



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES**

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

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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## YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1990

## MEMBERS PRESENT

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

## ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

**SPEAKER (Hon. Richard Nerysoo):** Orders of the day for Thursday, March 29, 1990. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Kivallivik.

## ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

**Ministers' Statement 47-90(1): Hanging Ice Bison Ranch**

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a statement today respecting the Hanging Ice Bison Ranch. In the past few days there has been some concern that the bison ranch project was in some way designed to support and accompany the Agriculture Canada proposal to replace diseased bison with healthy bison in and around Wood Buffalo National Park. First of all I would like to say that the Hanging Ice Bison Ranch proposal was developed completely independent of Agriculture Canada's proposed bison replacement program, and in fact, the ranch proposal predated the latter by well over a year.

The project was never justified on the basis of making animals available for replacing diseased bison from Wood Buffalo National Park. Moreover, it was never the intent of this government to support Agriculture Canada's proposed replacement program by virtue of this project. The idea of establishing a bison ranch in the Fort Smith area as a commercial venture to raise bison as a food source and to help remove bison from the endangered species list, has been with us for several years. In 1985 the Fort Smith Hunters and Trappers Association commissioned a study to examine the feasibility of establishing a commercial bison ranch. This led to the development of a business plan by the hunters and trappers association and formation of a corporate arm, Hanging Ice Ranch Limited, to initiate the project.

In June of 1988, Hanging Ice Bison Ranch submitted its first application to the Economic Development Agreement Secretariat and the Department of Economic Development and Tourism for funding for the ranch. The proposal had approval in principle as early as December of 1988 but was later rejected on the basis that it involved too great an outlay of government investment over too long a period. To be precise, \$250,000 per year over 10 years was requested and all risk associated by the proposal was to be assumed by the Government of the Northwest Territories. Nevertheless, in a return to oral questions O57-89(1) and O159-89(1), dated February 10 and 22, 1989, I explicitly stated my support in principle "of the concept of game ranching as an economic activity appropriate to the physical and cultural conditions of the Northwest Territories".

The bison proposal was subsequently revised and substantially scaled down to a three year pilot project funded by the EDA and Economic Development and Tourism, whereby all assets would be owned by the Government of the Northwest Territories and the project would be managed and operated by Hanging Ice Bison Ranch under contract, and under the direction of a management committee. After the

three year period, the economic, biological and social feasibility of the bison ranch was to be evaluated and ownership and financing options negotiated.

By August 31, 1989, the revised proposal for \$250,000 had received approval in principle by the EDA renewable resource management committee, pending approval of Economic Development and Tourism schedule "C" funding for \$386,704 over three years. The deputy minister of Economic Development and Tourism expressed his support of the proposal on September 24, 1989. On November 29, 1989, a Financial Management Board directive was issued which approved a payment directive for the purchase of capital assets and to fund annual operating costs associated with establishing the bison ranch. Final EDA approval for the project was given on December 7, 1989.

Since that time a road to access the ranch has been completed and double fencing for the holding area is under way. As of last night, I am pleased to announce the safe arrival of 35 bison from Elk Island National Park to the Hanging Ice Bison Ranch.

The Department of Renewable Resources and the Canadian Wildlife Service are overseeing the transfer of bison and have ensured that each animal is individually certified and is free of disease. Not only have animals been screened for tuberculosis and brucellosis, but each animal has been inoculated against disease. The planned double fencing around the bison enclosure area, as well as surveillance by Hanging Ice Bison Ranch staff, are measures being taken to prevent escape of the herd, and to ensure that no unforeseen bison enter the ranch premises.

I hope that the aforementioned facts will put to rest all concerns respecting the intent of the Government of the Northwest Territories as manifested in its support for the Hanging Ice Bison Ranch. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Prior to proceeding, I wish to draw the attention of Members to His Worship Wilfred Wilcox and Councillor Joe Ohokannoak in our gallery.

---Applause

If I did not provide the information, they are from Cambridge Bay. Ministers' statements. Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements. Members' statements. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

## ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

**Member's Statement On Training And Job Opportunities For NWT Youth**

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise on a very important matter with regard to the situation concerning the young people of the Northwest Territories, and I wish to make reference to the report that I talked about yesterday with respect to the Broughton Island survey.

In talking with the young people in that community, Mr.

Speaker, we must take all kinds of measures to provide more training and job opportunities for the young people in the Northwest Territories. It is very important to equip our young people with the highest level of training and education so that our young people can begin to take over some of the responsibilities that we hold today. Let us be united with the young people, as well as the older people.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to make some recommendations to the government that more leadership workshops must be held in all communities in the NWT. There has to be fuller recognition of the regional councils concerning youth in all regions of the NWT. There have to be more workshops in all communities with regard to dealing with stress, depression and other related problems. There has to be more respect with regard to the young people in every sector of society. The Government of the Northwest Territories should make recreation their priority in all of the communities that we represent in the Northwest Territories. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Members' statements. The honourable Member for Baffin South.

#### **Member's Statement On Youth Developing Leadership Skills**

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today with regard to all the young people of the Northwest Territories. I feel for them, after the report tabled yesterday, which spoke of a bleak future for young people in the Northwest Territories; not every one of them is like that but there are some young people in some communities in the Northwest Territories who have determination to get into leadership. I rise today so that our young people will be encouraged to get into leadership. I want them to be able to serve in the Legislative Assembly so they can make plans for the future. Mr. Speaker, I want the young people to feel important to the Legislative Assembly and to be able to take part in training and to take advantage of job opportunities. I want them to have the determination to carry out those duties and to have a better life. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Members' statements.

Item 4, returns to oral questions. Returns to oral questions. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

#### **ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS**

##### **Question O452-90(1): Funding For Rankin Inlet For Hamlet Day**

**MR. ERNERK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question directed to the Minister of Culture and Communications. He is aware of my question because I wrote to him and it is from Rankin Inlet. There will be some activities going on during Hamlet Day on April 17. They requested \$9000 so that they could have people such as throat singers and dancers, so that they would be able to go to Rankin Inlet during Hamlet Day. Could you please answer that? Thank you.

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

##### **Return To Question O452-90(1): Funding For Rankin Inlet For Hamlet Day**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Member for Aivilik has already informed me about this and I have directed my staff of the Department of Culture and Communications to find out more about this. It is obvious that in the last fiscal year, 1989-90, we do not have the funding

from there, but if there is funding then we will be able to provide it after 1990. I have advised my staff, but they have not got back to me yet with their findings. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

##### **Question O453-90(1): Community Concerns About Submarine Activity**

**MR. KILABUK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I should direct this question to the Government Leader. He has better communication with the federal government. I have mentioned this before, I think it was last fall when we had the session in Norman Wells, in regard to the submarines. In our area it is not very safe if there was to be an accident without the people knowing that the submarines are there. Is the Government Leader informed by the federal government when they are going to do studies in the North by submarines, because they are probably given permits to conduct a study? Are the communities informed of the activities that the federal government or other people want to conduct? Because when we are not too sure, it is not a very good feeling.

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

##### **Return To Question O453-90(1): Community Concerns About Submarine Activity**

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have heard concerns expressed by the honourable Member's constituents about unpleasant encounters with submarines. Hunters have been surprised by submarines and it has caused great concern in the honourable Member's constituency. I am aware of that concern, Mr. Speaker.

To answer the Member's question, Mr. Speaker, I am not informed of submarine activity in the waters of the Northwest Territories, either Canadian or otherwise. Mr. Speaker, I am working on the development of a discussion paper on military activity in the Northwest Territories. I will have something to say later on in this session on that, Mr. Speaker. I consider that the question of notice to communities of military activity such as the Member referred to should be an important aspect of our policies on these matters, Mr. Speaker, and I will try to see that they are properly addressed in the paper that I will be bringing forward to this House. Thank you.

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

##### **Supplementary To Question O453-90(1): Community Concerns About Submarine Activity**

**MR. KILABUK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. After you find out more about this, maybe you can inform our community. These kinds of sightings are reported to the RCMP. If you want more information, then you will be able to ask those people. The mammals, a lot of times there are not that many in summer, and I strongly urge him to do more study on this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

##### **Further Return To Question O453-90(1): Community Concerns About Submarine Activity**

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I certainly believe that communities in the Northwest Territories can and should be better informed about defence activities or research activities of the federal government in our

lands and waters. I certainly can support the Member's concern and through the policy on peace security, and perhaps other measures that we might take, I will do my very best to see that communities are given the notice and the courtesy that they are entitled to so that these surprising and sometimes confusing and unpleasant incidents are minimized. Thank you.

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

**Question O454-90(1): Update On Progress Of Dene/Metis Land Claims**

**MR. ZOE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as the House is aware, in regard to the Dene/Metis claim there has been a deadline imposed on us by the federal government. I would like to ask the Minister responsible for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development to give us an update on the claims progress. Thank you.

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

**Return to Question O454-90(1): Update On Progress Of Dene/Metis Land Claims**

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Mr. Speaker, when the Dene/Metis were trying to initiate negotiations in the 1970s, there were two major items that they wanted to deal with. One was to make sure that they dealt with not only land and money in that claim but that self-government would be included in the negotiations. The other major obstacle was to remove the extinguishment clause. That is the clause that says, in exchange for the rights that are given to them in the settlement, that they cede, surrender forever, all rights that they may have had, if they had any. Mr. Speaker, the agreement in principle that was initialled and presented in the Hay River assembly some three years ago brought that to light; that the Dene still have major difficulties with the extinguishment clause and with the fact that there are no provisions for self-government in the agreement in principle.

When you ask for an update then the update is that the Dene/Metis are still in the same position. Although they have elaborated on the many areas and all the subagreements that are included in the agreement in principle, the fact is they still have not agreed on what to do with self-government and what to do about the extinguishment clause; the government has not moved and the Dene have not moved. So there are some really fundamental differences at this late stage in the negotiations.

The third item which has now crept into the negotiations, or has been articulated more recently by the Dene/Metis, is treaty rights. The Dene/Metis argue that they have an array of rights under their treaty and that while they do not know what they are, they want to ensure that these are left untouched and they are trying to find a process to have these defined and elaborated on, and protected in the claim. The update is that there is no resolution yet on these major items at the negotiating table. Unless these are resolved in the next day or so, there will be no agreement in principle for the communities to look at. Thank you.

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

**Supplementary To Question O454-90(1): Update On Progress Of Dene/Metis Land Claims**

**MR. ZOE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, a supplementary. From the response that I received from the Minister, it indicates to

me that the Minister does not feel that the Dene/Metis are going to meet the deadline that has been imposed by the federal government. Am I correct?

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

**Further Return To Question O454-90(1): Update On Progress Of Dene/Metis Land Claims**

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Mr. Speaker, I am suggesting that these basic differences should have been resolved before an agreement in principle was signed. In fact it is suggested by many of our people that what the Dene/Metis and the federal government signed in 1987 was not so much an agreement in principle, but a disagreement in principle. They disagree on extinguishment, they disagree on treaties, what aboriginal title is; they disagree on what self-government is and what it should be, and whether it should be included in a constitutional document, a protected document like the agreement in principle. What I am suggesting is that at this late stage it is very, very late to expect anybody to elaborate on what self-government is and to find a way to give comfort to the Dene/Metis that they will find some way in which to exercise self-government. There is no document that suggests what it is.

So my view is that there are a couple of things that can happen. One, the negotiators can push the government as far as they can and then agree to sign off on the document and let the politicians and the communities decide whether it is acceptable or not by leaving the communities the option to look at the document and to critique it, discuss it, and decide whether or not issues like extinguishment are really as fundamentally important to them as their leaders say they are, whether self-government should be detailed and articulated in a document that is constitutionally protected, and whether or not their feelings do really run high on the treaty question and what we should do about defining the treaty rights.

The other thing that can happen is that the chiefs that are sitting on the committees of the Dene Nation, the Metis executive and the Dene Nation executive may tell the chief negotiator not to sign off on the package because it is fundamentally unacceptable to the executive of the Dene and the Metis. If that happens, then the negotiations will be shut down as of Saturday at midnight, as I understand it. Thank you.

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

**Supplementary To Question O454-90(1): Update On Progress Of Dene/Metis Land Claims**

**MR. ZOE:** A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, to the Minister again, what is our government doing to facilitate the process? He just mentioned that there are a couple of things that could be done. Has the Minister suggested these to the Dene/Metis and the federal government?

