run the authorities and the chairman

and the vice-chairman of those boards. These are the political people, the people that have the knowledge. The secretary-manager is the official, the bureaucrat, who should carry out the direction and determination of the collective will of the board members. So I believe that the corporation in the various regions looks to the board and the chairman to provide that direction. In the event -- and I have heard cases where the secretary-manager has become the guiding force -- where that occurs, I think the Housing Corporation should be advised that the roles have been reversed and the secretary-manager is proposing and disposing and not carrying out his official function, then maybe some quiet consultation can take place and the proper roles be identified and determined.

With regard to retrofit, the problem described by the Member is absolutely as we find it in the communities. There is a lack of housing. When a retrofit occurs there is no place -- not all the time but in many cases -- there is no place for alternate accommodation and there may not even be warehousing space so that furniture can be accommodated out of the weather. The condition and situation in the small communities when retrofits occur can be very difficult for the people whose houses are being retrofitted. I know that the corporation will try to find accommodation, a vacant house, a new house that has not got an occupant yet, to try to ease the burden of living when their house is being retrofitted.

With regard to the matter of senior citizens, there are no special programs. I am not saying that maybe there should not be, but one of the criteria in selecting a successful applicant is to be able to maintain one's unit. I do not know what consideration is given to individuals' incomes after they retire or cease to be in the job market. I would be willing to look at the concern raised by the Member and see if it can be addressed in conjunction with my colleague, the Minister of Social Services. It is a real problem because everybody who has a unit is going to reach the stage where it may be impossible for them to maintain that unit as they did when they were working on a regular basis. Certainly it is not my expectation nor, I am sure, the expectation of the corporation to see people who have built themselves a HAP house and operated and maintained it over the years, lose it because of their changed financial circumstances when they reach a retirement level.

I checked with the president to see whether it had been discussed at board meetings or by senior management and it has not, so we will take the question as a very serious suggestion for examination and extension of our program to cover a very real and serious need.

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

Allocation Between HAP Houses And Public Housing Units

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think some of the comments and questions that I had have been expressed by some of the Members already. I just have a couple of questions for the Minister. They have been asked before, but I guess they have been misunderstood in the past. There are now more and more people that are taking advantage of HAP housing. We do not make all that much money in the communities, especially above the tree line, but you can see that the people in the communities within the tree line have the advantage over us because they can use logs to heat their homes but above the tree line we have to use fuel for heating. In a way the HAP program is very good for some communities but there are also some problems that my constituents encounter.

It would not be good if this was to be used in a community,

but looking at the Territories as a whole, there are about 300 new houses that could be built through HAP housing. I wonder if it would be better if, for instance, the applicants for HAP housing could be decided upon first, consider the HAP housing applicants first in your allocation program. Perhaps when the Housing Corporation makes a decision they could consider giving out HAP houses to people who apply for HAP housing first. The reason why people apply for HAP housing is because they feel that they can afford it. People that feel they cannot afford it do not apply for HAP housing. I feel that there are quite a number of people in the communities now that feel they can afford their own home and that is why they apply. I was wondering if it would be possible for the Housing Corporation to set it up in such a way that they could increase the number of HAP programs in the communities, allocating more HAP housing to applicants.

You have to reside in the HAP house for five years before you can sell it. Say, for instance, the individual has not resided in that community for five years but had to move into another community because he or she got herself a job. What happens to the house if that individual cannot reside there for job reasons but has to move into another community and has to leave his house? Would he be able to rent it to another individual, or would it be taken away from him? This has not happened yet but I am just thinking about it for the future. If a person has to get a job and he has to leave his HAP house before his five years are up, what would happen to the house? Could he rent it or is there a policy or some kind of a rule whereby you can consider allowing the person to rent his house because he has to move in order to get himself another job in another community?