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

**Further Return To Question O454-90(1): Update On Progress Of Dene/Metis Land Claims**

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Mr. Speaker, those of us that sit on the political and constitutional development committee of cabinet met with the Dene Nation and the Metis Association leaders last night. We had a wide-ranging discussion on what should be done by all parties concerned and what, as a government, we could do to help them between now and

Saturday midnight and some of our own thinking and views on the matter. It was quite a frank exchange on how we see the situation today and what the options are for everyone concerned. We have asked for a meeting tonight with the chiefs that are mandated by the Dene Nation to elaborate and define the treaty rights of the Dene under Treaties 8 and 11, to find out exactly what we can do to help them resolve their fears and concerns in regard to their treaty rights. Right now we do not know exactly what it is that they are talking about and we want to hear it directly from the chiefs. Those are some of the things we are doing. We have let them know, as well, that whenever they need to meet with us we would be prepared to meet with them on very short notice. Thank you.

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

**Supplementary To Question O454-90(1): Update On Progress Of Dene/Metis Land Claims**

**MR. ZOE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the Minister for updating us on this important issue, but I would also like to ask the Minister if he would update us tomorrow on the same issue. Thank you.

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

**Further Return To Question O454-90(1): Update On Progress Of Dene/Metis Land Claims**

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Mr. Speaker, if the Member wishes, I can provide an update either as a Ministers' statement or under questions.

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

**Question O455-90(1): Proximity Of Hook Lake Bison To Hanging Ice Bison Ranch**

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Renewable Resources. Mr. Minister, during the bison review panel hearings, your government tabled a report to that panel on how the diseased buffalo are an urgent matter now because they may have an effect on the Fort Providence buffalo herd, in the sanctuary. They may infect the buffalo in the Fort Providence sanctuary. There are no reported bison in the Slave River lowlands within 75 miles of that sanctuary. In this report, the Ministers' statement that the Minister of Economic Development read today in the House, it says, to ensure the bison are free of disease, "Not only have animals been screened for tuberculosis and brucellosis but each animal has been inoculated against disease. The planned double fencing around the bison enclosure area, as well as surveillance by the Hanging Ice Ranch staff, are measures being taken to prevent escape of the herd and to ensure that no unforeseen bison enter the ranch premises." So what is the boundary around this ranch? Hook Lake, the free-roaming bison at Hook Lake, are fairly close to this ranch. They are a lot closer than the 75 miles that the other bison are to the sanctuary near Providence. Are these staff members, since your department is involved, are these staff members of the Hanging Ice Ranch, do they have open hunting season on our buffalo in the Hook Lake area? Can they go out now and start indiscriminately shooting our buffalo in case it may affect their ranch in the future?

**MR. SPEAKER:** I will just remind honourable Members that one question should be asked. The honourable Member for

Amittuq.

**Return To Question O455-90(1): Proximity Of Hook Lake Bison To Hanging Ice Bison Ranch**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No.

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

**Supplementary To Question O455-90(1): Proximity Of Hook Lake Bison To Hanging Ice Bison Ranch**

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary, Mr. Minister. How close does a Hook Lake bison have to be to the ranch before it is shot?

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

**Further Return To Question O455-90(1): Proximity Of Hook Lake Bison To Hanging Ice Bison Ranch**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Speaker, I do not have that information right at hand with me. I would have to get back to the Member on these details. I thought that the purpose of the double fencing was to protect the herd and it was good enough for the wood bison from the inside not being able to get away out to the wild and the animals that might come close were prevented because of the double fencing. Thank you.

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

**Question O456-90(1): Sightings Of Unidentified Flying Objects**

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Justice. Over the past several months I have heard over the CBC radio Inuktitut programming that there have been some UFOs sighted in different communities, one in Hall Beach and the other in Repulse Bay. Mr. Speaker, my question is this, is the Minister of Justice aware of these reportings and what happens to the reports?

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

**Return To Question O456-90(1): Sightings Of Unidentified Flying Objects**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Speaker, no, I am not aware of the reporting of UFOs in the vicinity of the communities that the Member has talked about. This week, though, I have been aware of reportings of aliens here in this Legislative Assembly.

—Laughter

I am not quite sure if I could take this question as notice. I suppose there is some scientific institute that would monitor UFOs. I am not sure if the people in the two communities mentioned have reported them to anyone or if there is a problem with UFOs. UFOs can be many things. They can be satellites; they can be shooting stars; they can be any number of things. If there is a real concern in the communities about these UFOs, I can undertake to find out if there is any explanation on the specific dates of unidentified flying objects



seen in the vicinity of these communities. I cannot promise the Member I can give him a definitive answer. Thank you.

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

**Question O457-90(1): Time Extension For Motor Vehicle Registration**

**MR. WHITFORD:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question I would like to direct to the Minister responsible for motor vehicles. Because March 31 falls on Saturday, and it is only payday tomorrow, there are going to be a lot of people finding it difficult to obtain their vehicle registrations in time to meet the deadline of April 1. Will the Minister consider an extension of the time that is required to register vehicles?

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

**Return To Question O457-90(1): Time Extension For Motor Vehicle Registration**

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I never thought of it, quite frankly, so I do not know if any arrangements have been made to extend deadlines. My hope is that people will not wait until the last minute to get their vehicle registration and that they will try to do so before the deadline date. But I really do not know what measures, if any, have been contemplated because of the weekend.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

**Supplementary To Question O457-90(1): Time Extension For Motor Vehicle Registration**

**MR. WHITFORD:** Mr. Speaker, it is true that people have all year, but unfortunately these things tend to get put to the back burner through no fault of people. Often the cost of living is so high, they do not have money to spend earlier on and they time these things relatively close. It just so happens that it coincides with the day after payday. Will the Minister consider half a day Saturday for that purpose?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Honourable Member for Kivallivik.

**Further Return To Question O457-90(1): Time Extension For Motor Vehicle Registration**

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will take a look at the situation and see what is needed.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre.

**Question O458-90(1): Changes To Staffing Appeal Regulations**

**MR. LEWIS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In light of the motion yesterday to exclude any reference to union in the appeal process, what has the government decided to do in regard to changing that regulation, since this was a matter of some urgency?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Honourable Member for Slave River.

**Return To Question O458-90(1): Changes To Staffing Appeal Regulations**

**HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL:** Mr. Speaker, I work really fast, but I do not work that fast. The motion was just passed yesterday. But I certainly will bring it to cabinet in the near future. However, I do want to take the time to meet with the

union prior to that and see how the negotiations have been undertaken, how we can proceed with that. Any recommendation will be brought to cabinet in the near future.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, supplementary.

**Supplementary To Question O458-90(1): Changes To Staffing Appeal Regulations**

**MR. LEWIS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that the Minister has been working diligently with the Union of Northern Workers on this matter. Since it was a matter of some urgency, has she contacted the union and could she tell us when she plans to meet them?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Honourable Member for Slave River.

**Further Return To Question O458-90(1): Changes To Staffing Appeal Regulations**

**HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL:** Mr. Speaker, unfortunately I have not had the time to contact the union; I have been tied up in meetings all day. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Oral questions. Honourable Member for Aivilik.

**Question O459-90(1): Lawyer For Keewatin Region**

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Justice. I have heard and noticed in Rankin Inlet that there is a lawyer in place now. I wish to thank the Minister of Justice and all those people who have been involved in requesting and fighting to get a law society in the Keewatin Region. Could the Minister of Justice confirm this please?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

**Return To Question O459-90(1): Lawyer For Keewatin Region**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Speaker, yes, I am pleased to confirm that. It is a project we have been working on for some time and with the co-operation of the honourable Member and communities in his constituency and also with the co-operation of my colleague, Mr. Wray, we have been able to, over the last two years, bring this about. I trust that it will enhance considerably the administration of justice in the Keewatin Region.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Oral questions. Honourable Member for Aivilik, supplementary.

**Supplementary To Question O459-90(1): Lawyer For Keewatin Region**

**MR. ERNERK:** Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Is that lawyer going to be responsible for all the Keewatin Region, seven communities?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

**Further Return To Question O459-90(1): Lawyer For Keewatin Region**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** My understanding is that that lawyer will be responsible for the Keewatin Region. That is correct.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Oral questions. Honourable Member for Kitikmeot West.

**Question O460-90(1): Lawyer For Kitikmeot Region**

**MR. PEDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Minister of Justice, in order that he may receive thanks once again, could he indicate to me if the Kitikmeot Region would be next in line for some on-the-ground legal services?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

**Return To Question O460-90(1): Lawyer For Kitikmeot Region**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you. I think over the past four and one-half years that I have been Minister of Justice, at the beginning of that time I outlined a game plan and the game plan was that we put a lawyer in Tuk, Baffin, and Keewatin; and, once funds are available, definitely the next priority of our department is to do the same thing for the Kitikmeot Region.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Oral questions. Honourable Member for Nahendeh.

**Question O461-90(1): Hon. Tom Butters' Trip To Nahendeh**

**MR. SIBBESTON:** Mr. Speaker, I must commend the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation for his plans to come to my constituency this weekend before participating in Caribou Carnival. We will be travelling to Jean Marie River, Trout Lake, Liard and Fort Simpson. Can the Minister tell us what he hopes to accomplish on his trip?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Honourable Member for Inuvik.

**Return To Question O461-90(1): Hon. Tom Butters' Trip To Nahendeh**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, as I have indicated to the House, the place to solve problems is in the communities. I do know there are a number of problems in the communities mentioned. I know there is a problem in Liard with regard to housing the elders and I did promise the chief, Frank Kotchea, some six weeks ago that I would travel to the constituency with the honourable Member. There are some housing problems in Fort Simpson which I would wish to address with the honourable Member and the president of the housing association. So we will look at some problems on the ground and see what we can do to achieve solutions.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Member for Tu Nede.

**Question O462-90(1): Gravel From Esker Point For Military Airstrip, Rankin Inlet**

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Renewable Resources. The military air base that is being built in Rankin Inlet, my understanding is that the gravel they are going to use on the airstrip is being taken from Esker Point, which has the highest concentration of peregrine falcons in North America. What is your department doing to ensure that by removing this gravel and disturbing their nesting grounds they are not going to wipe out the peregrine falcons that live there?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Honourable Member for Amittuq.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the this but I will look into it.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member is taking the question as notice. Honourable Member for Yellowknife

South.

**Question O463-90(1): Caribou Carnival Holiday For Motor Vehicles Staff**

**MR. WHITFORD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question is directed to the Minister responsible for Personnel. I understand that tomorrow because it is Caribou Carnival in Yellowknife that the employees will be having a half day off. Does this include the employees from the motor vehicles branch, which should be issuing licences on the last day?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member for Slave River.

**Return To Question O463-90(1): Caribou Carnival Holiday For Motor Vehicles Staff**

**HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated in my letter to grant half a day off to the civil servants in Yellowknife, I did indicate where operational requirements would allow them to take the opportunity to participate in the Caribou Carnival. In the event that operational requirements did not allow them, if they were members of the union they certainly would be granted pay at time and a half. Thank you.

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

**Question O464-90(1): Cost To Government For Granting Half-Day Holiday For Caribou Carnival**

**MR. SIBBESTON:** Mr. Speaker, I just want to find out from the Minister of Personnel, what is the cost to the government of granting this half a day off, particularly as it relates to the civil servants in Yellowknife?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member for Slave River.

**Return To Question O464-90(1): Cost To Government For Granting Half-Day Holiday For Caribou Carnival**

**HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is going to cost somewhere to the tune of \$196,000, plus overtime.

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

**Question O465-90(1): Need For Civil Servants To Sit In House**

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Government Leader. Mr. Government Leader, I think it was a couple of weeks ago that I asked you a question of why there were so many civil servants in the House and your response was that they were here so that our questions can be answered. They could take our advice and we can get quick answers to our questions.

Mr. Government Leader, I have asked quite a few questions in this House in the past few days and the majority of them are taken as notice; even questions just to verify a statement made the previous day is taken as notice. So could you possibly look at a different system to ensure that Ministers are aware of issues and that they can answer questions in the house....

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Shame! Shame!

**MR. MORIN:** Maybe you could get the departments to prepare for them. Can you look at changing the system? Because keeping civil servants sitting in the House so that

they are close to answer questions to the Minister, is not working. Could you look at a different system? Thank you.

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

**Return To Question O465-90(1): Need For Civil Servants To Sit In House**

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Mr. Speaker, I will be glad to suggest a different system to the honourable Member and to Members of this House. Mr. Speaker, in my time in this Legislature it has been what I thought was a well-established practice that when a Member has a question that cannot be reasonably expected to be within the present knowledge of the Minister to whom it is directed, then a call is made to the Minister's office in the morning saying, "I would like to ask this question; could you make sure you are prepared?" That is called notice; it is a courtesy that does not seem to be extended by some honourable Members of this House. But I can assure the honourable Member that if he tries that method and extends that courtesy, he will find that he has a lot better luck in getting the kind of information and not wasting his time or the time of Ministers in tracking down answers to details that I do not think Ministers can fairly be expected to have on hand in many cases. Thank you.

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

**Supplementary To Question O465-90(1): Need For Civil Servants To Sit In House**

**MR. MORIN:** Mr. Government Leader, that system of notice, of giving notice the morning or the day before, I have given notice six months before to some of your Ministers to get a question answered in this House and they still cannot answer it, so there is something wrong with the system. Even if I give it as a written question, I do not get an answer.

Mr. Government Leader, once again, can you look at changing the system or making sure that the Ministers do have adequate staff so that the questions can be answered? Thank you.

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

**Further Return To Question O465-90(1): Need For Civil Servants To Sit In House**

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Mr. Speaker, I think we are doing a pretty good job answering questions and providing prompt returns. I will do an analysis of it; maybe I will have something to learn from that, but my impression is that Ministers do their best to provide prompt responses, Mr. Speaker. Quite frankly, I do not see any need to add more public servants to this government in times of restraint, as the honourable Member has suggested. I think if we took advantage of opportunities to meet with Ministers to discuss issues which need not always be raised in this House, we might have a better flow of information.

I would like to assure the honourable Members that the doors of Ministers' offices are open to Members who wish to discuss issues in the more informal situation that they might find in the Ministers' offices. Especially on matters of information rather than matters of policy and matters of urgent concern, I am not sure that this House is the best place in which to extract many of the requests that come forward in question period, Mr. Speaker.

So I would suggest that to the honourable Member. Sit down with us and discuss bison with the Minister of Renewable

Resources. I am sure he would be prepared to have a lengthy discussion with the Member about his concerns instead of piece by piece during question period over a period of weeks. Thank you.

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

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Government Leader, I do not need a pep talk on how to do my job; I am well aware of how to do it. The only reason that I bring things into this Assembly is that I do try the other route first but, just as an example, I asked you a written question on February 23, 1990, on direct or indirect benefits to the 11th Assembly MLAs, and I still have not got an answer from you. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** That is a comment. There was no question. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

**Question O466-90(1): Status Of Nunasi Central Airlines**

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Transportation. Is Nunasi Central Airlines completely out of the flying business?

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

**Return To Question O466-90(1): Status Of Nunasi Central Airlines**

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not exactly sure. I know that they are out of the passenger business. I think they may still be doing a little bit of charter work but I do not even know if they are doing that. They may be having Air Manitoba do some work on their behalf. They do still have licences but I do not know if Nunasi planes themselves are flying any more. But definitely they are out of the passenger business.

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

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is there any possibility of Nunasi Central Airlines getting back into the passenger business? I thought they were providing a very good service.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I am having difficulty with the question that was posed because firstly, the question asked for an opinion from the Minister and secondly, it is asking a question that really is not within his administrative responsibility to decide, whether or not the airline should continue to be in existence. That is really not his responsibility. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre.

**Question O467-90(1): GNWT Participation In Yukon Health Conferences**

**MR. LEWIS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Health. The GNWT, as a partner in the circumpolar community, is sending delegations to two health conferences in the near future. From May 16 to 18 the Inukshuk Conference will host northern nurses, and from May 20 to 25 health professionals will attend the Circumpolar Conference on Health Issues. These conferences are to take place in the Yukon. It is my understanding, Mr. Speaker, that there will be 75 people from the NWT attending these conferences, so I would like to ask the Minister of Health, what is the process by which these people are chosen to attend these conferences?

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

**Return To Question O467-90(1): GNWT Participation In Yukon Health Conferences**

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, each of the regional health boards is putting forward one or two names. The various hospitals are putting forward some names. The Department of Health and its regional offices are also submitting a number of names. We have many, many more than 75 who are applying. In limiting it to 75 people, we are attempting to make a critical analysis of who would most benefit within their particular job function in attending these conferences. Let me tell you, it is a very difficult task, but we are attempting to be as fair as possible. Through the regional health boards we are asking for their assistance as to who should go. In the Department of Health we are attempting to set priorities as to who should go. The nursing association is also recommending a number of people who they feel will benefit from the conferences. So there are different levels of decision-making in finalizing the list. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Supplementary To Question O467-90(1): GNWT Participation In Yukon Health Conferences**

**MR. LEWIS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is the Minister attempting to reduce this list to 75 people, or is she in fact trying to reduce these 75 people to a smaller number? Thank you.

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

**Further Return To Question O467-90(1): GNWT Participation In Yukon Health Conferences**

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, the figure of 75 is a reduction from a request of up to 300 people who would want to go to the conferences. Thank you.

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

**Supplementary To Question O467-90(1): GNWT Participation In Yukon Health Conferences**

**MR. LEWIS:** Since this would be an expensive proposition, to have that many people go to the Yukon, and we all know how expensive it is to get from here to Whitehorse, I wonder if the Minister could explain to the House what steps she is taking to ensure that this can be done at the most reasonable cost to this government.

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

**Further Return To Question O467-90(1): GNWT Participation In Yukon Health Conferences**

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, at present the department, in co-operation with the other groups in securing the names and locations of people, will ask the airlines in some circumstances if they would sponsor a number of people. As well, depending on where people come from, we are exploring charters to be co-ordinated from central areas. We are looking at all the possibilities, gaining support from the airlines as well as co-ordinating the charter services from areas that make the most economical sense for bringing in a number of people on a charter. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Oral questions, the honourable

Member for Yellowknife Centre, final supplementary.

**Supplementary To Question O467-90(1): GNWT Participation In Yukon Health Conferences**

**MR. LEWIS:** Mr. Speaker, I recognize the importance for professional people to keep up to date with developments in their field, but I would like to ask the Minister, what will people get from these conferences? How, in fact, are people going to benefit from attending these two particular conferences? And is it not rather a large number? That would be my other question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I would just remind the honourable Member that only one question is to be posed. I am having difficulty with the last supplementary. It is asking an opinion of the Minister to determine what would be the benefit. It is my assumption that it is very difficult to make that assessment at this particular time. Is the honourable Member prepared to answer? The honourable Member for Nunakput.

**Further Return To Question O467-90(1): GNWT Participation In Yukon Health Conferences**

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, the one question that I will answer is whether this is a large number or not. There has been a great deal of difficulty in reducing the number of people who are interested in attending the conferences down to the number of 75. Even though we have restricted it to 75, there are a great number of people who, on their own, will be taking along a spouse and perhaps driving, and there are other people who are attempting to find other ways to go to the conference without any cost to the government. We are working on the most economical way that will allow people to go to the conferences.

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

**Question O468-90(1): April 1 Implementation Of Water And Sewer Subsidy Program**

**MR. ZOE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs with regard to the water and sewer subsidy program. Is the Minister still proceeding to implement this policy by April 1st?

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

**Return To Question O468-90(1): April 1 Implementation Of Water And Sewer Subsidy Program**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, yes. There may be delays in some cases for discussions with the municipalities, but it is my intention for these discussions to occur and be carried out. I think once understanding is in place there should not be any problems.

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

**Question O469-90(1): Motor Vehicles Staff Working During Caribou Carnival Holiday**

**MR. WHITFORD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I realize that I may have upset some people on the line of questioning I am pursuing here dealing with the end of the month and the vehicle registration, but we have to do these things sometimes. My question is directed to the Minister of Transportation and motor vehicles. Can the Minister tell me if he knows if his staff are taking the half day off tomorrow?

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

**Return To Question O469-90(1): Motor Vehicles Staff Working During Caribou Carnival Holiday**

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The motor vehicles office is going to be open all day tomorrow. It falls under the heading, I guess, of operational requirements and there were announcements on the local radio, I believe CJCD, informing the public of that fact. Also, we should keep in mind that this year we are introducing staggered registrations to hopefully alleviate these huge line-ups at the end of March, which have traditionally occurred. I am hopeful that that will help alleviate the situation as well. Thank you.

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

**Question O470-90(1): Cost Accounting Guidelines Associated With Water And Sewer Policy**

**MR. ZOE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question, again, is directed to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. Is the new water and sewer subsidy program part of the new municipal operation and maintenance financing policy?

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

**Return To Question O470-90(1): Cost Accounting Guidelines Associated With Water And Sewer Policy**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** I think what we are both talking about and referring to are the cost accounting guidelines that are associated with the water and sewer policy. That is what I am talking about. I am not sure what the Member is talking about.

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

**Question O471-90(1): Fish Quotas In Baffin Central**

**MR. KILABUK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am interested in obtaining information from the Minister of Renewable Resources. I wonder if he has any information on the halibut fishery venture in our region. What quota have they been given by Fisheries and Oceans? Have you been made aware of that, Mr. Minister? Thank you.

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

**Return To Question O471-90(1): Fish Quotas In Baffin Central**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is no set quota. This is a pilot project and it is called an exploratory quota. This has not been issued yet because it is in the experimental stages. They do not have the count of the halibut but I will pass this information on to you. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Oral questions. Item 6, written questions. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

**ITEM 6: WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

**Question W25-90(1): Location Of Peregrine Falcon Nesting Grounds In The Aivilik Region**

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A written question to the Minister of Renewable Resources. Could the Minister of Renewable Resources table in this House locations of the

peregrine falcon nesting grounds within a 50 mile radius of Rankin Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Written questions. Written questions.

Prior to moving to Item 7, I wish to have Members recognize in the audience visitors from southern Canada and New Zealand and West Germany. These are students who are here for northern experience and who have been invited by the Rotary Club of Yellowknife.

--Applause

Item 7, returns to written questions. Returns to written questions. Item 8, replies to Opening Address. The honourable Member for Deh Cho.

**ITEM 8: REPLIES TO OPENING ADDRESS**

**Mr. Gargan's Reply**

**MR. GARGAN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reason why I would like to make my reply today is that I will be leaving tonight to go to St. Paul to attend a kind of workshop on the subject of alcohol abuse. That is the reason I thought I would do my statement, since some of the items that still have to be discussed for my constituency are going to be discussed in my absence. I wanted to assure the Members that some of the projects that are designated for the communities in my constituency are there based on a reason and there is a rationale behind it. I would also like to welcome the students that are from out of the country. By the numbers there, it looks like there are more females than there are males. I thought I would mention that too.

Mr. Speaker, first of all I would like to thank the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, Daniel Norris, for coming to my community of Fort Providence during our Arctic Winter Games break. The community appreciated that, and the Commissioner has also indicated that he appreciated going into the beautiful community of Fort Providence.

**New Facilities On Hay River Reserve**

Mr. Speaker, during the next few days there will be discussions in my constituency with regard to some facilities that are going into the Hay River Reserve. Among the facilities that are going in is a senior citizens home which will be built there this year. Just for the Members' information, there was a study done on the reserve in 1988 and it concluded on June 1989 with regard to the senior citizens home feasibility proposal. I also have here a list of 62 names of senior citizens that are 50 years and over, based on the \$2000 that was given out in the senior citizens benefits package. I also have here a motion or a resolution based on the allocation for lots. Because this is a reserve, the requirement is that they have to pass Band resolutions so that lands are actually transferred to the government to establish these facilities there. Because of that, the senior citizens care facility is getting three acres. The alcohol and drug treatment centre is getting five acres. Also, the reserve has received the building that was the Pine Point town hall. The reserve will, in fact, cover all the costs to transport this big hall to the Hay River Reserve and they will do it on the ice. Naturally they will be travelling about three or four miles an hour for such a big building just to balance the weight on the ice.

Also on the reserve a treatment centre is going to be built. I would like to thank the Minister of Social Services for her support in that area. The Deh Cho Regional Council also passed a motion of support on it; and the Dene Nation National Assembly in Inuvik also gave their support to the Hay River Reserve on this. There is a study done by Eric Shirt,

who is a consultant, and based on this study a need was identified in the Deh Cho region, which also represents 10 communities. I would like to ask the Members to support me on those.