Mr. Pollard mentioned that the housing authority should have a little bit more authority in deciding the policy or the rules in their own community. That person does not have to be the chairperson but just an adviser to the housing association. I have been thinking about the same thing as Mr. Pollard was thinking about, and I thought I should mention it. I know the Housing Corporation has a big job to do in the North because housing is very important in the communities and in the Northwest Territories. They always had a big job to do, to provide shelter for the people. It would be best if the Housing Corporation could work closely with the housing associations because I know that in some communities the housing associations are running very smoothly and in some communities the housing associations are not really running adequately.

Those are the two questions that I have, Mr. Chairman, at this time. Maybe after I get a response from the Minister I can ask more questions. If I have to clarify myself I will do that. That the Housing Corporation contracts local people to build houses is another thing that I am very happy about. The people in the communities, the aboriginal people, that are able to do contracts could be involved in job employment. I am very happy to hear that the Housing Corporation is for that. I know that the Minister has visited the communities in the Baffin Region, and I have accompanied him. He heard the problems that we are facing in the communities, and most of the problems that we had have been cleared up since the Minister visited our communities. You are writing down the questions that I have and the comments that I have; that is it for now, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Local Contractors Used In Demonstration Projects

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to begin at the close of the Member's comments and work backwards because the most difficult question he asked me is the one with regard to the allocation of HAP and public housing. On

the matter of the demonstration projects, the Member is right, when the president and I visited the communities we heard time and time again, time over, the criticism of people in the communities that the houses were not being built by local people. Almost without exception, this criticism was levelled at us when we travelled in Mr. Ernerk's constituency, Mr. Kilabuk's constituency, the Central Arctic. In the case of the demonstration projects -- and as you know these projects are jointly funded by the federal government and the corporation -- because the tender costs were so high the president and I decided that we would give the communities a chance to work with the corporation and the local contractors to put together a package.

We were successful coming in under our budgets in Fort McPherson and Snowdrift. We have seen the communities build a quality project. The federal Minister of Housing is interested and has been kept informed of what is going on. The chairman of the board of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation has been interested in the program, and we have sent him a report on what is happening in the aforementioned communities. We are keeping our federal partners and CMHC aware of this initiative.

On the matter of the role of the board vis-a-vis the secretary-manager, and the need for some kind of advice to be given to board members, the Member is correct, this is, or should be, the role of members of the corporation. The president and I have received criticisms sometimes and we have phoned the various regional offices, and we have been pleased to know that in most cases the consultation and the understanding of what was going on at the board level was occurring in the regional offices. But in some cases it was not. We would hope that an employee of the corporation would be available to those members to assist them to carry out their function and make their job easier. If it is not, I would like to know from the Member where it is not working, and I am quite sure the president would like to know also.

The Member asked what happened to HAP units if the owner-occupant has to move through a requirement to take up a job in another community. There is no great problem in such a movement occurring. The individual, in consultation with the Housing Corporation, can establish an arrangement whereby he or she could rent out the unit, but for the period of contract time a proportion of that rental money could accrue to the Housing Corporation because of its equity interest in the package. Once the five year contractual period is up, then my understanding is that that person could continue to own the house and continue to rent it as the owner of the property.

On the first question, concerning the allocation between HAP and public housing units, I think if you gave communities their druthers and their choice, almost without exception most of them would go for the HAP units. So saying, I think we must realize, as the president indicated to you about two hours ago, whether it is a HAP unit or a public house, it is still social housing. It is social housing because it is being provided to individuals who cannot afford to house themselves. The HAP unit applicant can afford to maintain his house, but he cannot afford to finance the materials, nor can he afford the carrying charges. He, as any other person in need, cannot really afford to house himself. He is in social need. In the communities we have people that, while they may not be able to house themselves, can maintain their operating costs over the years.

There is the second group, and one of these groups was mentioned by Mr. Ningark when he raised a question, the young people, the elders who cannot be successful applicants for HAP houses. How about this need? How do we supply that? If you say, okay all HAP houses, how about the elders, how about the young people, how about the one parent

families? Who houses them? Their need is just as great as anybody else's.