There is also a problem in Fort Providence which I thought I would bring to the attention of the Members and the public and that is that we have a beautiful church in Fort Providence that was built quite some time ago but it has this year been condemned because of the foundation deteriorating. Any further services in there would cave the floor in. So we have been holding our services in a small chapel and for bigger services we use the community hall. We have not been asking this government for any kind of support, but the community has put bottles out that are labelled for contributions. The community of Fort Providence has responded very positively to that. But last week I phoned the parish priest about how much it will cost and he still has not given me any kind of estimates. The fire marshal has been there and has been working on giving the parish priest an estimate.

I would also like to thank Mr. Ernerk for mentioning the youth and the kind of initiatives that should be given to them in the area of leadership training. Mr. Speaker, last week 21 students came here from the Chief Sunrise School, Hay River Reserve.

**MR. LEWIS:** Mr. Speaker, we have no quorum and I think we should have Members here to listen to the Member speak.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Are you rising on a point of order? Honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre.

**MR. LEWIS:** This is a reply to the Commissioner's Opening Address and I believe we should have a quorum to listen to the Member.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Mr. Clerk, would you ring the bells please? The Chair recognizes a quorum. Honourable Member for Deh Cho.

**MR. GARGAN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank the Member for Yellowknife South for his kind words to have Members present when other Members are making their replies.

With regard to the students from the Chief Sunrise School who came last week and spent some time with the Members, I want to thank the Members who did take the time to talk with the individual students who had written to them.

For the next few months, at least until after break-up, I will be travelling to the Hay River Reserve and Kakisa and leaving my vehicle on the other side of the river until after break-up. Last year I organized a canoe race and spent quite a bit of time on the river. I was on the northern economy committee and I did not spend as much time or pay as much attention as I would have liked to the Hay River Reserve and Kakisa. I want to apologize to those two communities for my neglect. I will try to make it up to them this summer by spending more time in those two areas.

Mr. Speaker, the community of Fort Providence raised all the money required to organize the canoe race last year. They built all the canoes for people to participate and they paid for all the paddles, life jackets and all the gas for the canoe race. We are still struggling to cover some of our deficit. As of March we are still \$8000 in the red. I thought we were going to organize another race between Fort Providence and Fort Simpson this year to try to cover some of our expenses and perhaps get out of this deficit we are in. I have just received a letter from the community of Fort Providence agreeing that

they could lend the canoes for this race, but after saying I cannot ignore Hay River Reserve and Kakisa again this year for the sake of a canoe race, I think I have to get my priorities straight and I told the community of Fort Providence that I am not willing to take it on. If other people in the community wish to do it, then they certainly have my support on it.

Mr. Speaker, in Fort Providence we have some problems in the area of social services. Not because of the personnel there but because the individual is from Kakisa and driving back and forth every day you do run into a lot of difficulties during the spring break-up and the fall freeze-up. I believe we have a person from the community that is training in Fort Smith, but until that training is completed and until we have a full-time person that resides in the community, we will have this difficulty. On a positive note, I would like to thank the Minister for the kind of response she has given to my constituency every time we do come up with a problem. I especially want to thank Bernie Doyle, deputy minister. Every time I have a problem I talk to Bernie who is able to respond quite effectively. So I would like to thank his department for that.

---Applause

#### **No Response From Government On Economic Initiatives**

Mr. Speaker, in the area of economic development, there are two areas in which the community of Fort Providence has taken an initiative and has yet to get a response. We did a feasibility study and established a proposal for the harvesting of the bison herd commercially and also for providing domestic meat to the community in Fort Rae and Providence. There was a motion passed several years by the region, supporting the community of Fort Providence for the control of the tags. There was also a leadership motion again, supported by the leadership, for the control of the tags. To date this government has not yet responded to what I thought the leaders had established -- a clear position on their support. That is one difficulty the community of Fort Providence is experiencing.

The other difficulty is that the government is still not willing to give three or four tags as a test run to see if it will work. As long as we are not given the opportunity to try and make it work, we do not know what the results will be. The government cannot respond to us positively.

During the last two years the community of Fort Providence has trained, on its own initiative, people for level one and two guiding training. The business enterprise of the band council has actually sponsored those students to take that training. It is a community initiative which the government should recognize, and use those people. Also, we have the resources there now to actually take on that responsibility of trying to get a commercial hunt going in the community of Fort Providence.

The other area in which the government has an initiative is in the plans to build a transmission line between the Taltson dam near Fort Smith cross-country to cross near Fort Providence and to go on to Yellowknife, and also to connect with the Snare Lake dam. Mr. Speaker, we have already, in 1975, had lines that were going across the river near Fort Providence. At that time the technology was not there to do anything other than that, but I believe the hamlet council has written a letter on this difficulty to the Bill Bourque in Hay River, who is the distribution superintendent. I have also written a letter to the Minister, Ms Cournoyea, on that problem, which is that we do not wish the transmission line to cross right in the middle of the community. We wish to have it either further south, maybe by the ferry landing, or else further

north where there are several islands that you could jump across to do it, or else do it as in the example of the Norman Wells pipeline and put it underground. There is technology now that could probably satisfy the community of Fort Providence with regard to their support of the proposed transmission line. I thought I would bring that to the Minister's attention so that it is on the record.

One area which, Mr. Speaker, we will be addressing today, too, is the area, not of uranium mining but of the disposal of uranium products, nuclear waste. There are several experiments right now in the Canadian Shield in which old mine shafts are being used to store these nuclear wastes or toxic wastes. I know that those experiments are being carried on and Members have to remember that the Canadian Shield goes right from Labrador all the way through Yellowknife and on to the Yukon. But I do not wish to see the Territories used as a haven for people down south that do not know what to do with their waste. During the life of this Assembly, I hope I will be able to make a motion opposing any kind of disposable waste being stored here in the Northwest Territories.

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

---Applause

#### Condition Of Highway

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Speaker, I do drive the highway quite a bit. That is the only way I get to and from Yellowknife. It costs this government about \$180 every time I make one trip to Yellowknife, which is a hell of a lot better than a \$1200 charter. I have been using the highway intensively so I could say with expertise that the roads are quite disgusting and that the visibility...

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

**MR. GARGAN:** ...during the summer months is very bad. My premium for my windshield, Mr. Speaker, has gone up from \$50 to \$200.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Shame, shame!

**MR. GARGAN:** Every year I have to change my windshield, or else I am told that I could be fined for having a bad windshield. I have to do that every year. Even though you stop when these big trucks pass by, you still cannot get away from flying rocks. So it is a problem that I am having and I am sure a lot of the other smaller vehicle motorists are having. It is difficult to try to force truckers to slow down. I run into them all the time in Fort Providence. That is where they stop before they go on to Yellowknife. I have also told them about the situation of those rocks flying, and so on. A lot of them do make the effort of slowing right down when you pass, but there are several of them that feel they own the road, and it is difficult to change that. I do not know whether the government can do much except to say that the road does require improvement and I believe improvement is starting this summer to eventually be concluded here in Yellowknife by the year 2020 or thereabouts. I hope by the year 2000 half of my windshield will still be okay.

#### Assistance To Senior Citizens And Young People

Another area which perhaps I would like to touch on a bit is with regard to people issues. I would like to thank the Minister of Social Services for an increase, several years back, in their midmonth cheques to \$100. Again, I think it is long overdue. The cost of living is going up. The GST is going to be implemented next year and I think we should try to assist the senior citizens as much as we can. I also would

like to thank the Minister for the wood subsidy that they are getting, and I think in some cases, a fuel subsidy. I would like to thank the Minister for that initiative.

There is one area which perhaps people tend to ignore or maybe are not aware of because they are not at that stage yet. It is the people between 50 years of age and 65, who are not old enough to get senior citizens' benefits but are too old to work, so they are in a situation which perhaps this government might be able to help through social assistance; instead of those people going in every month to ask for assistance maybe through a special program a cheque could be sent directly to them instead of them going in every month to ask.

Another group in my community also needs help. We have a lot of good hockey players, good athletes, but unfortunately no jobs to help them. Although there are a lot of graduates in my community, Mr. Speaker, we run into the difficulty of students coming back to the community because they do not like Yellowknife, they do not like Fort Smith, they do not like Norman Wells, perhaps, or else they do not like where they are working. So they end up in the community, high school graduates, and they become bums, but they are also the best bums in town. Mr. Speaker, that is one problem that we have. A lot of the young people still spend most of their time in Providence or return there but there are no programs, actually, to get them motivated. We do have, in the community of Fort Providence, a very active hockey club and that is the pastime, I guess, for those people to participate productively in the community. We also have a very active broomball club which is comprised of a lot of gals as well.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that in the near future there are going to be considerations by the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs to build a covered rink on the Hay River Reserve. I have spoken with the leaders in the community there and their wish is that instead of having such a facility, because they still could utilize the Hay River facility, they would prefer to establish a community hall/covered pool building as an option to the covered skating rink.

Another suggestion, Mr. Speaker, that was given to me with regard to highways is that the truckers be given time limits on when they should be travelling that highway, as is done in other jurisdictions, so that the truckers are not allowed to travel one day of the week on the Mackenzie highway or the highways North of 60, perhaps on a Sunday or something like that. So that is something the government would be able to consider.

Mr. Speaker, I have been a Member for six years now, six long years. I have enjoyed my work here. At times it keeps me away from my community. During the 10th Assembly, Mr. Speaker, I calculated that after about four years as a Member and serving on committees in the House, that I have spent 2.5 years of the four years away from my community and away from my family. I am part of the old-timers team in Fort Providence which spends a lot of time with the community of Fort Providence. Even with the old-timers I notice that although they get invitations for tournaments out of town, they seem to be reluctant to travel. It seems that they do not trust their wives or something. I think they know something that I do not know. I do spend quite a lot of time away from home but I try every other week, at my own expense, to travel home to visit my family during the weekends.

#### Proposed Status Of Women Council Act

Another area, Mr. Speaker, that I want to touch on just a bit, is that the government is going to be introducing the proposed Status of Women Council Act. I do not want to talk about the act itself but I wanted to bring to the attention of the

Members here that we do have a very strong movement within the women's groups. There are issues that have been coming up time and time again with regard to the women that address issues and make strong points of it, and Judge Bourassa is a classic example of that. One difficulty that I find, with regard to the act itself, is that it does give a lot of power to women because once an act like this passes it is law and the objectives of those laws are law. So whether it is for information initiatives or for information sharing or for equality issues, you have something in law which men do not have and so it will make it very difficult in the future for ordinary guys like us to try and make a point and make it stick, especially if you have legislation that is law protecting the women.

Mr. Speaker, there are different ways of addressing women's issues without actually making it law. That is that you do have the Native Women's Association, you do have Dene Nation, you do have affirmative action, you do have the Status of Women Secretariat, you do have the unions, you do have the court system, you do have the equal employment program, you also have the evaluation systems, staffing systems, compensation benefits division, the Metis Association, the Labour Act, the Human Rights Act, the Charter of Rights which, perhaps, is going to start recognizing women's rights, and you also have two women here that take care of women's issues and I think they are doing it quite well. This bill is going to be dealt with tomorrow. I will not be here, unfortunately. I know that the status of women will be addressed. I thought maybe I would bring this up because I must commend the women because they are doing a very effective job in what they are doing. I do not think you need a law to protect your issues at hand, I think you are doing it without that. So I am hoping that you will give me some support if I do decide to make a motion to repeal this act.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the Members that are in the House for their kind attention. I thought I would bring up several of the issues that were of importance to me before the conclusion of this budget session. I will be back here next week to deal with the different bills. Other than that at least I have addressed all of the issues that need to be addressed. I realize that for the next several years, once this budget is approved, that I will not be getting too much for my community but I realize for the Members that did lose out this year perhaps their turn will come up next year or the following year so I would like the Members to support me when it comes to my constituency. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Replies to Opening Address. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

#### **Mr. Whitford's Reply**

**MR. WHITFORD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I realize that two replies to the Commissioner's address in one day is information overload. However, some of the subjects that I am going to talk to you about are timely and any delay will probably make my reply much shorter and I do not want to do that.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for this opportunity. I am pleased to have this chance to respond to the Commissioner's Opening Address. This is my third one. It will be short and to the point and I will address some things I can applaud, but there are things that I would like to have heard from the government but have not heard.

I am pleased that the Commissioner made his comments here in Yellowknife, in this building, that I consider to be our temporary home. Along with my constituents and many other residents of the Territories, I hope that this House will no longer find it necessary to hold sessions outside of

Yellowknife. I strongly support the decision of this House to build a permanent Legislative Assembly building here in Yellowknife and many of my constituents support that notion as well. The new building can be, and will be, a symbol to all our residents of the permanency of this government. For the longest time I suspected that people did not consider this government to be a real government that represents all of the people. I think we are moving forward strongly to develop that confidence in the permanency of this government to represent all the people in the Northwest Territories.

**MR. ERNERK:** Nunavut.

**MR. WHITFORD:** I will get to Nunavut in a minute. Mr. Speaker, those of us living in the North are experiencing so many changes in our day-to-day lives! We need to foster the idea that government in the North, whether we are talking about one government or two governments, with the eventual creation of Nunavut, is something permanent, something that will endure in the midst of changing times and changing realities. I know the original intent behind the travelling Assembly was a good one, but we have now matured as a government.

In this day and age of fiscal restraint we can no longer afford the expense of holding sessions in other communities. It is no longer necessary. We have spent enough time on this issue but it expressed the concerns of a good number of our constituents, especially before, during and after the Norman Wells session, for the reasons and necessity for holding travelling sessions. I know we can come up with other alternatives to having the whole Assembly and the entourage of people that are necessary to maintain a sitting elsewhere in a different forum.

#### **Environmental Concerns**

Environmental concerns, Mr. Speaker, are high on my agenda and I am pleased to see that this government has placed such a strong emphasis on the environment. As you know, I was a Member of the special committee on the northern economy and managed to attend almost every public hearing in many of the constituencies. I know from personal experience, after hundreds of hours of listening to the concerns of citizens, that there are few single issues of more concern across the Territories than the environment. I want to commend the government for moving so quickly to implement one of the recommendations of SCONE, and that recommendation is to set up a round table on the environment and the economy. I am also pleased that the government is pursuing one of our committee's other recommendations and is intending to introduce its sustainable development policy within the next few months.

I do have a serious concern, one that we spelled out in the report. The government has a tendency to confuse having a policy on paper with actions taken in the real world. The two are not the same, and this government needs a long-term strategy with long-term vigilance. We must not only say, but we must do, and do with vigour. A case in point is a recent decision on pulp mills in northern Alberta. Government seems to feel that its intervention before the environmental impact assessment board helped delay the building of some pulp mills until they have been proved to be environmentally sound. I have no reason to doubt that our government's intervention was successful and that that intervention contributed to this delay. But, as I said before in a Member's statement a few days ago, this is not a victory. It is only round one of an ongoing struggle to ensure that all future developments are environmentally sound and sustainable. Government must watch developments, not only here in the NWT, but in the bordering provinces, especially the provinces that contribute water and the flow of air. They must watch



developments very closely over the long term and be ready to act quickly and decisively. It must have its own house in order. By having its own house in order I mean the government must develop comprehensive strategies and solid monitoring procedures to ensure the protection of our environment. But it must not only think of the future. It must act now and immediately.

Mr. Speaker, the Commissioner's Opening Address had no immediate practical suggestions for sensitizing the ordinary citizen to environmental protection. There was nothing about reducing energy costs or other consumer education or recycling or any similar suggestions for ordinary people on the street. He talked about industry, but we need to have something that the people can understand. We must talk to the people as well. Up until now the initiatives for recycling have not come from this government. They have come from ordinary citizens.

I want to commend Ecology North for its recycling programs here in this city. It has shown the way. It shows that it is possible. It shows that it is successful. It needs help from the government, not only for Ecology North but for other environmentally conscious individuals. Hopefully it is also showing the government the way.

I wonder if government has fully explored the use of recycling paper within our own departments. I realize that we do have blue boxes, but I know that the garbage bins are still full to overflowing with paper. More of it has to be picked up. That is only one area. Such a policy would certainly help complement the concerns about the production of bleached paper in northern Alberta. I applaud the government's long-term approach for observing the environment, but I want to see more practical suggestions.

#### Spousal Assault

Spousal assault. The need for more evaluation. This is one area that this government completely neglected, spousal assault. This is a problem that I feel very strongly about. It is such a serious problem and it is so widespread across Canada and in particular in the NWT. One of the reasons for prompting me to make my address today, Mr. Speaker, was the fact that we will be dealing with this issue. It is something that has been sitting for too long without attention.

During the session I will have more to say on the subject. But allow me to make a couple of observations now. I suspect that one of the reasons this government neglected this vital program area was its concern with budget deficit. The first part of the Commissioner's Opening Address went into our financial problems in great detail. There were a number of warnings that we must tighten our belts and make do with less. Presumably there is no room for new initiatives and hence no funding to deal with the problem of spousal assault.

Mr. Speaker, I share the government's concern about the reduced revenues and the potential impact of the goods and services tax, but I have other concerns as well. One that we noted in our SCONE report is that no matter what program areas we are talking about, this government has almost no evaluation system. It seems to start programs and let them continue with the meter running, regardless of whether they are effective or even needed. There is an appalling lack of program audits, program evaluation, program reviews and all kinds of evaluations. I suspect the reason the government has neglected the area of spousal assault is that there is no way of evaluating the related merits of its other major program areas. It is not that there is not enough money for spousal assault programs. It is that we are using the limited funds for

other less worthy programs and services.

Mr. Speaker, it is time that the government did more than lecture us on the merits of living within our budgets, dampening public expectations and learning to do more with less. It is time that the government led the way by putting some evaluation systems in place to help ensure value for money. Maybe then they can find the resources needed to attack the problem of spousal assault.

#### Importance Of Mining

Mr. Speaker, another vital area that was completely neglected in the Commissioner's Opening Address was mining. Mining has played a vital role in the history of the Territories. While it already seems to be a major source of jobs, it got the short end of the stick from Mr. Wilson's recent budget. Because mining can have a negative impact upon the environment, it is often cast in a negative light. It is almost impossible for this industry to avoid controversy, whether we are talking about uranium mining in the Keewatin or the decision of Con to drill under Rat Lake here in Yellowknife.

Mr. Speaker, if there is one industry that needs government to provide enlightened leadership, it is the mining industry. It is a high risk industry at the best of times. If there was ever a test case for the government's new sustainable development policy, it certainly is in the mining industry. I urge the government to assist this vital industry in a manner that will sustain our environment for future generations, and continue to support this industry because of its importance to our economic base.

Mr. Speaker, when it comes to discussing land claims, I could not help but notice that the government's whole emphasis was on the Inuit claims, and not too much attention was paid to the Dene/Metis, and the time is fast approaching when this claim has to be settled. While I applaud the progress that has been made in the area of the Inuit claim, I regret that there was but one single sentence of reference to the Dene/Metis claim in the address. It is almost as if this government has given up on the Dene/Metis claim. I understand, Mr. Speaker, the details that are occupying the beneficiaries of the claim, but I am equally concerned about the great risk in failing to arrive at a settlement at this time. Fifteen years is a long time. I cannot believe that there is nothing this government can do to facilitate the resolution by the Dene/Metis and the federal government, and I urge that the government use its considerable moral and technical authority to help both sides to settle this claim.

Mr. Speaker, I do not want to end my remarks, on a note which would be considered by some to be negative to everything that has been said and done by the government. After all, we are a consensus government, and the government is responding in the majority of cases to the input from the Members. I also want to make sure that the public servants who deliver these programs fully understand that this Member, and the constituents that I represent, in the majority of cases do support the good work that they do. They have also asked me, Madam Minister, to monitor very closely the actions that the government Ministers take in delivering programs, and if they need to be addressed then I shall address them, regardless.

Thank you for this opportunity to respond, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Replies to Opening Address. Replies to Opening Address.

Item 9, petitions. Petitions.

Item 10, reports of standing and special committees.

Item 11, tabling of documents. Tabling of documents.

Item 12, notices of motion. Notices of motion.

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

I want to inform the honourable Members that I have received a message from the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories as follows: "I wish to advise that I recommend to the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories the passage of Bill 18-90(1), An Act Respecting Interim Appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1991, during the sixth session of the Legislative Assembly." I just want to note that had we not received this particular communication, we would not have been able to proceed with Bill 18-90(1). I think just as a reminder to the government that in future, you should be aware that such a message is necessary to begin the process of introduction of bills. However, we have received it now and we can proceed.

Notices of motion for first reading of bills. The House will now take a 15 minute coffee break.

---SHORT RECESS

Item 14, motions: Motion 11-90(1).

**MR. ZOE:** Point of order.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Point of order, honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre.

**MR. ZOE:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of the Speaker that we do not have a quorum.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Point of order. The Speaker does not recognize a quorum. Mr. Clerk, would you ring the bell please? Thank you. The Chair recognizes a quorum. Item 14, motions. Motion 11-90(1). Honourable Member for Aivilik.

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would respectfully request to defer that motion until the seconder of the motion, Mr. Ningark of Natilikmiot is in the House.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The motion must proceed today or be dropped from the order paper and the honourable Member must reintroduce the item or have the option of naming another seconder. Does the honourable Member wish to proceed with Motion 11-90(1)?

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Motions. Motion 12-90(1). Honourable Member for Tu Nede.

#### ITEM 14: MOTIONS

**Motion 12-90(1): Musk-Ox Quota To The Snowdrift Band**

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to move the following motion:

WHEREAS the community of Snowdrift has protected and managed the musk-ox herd successfully for thousands of years;

AND WHEREAS they have withheld their right to hunt these musk-ox;

AND WHEREAS the number of animals in the herd has greatly increased;

AND WHEREAS the Denendeh Conservation Board and the Department of Renewable Resources have recommended 14 musk-ox to be harvested;

AND WHEREAS the community of Snowdrift may want to use these animals for economic reasons as well as domestic use;

AND WHEREAS the Denendeh Conservation Board is soliciting public comments dealing with the hunting of musk-ox from the area east of Great Slave Lake;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the Member for Nahendeh, that this Legislative Assembly direct the Minister of Renewable Resources to allocate whatever musk-ox quota is made available to the area east of Great Slave Lake to the Snowdrift Band to be used at their discretion.

Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. The honourable Member for Tu Nede.

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has been brought to my attention that the harvesting of musk-ox once again will be reintroduced into our area, the Snowdrift area. The harvesting of musk-ox, until last year, has not been allowed since approximately 1917. In the Barren Lands, the area which the Chipewyan and Snowdrift have used for thousands of years, the musk-ox have been there that long as well. Back in the 1920s and 1930s and 1940s, when white trappers came into the area and brought in the leghold traps and guns and other essentials to make their living on the land, they harvested an abundance of wildlife. They harvested a lot of white fox, wolves and other Barren Land animals, as well as musk-ox. They harvested musk-ox for resale of the hide only. By harvesting in great abundance, they drove the musk-ox population down to where our people agreed not to hunt musk-ox in order to bring the herd back up to where it would be viable again to hunt.

The community of Snowdrift and the Chipewyan people of Snowdrift have been the only community people in the NWT that were affected by this decision. They are the people that agreed not to harvest the musk-ox for meat and it has put difficulties on them. Even when some of our people have been out on the Barrens and hungry, when they were caught out there in storms and travelling by dogs, they did not shoot any musk-ox. They wanted to bring that herd back up. Because they know that they are responsible. Musk-ox is something that the Creator has given them and it is something that they respect and they want to manage and take care of successfully.

Our area is one of the more beautiful areas in the NWT, Mr. Speaker, and there is a lot of potential for economic development in the renewable resource sector. Right now there are quite a few tourists coming in. On Great Slave Lake, which is right out our front door, the people of our area are not even allowed to take a tourist out on it, because government regulations are that people cannot benefit economically from that resource, the fish resource. There are lodges that are run by non-aboriginal people. They are the ones that are benefitting. They have successfully lobbied the government and I have been after this government to change their rules and regulations so that our people can harvest fish. Still, to this date we have been unable to do so. It is relevant to do so, Mr. Speaker, because it is a renewable resource and

one example. Here is a resource that is in abundance and we are not allowed to benefit economically. This is totally unacceptable to me and totally unacceptable to other Members of this House that such a thing should happen in this day and age, the 1990s.

I realize that the Denendeh Conservation Board does have a mandate from this Minister of Renewable Resources to manage wildlife in the western Arctic. I realize that there is an agreement in principle being negotiated between the Dene/Metis and the federal government. Before I put this motion on the floor I talked to the Dene/Metis negotiators. I talked to my people to see if this was the direction they wanted me to take, because I have certain things available to me to try and carry out the wishes of my people and one of them is moving motions in this Assembly.