The corporation has to look at the mix that is being suggested by the communities, but it does not have to accept that mix. It has to, I think, determine whether or not we should say to the community, "We understand you would prefer all HAP units but we feel there should be an element of social housing in the mix to house those people that are not currently addressed under the equation." It is not an easy decision; it is not an easy choice. I know my own community would prefer all HAP houses too. It is a balance we seek.

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

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for your answer, Mr. Minister. A lot of times I am not too sure what is going on because of our language. When you give us the right information then we understand what the situation is. I understand your statements. I honour you for it, because you are trying your best under the mandate of your department. I would like you to pursue and push for better direction in your department so that in the future our administration could be stronger in our communities. I thank you for your answers, Mr. Minister.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The Member has touched on a need in the communities, not only in housing associations and housing authorities, but also in municipal government. There is a definite need for improved fiscal management and systems management. The dual responsibilities I have now with the Housing Corporation and MACA are permitting us to attempt to provide courses and instruction at the community level so that they can become more effective and more efficient managers. We recognize the need and it certainly will not be filled this year, but both the president and the vice-president of finance understand that there have to be improvements in the fiscal management and systems management area.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Ningark.

Criteria For Eligibility For HAP

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the HAP house catalogue, under the eligibility conditions, there are six of them. There is one important element or criteria that is not there and that is depending on a person, who makes, say, \$70,000 to \$90,000 a year then you are considered in some communities, or in some regions, to be making too much money and you are not eligible to get a HAP house or to be a part of the HAP house program. Am I correct, Mr. Chairman? Thank you.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, you are correct, Mr. Chairman. If your income is greater than what has been determined as the core need income threshold it is anticipated that you can probably develop programs or assistance to provide your own home.

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

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I wonder why this very important element with a great significance to the applicants is not included in one of the six conditions? Thank you.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: What I had indicated is that if your income level was over the core need income threshold you would not be considered as an applicant. What you have to demonstrate is indicated in the document and that is that you can afford to pay for the utility bills and the repair bills that are the ongoing maintenance of the house, into the future. If you can demonstrate that then you would be judged an eligible applicant.

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

MR. NINGARK: Mr. Chairperson, maybe I am being stubborn but I still think that should have been stated very clearly in the eligibility conditions on the inside of the first page or second page, whatever. Under the eligibility conditions I think it should have been clearly indicated. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: If the explanation that has been presented in the booklet is incomplete or remiss in some particular area then I think the corporation would be interested in knowing how it could be improved, because one of the problems in allocating a HAP house is ensuring that any applicant is exactly aware of what they are getting into when they embark on acquiring or constructing a HAP unit. If there are some shortcomings in that eligibility explanation then I would be interested in knowing them and we would seek to improve the publication next time round.

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

Need For Local Labour Involvement In Construction Of Public Housing

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I will get to another item here. During the Minister's opening remarks on March 23, 1990 he indicated that a demonstration project using the local management and labour was a success under the department. The people of Gjoa Haven have approached me a number of times since I was elected, about their concern over a lack of local labour involvement during the construction of public housing. I would like to know if the Minister could apply the same program with the prior consultation with the community of Gjoa Haven in the next fiscal year? Thank you.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I think as I indicated in my opening remarks, the demonstration projects are named demonstration projects for the particular and specific reason that they are something out of the ordinary. It is not the usual approach used to construct public housing. The usual approach to construct public housing sees a public tender developed and issued and we get submissions from various interested contractors who would be interested in building that unit and then the lowest tender is accepted. We do this in conjunction with our federal partner. As I said, the reason that we moved to establish the demonstration project in the past year was that the cost that we received from the interested contractors was very much higher than those projected by our construction department. So it is not a process that we can and would pursue on a regular basis.

As I mentioned in my opening remarks, we work with the contractors and we attempt to ensure that they will make the best use of the local resources that have been identified to them in the community, and that not only will they use those resources but train local people and leave behind them craftspeople who can do maintenance in the future. But it is

not a usual type of program.

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

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. According to the Minister, since the demonstration project has been a success I wonder if the Minister would endeavour to make this a reality in the next fiscal year or whenever, because he knows that we all know that there is a great concern over a lack of community involvement during the construction of public housing. Thank you.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Solowy, the vice-president responsible for construction who has been personally responsible for the demonstration projects, has kept a very complete pictorial record of what has occurred in both Fort McPherson and Snowdrift. I have provided the interim reports to both Mr. Alan Redway and to Mr. Robert Jarvis the chairman of the board of CMHC. I think we have been successful and maybe we could say that the North should be looked at a little bit differently from southern Canada with regard to such construction projects.

I hope that when Mr. Ernerk meets with Mr. Redway in Rankin Inlet that Mr. Ernerk can personally tell him of the expectations for seeing the project proceed at Coral Harbour, in Mr. Ernerk's constituency. So I am quite sure that both of us will get a chance to tell the federal Minister that if the programs are successful then maybe he could look at them being carried out to a much greater extent than they have been.

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

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Since we all know this is beneficial to the community, the individuals and to the government I would strongly support this type of program even when I am not a Member of this House. That will be all for now. Thank you.

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

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I just have one concern with the HAP units and that is that a lot of units that were built prior to 1984 were buildings that did not have those options that HAP clients enjoy now. One of them is with regard to the furnace and the fact that most of the units that were built before 1984 did not have pressure system furnaces. They also did not have closets. Those are the HAP clients that maybe did not get as good a deal as the present HAP clients do. I would like to ask the Minister whether or not those HAP clients that did not have that opportunity would be given that opportunity to make improvements to their units now?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the simple answer is yes. The honourable Member has long been a supporter of the home improvement program. In fact, I do believe he has attempted to have us increase it beyond the \$1.8 million currently budgeted. It would be within that particular program area where the improvements he requires could be made and they could be made through the local housing associations.

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

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to ask the Minister another question regarding the reports that we have here. I have a misunderstanding of what it says. There is one community which has 187 people and there are going to be at least six houses built in that community. There is another community that has a population

of over 300 and two new houses are going to be built. I know for a fact that the community is going to be getting six houses and I know which community is going to have two houses built. There is one empty apartment building in that community. Is that community going to receive six houses? What is going on with your department when you are dealing with the capital items? I cannot even say thank you but other Members could say thank you to you. Personally I cannot say that to you. If my constituencies are not treated equally with the other communities there is no way I could support those kinds of programs.

My second question is what is going to happen to the warehouse in Lake Harbour? I do not see any warehouse that is going to be built for the next fiscal year for Lake Harbour. We were asking to have one built by next fiscal year. Perhaps you could give me more information on capital items for the regions because I do not see it in the capital items here.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Member would identify the community. We are looking for it. If we can identify it maybe there is some rational explanation for the figure.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Arlooktoo.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The two communities that I am talking about is Resolute Bay and the other one is Lake Harbour. These are the two communities that I am talking about looking at in the reports. I have been in those communities and have seen it with my own eyes what kind of buildings they have got. I know the population in those two communities because I know the numbers. Why are we being treated that way? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I understand the Member to identify one community as being Resolute Bay? While that is being looked at I would mention that the apartment that the Member has described as being vacant there, the 10-plex, has been vacant for many, many years as he well knows. When I visited Resolute Bay November last, we did look at the possibility of seeing if that could be fixed up and maybe occupied. That is certainly still under active consideration by the Housing Corporation.

The record that we have just indicates that at Resolute Bay there are not six units identified, there are two public housing and two replacement units. Just one other point on that, Mr. Chairman. In communities of very small numbers, because some years you may get a need of one or 1.5, the building program is skipped over and it is all consolidated in another year down the line, so it is possible that a smaller community would have more buildings in one year and then the next year they would have no construction at all.