Just because the federal government held a hard line in the negotiation process, saying that our people may only harvest a certain percentage and they have to give the rest to non-aboriginal people, this does not mean that this Assembly and the Members of this Assembly have to go with that. We can always strengthen it and do the right and proper thing. Right from day one, when the Europeans came into our country, as you know, Mr. Speaker, as an aboriginal person, we have always had the attitude of share, share, share. We have always done that; we have always shared with non-aboriginal people. Even to this day we still do that. If it was not for the Dene/Metis people, a lot of the European-Canadians that exist today probably would not be alive because their ancestors never would have survived. It was only with the help of our ancestors that the Europeans exist today.

#### **Snowdrift Should Have Decision-Making Power Re Musk-Ox**

Once again we have another item on our agenda, the musk-ox. At this point in time what I am saying, through this motion, is to turn the musk-ox over to the community of Snowdrift and if they decide that they are going to share with the non-aboriginal people, then let that be their decision. If they decide to go and shoot the 14 musk-ox for a community feast, let that be their decision. If they decide to bring in big game hunters and let the big game hunters shoot the musk-ox and let them keep the meat, that should be their decision. It should not be the decision of the Denendeh Conservation Board. It should be the decision of the local community that is affected. Once again I will say, Mr. Speaker, that it is only Snowdrift, no one else in the Northwest Territories, that ever had any bad effects from the musk-ox. It is only the community of Snowdrift, the Chipewyan of that region that have been affected. It should be only that community and the Chipewyan in that area that do benefit from the reopening of it at this point in time.

There will be other things that I would like to say to encourage Members to vote in favour of this motion, Mr. Speaker. I realize that I can also make closing statements so I will save the rest for then. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. To the motion. The honourable Member for Nahendeh. The honourable Member has declined to speak to the motion. To the motion. The honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre.

**MR. ZOE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have difficulty with the motion that is being presented. In my view the Denendeh Conservation Board is soliciting public comments in how to deal with the hunting of musk-ox east of Great Slave Lake. This board is soliciting comments from various groups. I assume one of them is the Snowdrift Band, and it could involve other groups. While this board is conducting this process that they have in place, soliciting

comments, here we are undermining them and passing a motion and making a decision before they conclude soliciting comments from the groups that wish to make presentations to the board as to how to deal with the hunting of musk-ox. In a way we are making a decision before we know what the board is going to make a recommendation to the Minister on.

So I am having a little difficulty with this particular motion. I understand what the Member is trying to do, but I will be abstaining from supporting this motion.

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

**MR. LEWIS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am no expert on wildlife, particularly on musk-ox, but there are some basic facts that should persuade people to look at some of the economic realities of some of our small communities. When we travelled around the last couple of years, we saw very few economic potentials in some of our small communities. It struck me, in fact, when we were in Snowdrift that even the matter of catching fish commercially right outside the village was something that they really could not participate in simply because there was already an established place which was licensed and it was not possible for them to get into that particular business.

When we look at the whole issue of what the authorities are, what the responsibilities are for wildlife...

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order. I will remind the honourable Members, as well, to continue to speak to the motion and the resolution of the motion. The honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre.

**MR. LEWIS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we look at the whole issue of the conservation of wildlife, it seems to me that, once a decision is made, all you can really afford to lose from that population is 14. The issue of what to do with that 14 is no longer a conservation issue. The decision has been made that that herd can support the loss of those 14 animals. So once that is decided, the conservation issue is settled. I would think that this particular motion to allow the community of Snowdrift, or whatever authority exists there similar to HTAs throughout the Territories where they do have this kind of authority and power -- it makes sense to me.

#### **Local People Should Benefit From Local Resources**

One of the things that we did really decide unanimously, as a group of people with our special committee on the economy, is that local people should benefit from local resources. If this is a resource that at one time was traditionally theirs, and for which they have now suffered because they have lost it for such a long period of time, and since there are so few economic opportunities in that community, it makes sense that this be dealt with not as a conservation matter, because that is decided, but as an economic matter.

For that reason, although there may be some people in my community and my constituency who would disagree with me and feel it should be opened up so that other people can have a chance to hunt them, that is the kind of local decision which, as the mover of the motion has already said, would be one that would perhaps be entertained as the logical way to proceed and to open up some of that resource for commercial purposes so that hunters can, in fact, add to the local economy. For that reason, Mr. Speaker, I will be supporting the motion.

**MR. SPEAKER:** To the motion. The honourable Member for Deh Cho.

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Speaker, I guess under the existing consolidated regulations on wildlife, most of the eastern Arctic communities do have control over their own quotas, whether it is musk-ox, polar bears, specifically those two. They do have that opportunity. As the Minister of Renewable Resources is aware, that is true. However, in the western Arctic there is that difficulty that we do have a larger number of non-native people that have to be considered but, as Mr. Morin stated, I do not see any difference on whether it is legislated or whether the communities have the control. I am sure when it comes to accommodating the non-native people the communities will be in a position to do that. For this reason I am supporting this motion. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The honourable Member for Aivilik, to the motion.

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have taken votes in this House and I have never abstained from a vote but I plan to abstain from this on a matter of principle.

Mr. Speaker, speaking to the motion, I wish that I could support the motion. I do support the motion to some extent. However, the Dene and Metis, as well as the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut, are at this point in time negotiating overlap agreements with regard to land use, as well as with regard to hunting rights. The people of Baker Lake are participants in this, I believe, although I stand to be corrected. People from Snowdrift at one time were participants in this important debate on hunting rights of two important groups of people from east and west.

I recognize personally that it takes a long time to get a quota system going. At the same time, Mr. Speaker, I am also a believer in proper scientific studies before the government takes a position. I am asking a question in my own head to the government, to the Department of Renewable Resources, whether or not a quota system can be established immediately.

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Speaker, a point of order.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Point of order. The honourable Member for Deh Cho.

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Member if he could speak to the motion.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. That responsibility, I believe, belongs to the Chair, to decide if the honourable Member is speaking to the motion. To the motion, the honourable Member for Aivilik.

**MR. ERNERK:** Mr. Speaker, thank you very much. I am asking whether or not a musk-ox quota can be established. Mr. Speaker, although I do want to support the motion very much, and I understand the intent of the motion and the opening remarks of the honourable Member, however, at this point in time I will abstain from the vote.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, would like to speak to the motion. My information is that the mover of the motion is correct in stating that the musk-ox in that area have been increasing and the musk-ox quota assigned to that area at the present time is 14. Since the establishment of the musk-ox quota, we have approached the Denendeh Conservation Board to solicit their input into how the musk-ox quota will be allocated in the communities. I am also informed that the community of Snowdrift is soliciting

information from their own people on how the musk-ox quota should be allocated.

I know, Mr. Speaker, that the Dene/Metis claim is not finalized. Even though it is not finalized, the government has been working towards respecting those agreements that are in place. Mr. Speaker, the Dene/Metis negotiators, in reaching an agreement on their wildlife section, have worked very, very hard to get what they want. Their agreement, in section 13.5(12) respecting musk-ox, says: "In the case of musk-ox, the board" -- which is the conservation board -- "after consultation with the affected Dene/Metis local councils with respect to location, methods, quantities, seasons and like matters, shall allocate a proportion of the total allowable harvest for resident non-participants and may establish policies and recommend regulations for harvesting by such non-participants."

Mr. Speaker, if the Legislative Assembly is going to bypass those very boards that the Dene/Metis have worked very hard towards establishing, we will be going against the Dene/Metis land claims, in my opinion. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I will be respecting the wishes of the Dene/Metis organizations in voting for this motion. Thank you.

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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, the issue of whether the allocation of 14 musk-ox should go to Snowdrift is something that I believe that, if the "whereases" are completely in order, I cannot see why the Denendeh Conservation Board cannot make that decision to make that specific allocation. It has been with a great deal of energy that we established boards to make those decisions, because they are closer to home and the representation on that particular resource comes from the communities that are directly affected. I find it difficult to understand why, if the arguments presented today are such as they are, the Denendeh Conservation Board has not made that decision.

I can see very well the Member's concern in terms of perhaps decisions taking a long time.

#### Allocation Of Quotas Different For Polar Bears

However, I would like to also speak with regard to a number of things that have been stated in terms of the allocation of quotas. The honourable Member states that we do have allocations made by the communities in certain areas. While this is true of polar bears, which was established many years ago, allocations such as musk-ox are done at the regional level. A regional organization such as the Inuvialuit Game Council sits down and decides what the allocation is and which communities would get certain allocations. So it is not as though the regional body is not making that decision with the membership; the membership of the body comes from the communities. The only difference is with polar bears, but I think everyone in this Legislative Assembly knows why that took place. It was a long outstanding issue and it still has some problems at the community level to change it according to how the different communities would like to see it done.

I cannot support the motion. I feel that I would not have had any difficulty if the Minister of Renewable Resources was directed to recommend to the Denendeh Conservation Board that they take this particular action, but I feel it would be disrespectful of this government, after setting up those boards, to assume that they would not make this right decision in the end. Thank you.

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

Member for Kivallivik.

### Decisions Regarding Natural Resources Should Not Be Political

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess, as much as I am sympathetic with the Member and what he is trying to achieve, I really do not think that this is the correct way to be going about it. Like my colleague from Nunakput, we have spent lots of time over the years trying to depoliticize things like quota allocations, simply because it is a no-win situation when politics become involved in the use of natural resources. Over the years we have created boards like the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, the Beverly-Kaminuriak Caribou Management Board, and we are moving toward taking them out of the political arena and putting them into the hands of the user groups and base their decisions on – the buzz word – "sustainable development", and show the outside world that these things are done responsibly and done with a lot of thought and a lot of care. If the motion had read, "We recommend to the conservation board that they look at this", then I could have probably gone ahead with it. But when we start dictating to the Denendeh Conservation Board or to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board or to the Beverly-Kaminuriak Caribou Management Board what they should be doing and how, then the question becomes whether we should even have these boards.

If the Legislative Assembly is going to do it, then fine, do it all. Start allocating polar bear quotas in the communities. Start allocating commercial tags for caribou. Start allocating narwhal tags. That is what we are leading to. We cannot have a principle and break it when it is convenient for one Member. Either we have agreed that the communities and user groups are going to be responsible for managing, or we will be. That is what this motion does. What you do is take the Legislature and make us a management group. And the next step, and I can see it, is a community coming in and wanting us to tell Renewable Resources that we should allocate 15 polar bear tags to that community and only 10 here. And then the next step is to come to me and say, "Well, Gordon, we want you to bring a motion to the Legislature because we want 100 caribou commercial tags for Baker Lake and only 20 for Rankin Inlet." That is what this could lead to and I do not think the Legislature should be involved directly in the management of our wildlife. I think that is why we have these boards and that is why we fought so long and so hard to set them up.

I can remember in 1976, before we took the mining companies to court in Baker Lake, we were begging to have a management board for the Beverly-Kaminuriak herd that would help us manage those resources. We finally got one, and I would hate to see us start on the road to getting rid of these boards. I think this is the thin edge of starting to do this. So I just cannot support the Member's motion for that reason. Thank you.

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

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Mr. Speaker, unfortunately I think this motion presents us with several different problems and it is difficult to reconcile the principles involved. One principle, Mr. Speaker, which is at stake here, is community involvement in wildlife management. The other principle that is at stake is the direction this government has gone in establishing in the Dene/Metis agreement in principle and in the TFN agreement in principle and the COPE final agreement, boards which we constitute in such a manner that we will assume that they will do the right thing.

### Denendeh Conservation Board Should Be Trusted To Do The Right Thing

Mr. Speaker, as I understand it, we are at the stage where a board appointed under the authority of this government is soliciting comments on how to deal with the question of musk-ox in the area east of Great Slave Lake. I am sure that the views of the honourable Member whose constituency is affected, and the views of his community, will be given great weight by the board. Mr. Speaker, I am optimistic that if we let the process unfold as it should, that the board would do the right thing.

I think it is fairly important that we not send the wrong signals to this board and other boards that we give responsibility to. Is it appropriate that in the middle of a process of public consultation, this Legislature interrupt that process and give the Minister of Renewable Resources arbitrary direction on what the board should be recommending? I would rather see the board solicit public input, examine opinions of MLAs and the community on this subject, and give the board the vote of confidence that they might just do the right thing. Why do we not wait and see? If the honourable Member is very distressed with the recommendations of the board, if he feels they listened to the wrong people or took the wrong advice or gave undue emphasis to a certain interest in making this decision, then in those kinds of very exceptional circumstances, then maybe the Minister might wish to be involved.