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

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have another question. I think it was last November when you visited Lake Harbour and we discussed the issue of obtaining a warehouse. We still do not have it and it has not been allocated to us, even though it should show in the report. I wonder when we will obtain a warehouse in Lake Harbour. It still does not exist in the correspondence. I looked for it, but I did not come across it. We have been asking for that warehouse for a long time. I do not know why you keep postponing it. I wonder if you are going to put this in your plans for the future. Thank you.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The Member is correct, there would appear to be no warehouse in the coming year or in the forecast. I do not know what discussions may have occurred between the housing authority in Lake Harbour and the regional housing office, but it is quite obvious there is no projection for a warehouse in the papers we have before us.

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

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When you and I were over there, with Mr. Pudluk and Simonie Alainga, we discussed this issue of a warehouse. We definitely need a warehouse. I am just reminding you, even though we all know about it. Thank you.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I notice, Mr. Chairman, with interest and pleasure a unit in this HAP catalogue that was distributed this afternoon, a HAP-F. It is a small unit, 24 by 24 feet, 576 square feet. It is the type of unit that many people in my constituency have suggested for some time that we should be constructing. We have a number of older units in all communities. I know in the Minister's home community there are quite a few of the so-called 5-12 units and many people have requested that they should bring that size of a house and that type of housing back again. Could the Minister tell me, would he have figures of the estimated cost of a HAP-F. I suppose they would have a material cost, but would they also have an estimated completed cost at any given community?

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: We are requesting that information from staff.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I was wrong. We do not have any cost estimates, and I guess the reason we do not is because there have not been requests from the communities to build that particular unit. I do not believe that any HAP-F packages have gone into the NWT communities.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, how long has the HAP-F been available?

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the design has been available and offered for three years.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know I am asking the Minister to speculate. As I say, there have been many requests for units of this size. I would presume that the reason we have not put any into any of the communities is that we primarily look at larger families for eligibility for HAP housing units than the obviously small family unit we would require for that. I suppose that is an observation, but if the Minister has any comments on that I would like to hear them.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the observation is correct. We recognize that there is a demonstrated need for small units. In fact, the corporation is looking at putting a couple of experimental units on small lots in the eastern Arctic in the coming year. We feel that there are a number of people of the type I indicated when responding to Mr. Kilabuk that would probably welcome a small compact unit with one bedroom.

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

MR. PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, if that is contemplated by the Minister I would like to suggest that you look at the 5-12 design that we are both so familiar with, Mr. Minister, because with a 24 by 24 you really cannot go on a small lot anyhow. That is about the footprint of most of the two-storey HAP houses too, it just happens to be one storey. If we narrowed it a bit and lengthened it a bit to achieve the same thing, then maybe we could utilize some of the smaller lots better. That is just an observation.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I welcome the comments of the Member, Mr. Chairman, and I will see if I can obtain floor plans and dimensions of the experimental small units that we are looking at erecting so that he could examine them.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. General comments. Page by page. Agreed?

NWT Housing Corporation, Total O And M, Agreed

NWT Housing Corporation, total O and M, page 3.09, \$52,419,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Grants And Contributions, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total grants and contributions, \$52,419,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The next pages are information items. Page 3.11, 3.12, 3.13, 3.14, 3.15, 3.16, 3.17, 3.18, 3.19.

Total O And M, Agreed

Page 3.08, Housing Corporation, program summary, total O and M, \$52,419,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Are you prepared to go to capital? Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I have a question that I missed in the major objectives of the Housing Corporation that I would like to get an answer on. It is under construction development, 1990-91 main estimates. It states that the objective is to design a single-storey detached bungalow unit suitable for use above the tree line. Is that sort of like what you were talking about, Mr. Minister, with regard

to one of the HAP units, I think it was HAP-F? Is that what you were talking about, through you, Mr. Chairperson?

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Not exactly, Mr. Chairman. As the Member is aware the Housing Corporation has had design tours to many of the communities and while travelling in the Inuit communities we have had numerous complaints with regard to dislike for the two-storey house. Although it is efficient and saves heat people above the tree line would prefer to have the living space all on one floor and it is an attempt to respond to that direction and suggestion that I believe it has been added to our terms of reference.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Does this committee wish to go to capital? Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I wonder, before we get into the capital, there is a motion in place that is going to take just a few minutes to type and translate that must be moved. I wonder if you would not mind taking a five minute stand-up break?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Okay, let us take five minutes for a stand-up break.

---SHORT RECESS

The committee will come back to order. Mr. Ningark.

Motion To Consider Demonstration Houses In Natilikmiot, Carried

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish to make the following motion. I move that this committee recommend that the NWT Housing Corporation consider demonstration houses in the constituency of Natilikmiot in the 1991-92 construction season.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Your motion is in order. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Is the committee ready to go to capital. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

NWT Housing Corporation

Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 3.09, NWT Housing Corporation, headquarters, total headquarters, \$6,211,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Fort Smith, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Fort Smith, total Fort Smith, \$3,465,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Inuvik, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Inuvik, total Inuvik, \$4,532,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Baffin, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Baffin, total Baffin, \$6,455,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Keewatin, Total Capital

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Keewatin, total Keewatin, \$3,823,000. Mr. Ernerk.

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if I could have a breakdown of the Keewatin NWTHC capital contribution of \$3,823,000. How many houses are we talking about in the Keewatin Region, community by community?

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: We are looking, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): If you look at information items there is a breakdown of communities and how many in each community by program. That is on pages 3.17, 3.18, 3.19, 3.20 and 3.21, and so on. Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: What is it you wished, Mr. Chairman? You gave the page numbers.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): I tried to tell the Member that if he wants to know how many in each community there are pages in there that can tell him. Mr. Ernerk, do you still wish to get a reply from the Minister?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I will ask the president to read it out to you. He has the page in his book.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Heron.

MR. HERON: From the projections that we have here. In the Keewatin by community, we are proposing to construct for Baker Lake 15 units; there are going to be six northern replacements. In Chesterfield Inlet, there are two units and one northern replacement. In Coral Harbour there are going to be six and two northern replacements. In Arviat there will be seven and five replacements. In Rankin Inlet there will be 11 and three replacements. In Repulse Bay there will be two

and no replacements. In Whale Cover there are two and one replacement. This will for a total of 45 public housing and home-ownership broken down by 20 public housing and 25 home-ownership for a total of 45, and northern replacements of 18. This is the total Keewatin projection for 1990-91.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The ones that you are replacing, what happens to them? What do you do with them?

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, if they are being replaced the units should be written off as inadequate for occupancy.

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

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Do you then sell them, is that the idea?

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The object is to have them removed from the building site so they can be given away, they can be bulldozed or they can be sold for a nominal sum.

Keewatin, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk) Thank you. Keewatin, total Keewatin, \$3,823,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Kitikmeot, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Kitikmeot, total Kitikmeot, \$3,014,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total NWT Housing Corporation, \$27,500,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The next pages are information items. Is this department concluded?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Pedersen.

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): I have a motion on the floor that is not debatable. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

I will now rise and report progress.

ITEM 18: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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

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

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you.

Item 19, third reading of bills.

Item 20, assent to bills. Item 21, Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Speaker, there will be a meeting of the standing committee on legislation at 6:00 p.m. this evening. Meetings for tomorrow morning: ajauqtit at 9:00 a.m.; at 10:00 a.m. caucus; and at 11:00 a.m. the standing committee on finance.

ITEM 21: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Tuesday, March 27th.

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), 5-90(1), and 7-90(1)
16. Second Reading of Bills: Bill 1-90(1)
17. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and

Other Matters: Committee Report 1-90(1); Bill 9-90(1);
Committee Report 2-90(1); Consideration of the Issue of
Family Violence and Abuse; Motion 5-90(1)

18. Report of Committee of the Whole

19. Third Reading of Bills

20. Assent to Bills

21. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands
adjourned until Tuesday, March 27, 1990, at 1:00 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT

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