But my understanding of the principle of wildlife management in the Territories is that we will give boards these responsibilities and the politicians will interfere only in very rare, exceptional circumstances. And when they do interfere they will have to give reasons. The principle is designed to ensure that these critical decisions do not take place in a political atmosphere, but rather take place in an atmosphere where management principles and conservation principles are uppermost in our minds. I think that is in keeping with the whole principle of sustainable development that I know all honourable Members support.

Mr. Speaker, I find the timing of the motion awkward. I would rather be dealing with a real decision of a board rather than an anticipated decision, and I would rather have this debate as an opportunity for honourable Members to express their opinions on the matter, but let the board make its decision and give the board the confidence that they will do the right thing and that they will respect the views of the people of Snowdrift.

I agree with the honourable Member that the people of Snowdrift have a significant interest in this quota. There is an economic interest, and there are historic, traditional reasons. But I have no reason to believe that the board will do a bad job at this point in time, Mr. Speaker. Nothing the honourable Member has said leads me to believe we should short-circuit the process, interrupt a process for public comment and make hasty decisions before the board has even had a chance to look carefully at the issue. So those are the problems I have with this motion and those are the contradictions I see within the motion. Thank you.

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

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe the Member who is making the motion has talked to the people of his constituency and they understand each other. That is how I am, when I represent my people; I talk to them and try to do what they want me to do. He has

talked to his constituents already. Believing that and listening to the Minister's arguments and even believing that that is so, I will be in support of the motion, because I might want to do this one of these days too in representing my people. I sometimes have problems too, not always in regard to wildlife and quotas but other different problems that have to be solved.

So I am in support of the motion because as MLAs we do not try to lie to the people we represent and we are not just helping one side of our constituents. Our constituents bring their concerns to us and I believe in my people when they bring their concerns to us. So I will be in support of this motion.

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

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Mr. Speaker, I have some comments on the motion as well. I have an unusual situation here where I am not in solidarity with the other colleagues of mine on cabinet, but I will explain why, or try to.

One of the things that has happened, historically, with aboriginal people in this country is that ever since people started coming up here from Europe, or from wherever they originated from, they have helped themselves very well to the use of the land, to exploiting the resources, to living off the wildlife and the resources that the land of the Inuit and the Dene make available to all of us. I do not think that aboriginal people can ever be accused of denying these things to the non-native people; if anything, you could say that they have let them go too far in many cases.

It is my belief that when we set up boards to operate in the public interest, there are certain fundamental things that should be given to them as direction. One of them that all of us have been beaten over our heads for the last few years on, is that a basic premise of the Dene/Metis in how they govern themselves and how decisions on resource development are made is that it is done at the community level. The communities of Fort Good Hope and Franklin and those other ones in my constituency are not interested in having a say over the quota of musk-ox that are in proximity to Snowdrift. They do not; and I think they would agree.

#### **Minister Agrees With Intent Of Motion**

Automatically the priority or the use and the decision on how that resource should be used should go to the community, and in my view, as a government we should be telling our boards, "This is one of the rules that you operate under." It is a basic policy that we have to live with.

I think that unlike my other cabinet colleagues I cannot vote against it because I do not want to give the message to the public that I disagree with the intent of the motion, which is that the musk-ox lived in the land of the Chipewyan for thousands of years, they are the ones that used it and they are the ones that should decide, as a people who governed themselves and who governed the use of the resources in their area for thousands of years, on how it should be used.

So I cannot vote against it because for me that is fairly fundamental in the way that I think and, I think, in the way that all Dene and Metis, hopefully, think up here.

As well, I agree with some of the Members here that we should not suggest that the board is going to make a decision contrary to this, that in the end the board may suggest, "Yes, after hearing all of the arguments we agree that it should be primarily up to the community of Snowdrift to decide how that resource should be used," and the board will find a way to

help the community and themselves with some integrity, I guess, walk away from that particular issue relatively intact. So to save everybody a little bit of grief all around, I will find myself abstaining from this vote. Thank you.

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

#### **Members Must Listen To Constituency**

**MR. KILABUK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a short comment on the motion. In regard to the motion, I heard the mover talk about what the intent of the motion is. I feel that the motion seems to be very clear to me. As MLAs that are representing our people, I do not think we should just wait for other people to decide for us, or boards to decide for us, when our constituents want us to do something. I feel that we should listen to the people of our constituency. When they want something done we should try to represent them in the House. I have used this before myself with regard to the fishing industry in my constituency, that I wanted it to go ahead for my people and this was solved by the government.

With regard to the motion, I feel that even though it does not seem right at this time, I feel that it will clear itself by the board perhaps granting them a quota. As MLAs we do not try to do something that might endanger our people or do something wrong to our people; we are trying to do something right for the people. I know sometimes that the things that we want might not be right for our constituents, but our constituents tell us if they want something and they want us to represent them in the House. It seems like the request for a quota of musk-ox will not go forever. If they have to stop it at some time they could do so. I will be in support of the motion in this House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My comments will be brief. I am a little bit troubled, as other Members are, by the motion. I sympathize with the honourable Member and I have no problem with the sentiment that his people in his community should have the ultimate say over the disposition of these animals. My concern is that we have set up a board in good faith and people have undertaken their duties on this board. I know in my discussions over the past few years on the Dene/Metis claim, one of the real fears expressed to us by the Dene/Metis was the fact that the Minister might override the decision of the Denendeh board. If, in fact, the claim is finalized, that particular board will be enshrined in the claim. I have concerns: 1) with the timing of this; and 2) with the message that it sends out. I think we all can respect the Member's wishes and I think we can understand his wishes but I am afraid that by trying to deal with individual Members' wishes we can undermine the process which I believe has been relatively successful in managing wildlife in the regions of the western Arctic.

I have given it a lot of thought and have listened to arguments on both sides of the question. I truly hope that the board will see fit to fulfil the Member's wishes but in good conscience I cannot support his motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** To the motion. The honourable Member for Tu Nede, your final argument with regard to the motion.

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the final argument in support of the motion. There is a certain fundamental principle here. A small community, situated on the east arm of Great Slave Lake, Snowdrift, with not a whole bunch of economic opportunities there. What do we have? We have

a renewable resource and our people. That is it. We have already seen what has happened with the fishing resource. We cannot do that legally; we cannot harvest that. The musk-ox is one potential for us and one of our only potentials in getting into the tourism industry.

I heard some argument, and fairly weak, not in support of the motion. People have said it would undermine the process, undermine the Denendeh Conservation Board. That is not true. Snowdrift has a wildlife committee that is set up, just as their agreement in principle has said we were supposed to set up wildlife committees in our communities. Here is a resource that is right out our back door. That community should have the right to take that quota and distribute that quota how it feels. Not the Denendeh Conservation Board. It is not up to them. It is up to the wildlife committee of Snowdrift how it should be distributed. All we are doing with this motion is directing the Minister to give the quota to the proper committee that is set up for it, the proper board. That is how it is supposed to run. That is within our jurisdiction.

As the honourable Member from Fort Good Hope said, Good Hope is not interested, Inuvik should not be interested, Baker Lake should not be interested in what is happening with the musk-ox outside the back door of Snowdrift. It is not even close to the proposed boundary line. It is just on the shores of Great Slave Lake. So someone fed some Members the wrong information on that fact. This is out our back door. It is close to home. We need that right to harvest that resource. That is our only economic benefit that we can get into in Snowdrift in the near future. The cost of living in Snowdrift is one of the highest in the NWT. Everyone here knows that. They have heard me say that many times. They have one of the highest unemployment rates in the NWT. You heard me say that many times to this government right here, asking you to help us do something in Snowdrift. So then when I put a motion forward, right away you are going to vote against it. It has economic benefit. As I said, the arguments are weak. There is a fundamental principle of Dene/Metis people living in Snowdrift having the right to harvest, in whatever way they see fit, that resource out their back door.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I think it is quite shameful for Members of the government to vote against the motion, trying to take away the right of people to harvest that resource in their backyard. I would like to request a recorded vote.

#### **Motion 12-90(1), Defeated**

**MR. SPEAKER:** All those in favour, please stand.

**CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):** Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. Sibbeston, Mr. Morin, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Gargan.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Against the motion, please stand.

**CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):** Mr. Pollard, Mr. Wray, Ms Cournoyea, Mr. Allooloo, Mr. Ballantyne, Mr. Patterson, Ms Marie-Jewell.

**MR. SPEAKER:** All those abstaining.

**CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):** Mr. Zoe, Mr. Ernerk, Mr. Kakfwi.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. That is easy. Mr. Clerk.

**CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):** Mr. Speaker, on Motion 12-90(1), seven in favour, seven against, three abstentions. Tie vote.

**MR. SPEAKER:** In these particular cases, tradition has it that

until the House has heard the majority or a significant portion of any vote against or for, then it has been tradition that the vote of the Chair be negative. As such, I will continue that and vote against the motion until there is a clear indication on the part of the Members that they will, in fact, agree to a majority in favour of that particular motion. So as such, the motion is defeated.

Motion 13-90(1). The honourable Member for Deh Cho.

#### **Motion 13-90(1): Environmental Base Line Data**

**MR. GARGAN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS the ability to accurately evaluate the environmental impact of any proposed development is crucial;

AND WHEREAS the most crucial component for the preparation of any environmental impact statement is the fundamental development and accuracy of base line data;

AND WHEREAS there is a need for an ecosystem approach to any assessment of proposed projects which should address water, land, plants, air, animals and people;

AND WHEREAS experts in the field of health physics have stated that there is no safe level of radiation exposure;

AND WHEREAS the Government of the Northwest Territories has identified deficiencies in Urangesellschaft Canada Limited's Kiggavik environmental impact statement;

AND WHEREAS one of the deficiencies identified is the inadequacy of the critical information which should demonstrate the economic rationale for the project;

AND WHEREAS this deficiency demonstrates the need for accurate base line data which should be available prior to the Government of the Northwest Territories participating in any environmental review;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre, that this Legislative Assembly request that the Executive Council consider implementing a policy that would require the development of fundamental and accurate base line data in areas of water, land, plants, air, animals and people prior to any uranium mining developments;

AND FURTHER, that this Executive Council consider implementing a follow-up procedure that would enable our government to monitor any such development by using the base line data accumulated prior to the commencement of any such development.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Is the honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre accepting seconder?

**MR. ZOE:** Mr. Speaker, I will second the motion.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Honourable Member for Deh Cho.

**MR. GARGAN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, several years ago, in 1988, I attended a conference based on

the International Congress on Uranium Mining and the theme of the conference was "Come Listen, Learn and Help Stop It at the Source". There were people from as far away as Australia, Germany, Japan, France, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, England, Finland, and Ireland; people that were concerned about the environment and the effect of uranium mining.

In the history of uranium mining, both in northern Saskatchewan and northern Australia, people that have been affected by that development were never given an opportunity to do base line studies.

**MR. ERNERK:** Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Point of order. The honourable Member for Aivilik.

**MR. ERNERK:** Mr. Speaker, we lack a quorum.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The Chair recognizes that we do not have a quorum. Mr. Clerk, would you please ring the bell? The Chair recognizes a quorum. Proceed, the honourable Member for Deh Cho.

**MR. GARGAN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the history of uranium mining, there has never been any kind of established base line data, so what uranium companies have been getting away with is that although there are certain illnesses that do occur, deformities or whatever, as a result of uranium mining, because there is no base line data it is difficult for a person that would like to get compensated to put blame on the source, which is uranium mining.

I have a book here, Mr. Speaker, that is called "Voices from Wollaston Lake". This is uranium mining that is happening in northern Saskatchewan. These people were at the conference also. The same thing is happening, where uranium dust particles go to the bottom of the water. They have fish called suckers that feed from the bottom of the rivers, streams and lakes, and 25 per cent of the fish caught around Wollaston Lake since the mine started are either blind or else their eyes were all white with no sight. The reason they give here is that it is a cataract thing. That is one of the excuses they use, but the people that catch these fish never used to have that problem before. Mr. Speaker, I could give this to the Members across so they could just take a look at the fish in this book and see what happens when they are exposed to uranium.

There is also a mine in the southern United States, and here again it is on an Indian reserve, where the people have tried to get compensation. They use what they call the fertilizers as the ultimate cheap nuclear waste disposal. There is a company there that is actually making fertilizer from uranium waste. In this booklet, for Members' information, there is a picture of a frog which has been deformed by the fertilizer in that area. This frog has nine legs. I will pass this on to the Members across.

Another area where the uranium industry has neglected its responsibility is in the area of court cases, where the statements of the uranium mines or nuclear companies made in court are fraudulent. The courts always rule in their favour. There was this one case where the judge, after nine years, found out that the courts were defrauded by these uranium companies and the nuclear energy companies, and so the judge reopened a case where that happened.

There is a doctor by the name of Doctor Morgan who states that there is no safe level of radiation exposure. The question is not, "What is a safe level?" The question is, "How great is the risk?" Nobody knows for sure what level of radiation is okay or not okay.

We do have cases where actual people that developed those high grade uranium bombs and things like that -- there was a person found unconscious in one of those plants who eventually died because there was uranium right beside his head. I guess he died of exposure. His wife was notified one hour later and when his wife went to see where her husband was, for some reason or another they had lost the brain of the person that died. She questioned those people about what happened to the rock that was there, and unfortunately the rock also got lost within that one hour span after the husband died.

There was another incident of a man working in the mines -- I think some Members mentioned something about swelling of the hands and stuff like that -- but exposure to uranium also swells your body up.

#### **Base Line Data Lacking To Determine Effects Of Uranium Mine**

There are pictures in this book which show that that does happen.

I am not referring to any kind of mining development but rather I am referring to this government taking on some role -- or a leading role -- for future development in uranium mining; that we do study the plants, the air, the human tissues, the birth rate. And do that before any kind of development starts. But by monitoring every year at least you could determine what effect a mine like this might have on the people that are living nearby, the animals that are nearby or the water that is running off from that mine, or the workers that are at that mine. One thing that this government should also do for the people that are going to be working in that type of a mine, is that they make it compulsory that those people get a thorough medical examination before they work in those mines, so that at least this way they are being monitored from that day on. In the event that a person working in that mine gets sick, then they could determine whether or not it is as a result of the dust that they are inhaling perhaps or the water that they are drinking or if they are exposed to radiation.

I would like to see this government and the people of the North take a leading role in that area. To date, even though there are a lot of challenges to uranium development, there has not been any kind of base line data to determine whether or not a worker is injured, or whether the communities nearby are suffering as a result of development near their communities. So I would like to ask the Members to support it. It is a pretty straightforward motion. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. To the motion. Seconder of the motion, the honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre.

**MR. ZOE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the motion speaks for itself and I believe the mover is making a reasonable request to the government to develop a policy in this regard. I would encourage all Members to support this particular motion. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. To the motion.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

**Motion 13-90(1), Carried**

**MR. SPEAKER:** Question has been called. The honourable Member for Deh Cho, final argument.

The Chair does not recognize a quorum for the vote. Mr. Clerk, would you ring the bell please? The Chair recognizes a quorum. All those in favour? All those opposed? The



motion is carried.

---Carried

Item 15, first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Inuvik.

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, could I have the House consider providing me with unanimous consent to give first reading to Bill 19-90(1), Property Assessment and Taxation Act?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member for Inuvik is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 19-90(1). Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed, Mr. Minister.

#### ITEM 15: FIRST READING OF BILLS

##### First Reading Of Bill 19-90(1): Property Assessment And Taxation Act

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, that Bill 19-90(1), An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act, be read for the first time.

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

---Carried

Bill 19-90(1) has had first reading.

First reading of bills. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to proceed to first reading of Bill 18-90(1), An Act Respecting Interim Appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1991.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Minister is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 18-90(1). Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed, Mr. Minister.

##### First Reading Of Bill 18-90(1): Interim Appropriation Act, 1990-91

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Slave River, that Bill 18-90(1), An Act Respecting Interim Appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1991, be read for the first time.

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

---Carried

Bill 18-90(1) has had first reading.

First reading of bills. The honourable Member for Slave River.

##### First Reading Of Bill 16-90(1): Status Of Women Council Act

**HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that

Bill 16-90(1), Status of Women Council Act, be read for the first time.

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

---Carried

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

#### ITEM 16: SECOND READING OF BILLS

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Under Rule 62 I will go right to second reading.

##### Second Reading Of Bill 18-90(1): Interim Appropriation Act, 1990-91

I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 18-90(1), An Act Respecting Interim Appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1991, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to make interim appropriations for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1991.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 18-90(1) has had second reading and is ordered into committee of the whole for today.

Second reading of bills. The honourable Member for Inuvik.

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might again try and seek unanimous consent to give second reading to Bill 19-90(1), Property Assessment and Taxation Act today.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The honourable Member for Inuvik is seeking consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 19-90(1). Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed, Mr. Minister.

##### Second Reading Of Bill 19-90(1): Property Assessment And Taxation Act

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, that Bill 19-90(1), An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act to provide municipal taxing authorities with the power to make retroactive a by-law which establishes property classes; to provide municipal taxing authorities with the power to establish an education mill rate for each property class in a municipal taxing area where a board of education has been established; and to provide the Minister of Finance with the power to establish an education mill rate for each property class in a municipal taxation area where there is no board of education.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 19-90(1) has had second reading and is referred to

committee of the whole for today. Second reading of bills. Item 17, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Committee Report 1-90(1), Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on the 1990-91 Main Estimates; Bill 9-90(1), Appropriation Act, 1990-91; Committee Report 2-90(1), Special Committee on the Northern Economy Report: Building Our Economic Future; Consideration of the Issue of Family Violence and Abuse; Motion 5-90(1), Opposition to Exploration and Mining of Uranium in the NWT; Bill 18-90(1), Interim Appropriation Act; Bill 19-90(1), Property Assessment and Taxation Act, with Mr. Zoe in the chair.

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

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** I would like to call the committee to order. The committee has a number of items to be considered. Which item does the committee wish to discuss? The Chair would like direction from the committee. Mr. Ballantyne.

#### Motion To Take Short Recess, Carried

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is actually the first time I have ever done this in six and one-half years, but I move that we take a short break and return at the chairman's call.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** I have a motion on the floor. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

---SHORT RECESS

I would like to call the committee back to order. Could the Chair get direction from the committee as to which item the committee would like to discuss? Mr. Ballantyne.

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** The government proposes that we do the Interim Appropriation Act and then the Property Assessment and Taxation Act.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** The committee heard the government's proposal to deal with Bill 18-90(1), Interim Appropriation Act, 1990-91. Does the committee agree that we deal with Bill 18-90(1)?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Mr. Minister, the committee agrees to deal with Bill 18-90(1). Proceed, Mr. Ballantyne.

#### Bill 18-90(1): Interim Appropriation Act, 1990-91

##### Minister's Opening Remarks

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Interim Appropriation Act, 1990-91, is required, as the main Appropriation Act for the upcoming year is still under review by the committee of the whole and will not be completed by April 1, 1990. The government requires interim appropriation authority by April 1st, to allow it to make expenditures for continuing operations in accordance with the Financial Administration Act requirement.

The purpose of the Interim Appropriation Act is to obtain approval for appropriation authority for normal government operations for the first part of the fiscal year, 1990-91. In addition, a requested appropriation authority provides for the commitment of the full volume for contracts which must be

entered into during the first month of the fiscal year. In accordance with the Financial Administration Act, the full amount payable under these contracts during 1990-91 must be charged to an appropriation when the contract is entered into. The appropriation authority provided for in this interim act will cease to have effect once the regular 1990-91 Appropriation Act comes into force.

Mr. Chairman, the way we arrived at our figure of \$541,954,720 is by using the estimated six months appropriation for O and M. That was an arbitrary number. When we did this bill for the first time two years ago we used six months, but there is nothing magic as to why we used six months. The \$142,243,000 covers the value of contracts that we expect to enter into in the first year. So with that, Mr. Chairman, that is my opening remarks.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Mr. Pollard, as chairman of the finance committee, does your committee have any comments?

#### Comments From The Standing Committee On Finance

**MR. POLLARD:** Yes, I would like to see clarification from the Minister on the capital. I think the capital is \$142,243,000. Does that mean if we pass this, which is the majority of the capital that is in the main estimates this year, that we are approving all those capital projects?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Mr. Minister.

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** That is correct. We are approving that we enter into contracts for those particular ones. That is right.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Member for Hay River.

**MR. POLLARD:** The \$542 million, that is for what kind of time period?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Mr. Minister.

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** That is the estimated cash flow for six months.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Member for Hay River.

**MR. POLLARD:** Mr. Chairman, this bill did not go through committee and I would like the Minister to explain to the House why we are looking for six months' worth of money when in all probability we are going to be possibly approving this budget. Why is it not just for a month? Why are we looking at all the capital? Does the Minister think we are going to be sitting here deliberating on this budget for the next six months?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Mr. Minister.

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** The six months are arbitrary. That is what we used last time we did it, and at the time probably the Executive was very depressed about the possible length of time we would be sitting here. It is an arbitrary number. There is nothing significant or magic about that number.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** General comments. Is the committee ready to go clause by clause?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Bill 18-90(1), clause 1, short title.

Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Clause 2, application. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Clause 3, interim appropriation for 1990-91. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

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

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

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

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

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

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Clause 7, ceases to have effect. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**Total O And M, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Schedule, vote 1, operation and maintenance, total operation and maintenance, \$541,954,720. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Capital, total capital, \$142,243,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**Total Appropriation, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Total appropriation, \$684,197,720. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** The bill as a whole. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Does committee agree that Bill 18-90(1), An Act Respecting Interim Appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1991, is now ready for third reading?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Could the Chair seek direction from the committee again? Mr. Ballantyne.

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** With the committee's concurrence, the government would like to proceed to Bill 19-90(1), Property Assessment and Taxation Act.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Does the committee agree that we deal with Bill 19-90(1)? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**Bill 19-90(1): Property Assessment And Taxation Act**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. We are dealing with Bill 19-90(1), An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act. Mr. Minister, are you prepared to make your opening remarks? Mr. Butters.

**Minister's Opening Remarks**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have more than a few opening remarks because of the complicated nature of the bill, so if the House will bear with me I will provide them to Members.

Bill 19-90(1) is An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act. The Property Assessment and Taxation Act currently provides that a municipal taxing authority may, by by-law, establish two or more classes of property and describe the kind of assessed property that is to comprise each class. A by-law or an amendment or repeal of a by-law made under this section only becomes effective on January 1st following its enactment. No provision is made in the current act for retroactive property classification by-laws. Current legislation also requires that one uniform mill rate be set for education taxes for all property classes.

The proposed amendment to the Property Assessment and Taxation Act will enable a municipal taxing authority in the year immediately following a general assessment to amend property classes by by-law, retroactive to January 1st of that year and will enable a municipal taxing authority to provide by by-law for different mill rates for each property class with respect to education tax collected in response to a request from a board of education. The amendment will also enable the Minister of Finance, by order, in response to a request from a municipal taxing authority, to provide for different mill rates with respect to education tax for each property class within a municipal taxation area where there is no board of education.

Mr. Chairman, these amendments are introduced in keeping with this government's objective of providing local governments with the legislative authority to govern their own affairs and provide them with the necessary resources to do

so. Municipal taxing authorities find that under our current legislation they are without the authority to respond effectively to major shifts in tax burden which may occur as a result of the completion of a general assessment.

The Property Assessment and Taxation Act requires that a general assessment of all lands and improvements be completed at least every nine years. The assessed lands and improvements are then updated to a more current base year. My department is responsible for carrying out general assessments and we strive to complete them more frequently than required by legislation, and at least every five years. Nevertheless it is a fact that there will often be shifts, most notably in land values and in the value of improvements. These shifts can and have been quite dramatic in communities with a particularly active or declining market. It is not always possible to predict the shifts which may occur in the assessment base as a result of a general assessment.

Assessment rolls are issued by my department late in the year. When a general assessment results in major shifts in assessment, it is often not possible for a municipal taxing authority to respond with a by-law necessary to adjust property classes in keeping with new assessments. As municipal taxing authorities apply different mill rates to different property classes, municipalities are unable to effectively mitigate the impacts that a general assessment can have on the taxes of property owners of a particular class of property.

#### **Amendments Allow Fair Distribution Of Property Tax Burden**

The proposed amendments allow a municipal taxing authority, by by-law, to establish new property classes after January 1st, only in the year immediately following a general assessment. The amendments would enable municipal taxing authorities to add or amend property classes and to discharge their responsibility for a fair distribution of the property tax burden when this fairness may be jeopardized by shifts in assessment.

The proposed amendments also allow the municipal taxing authorities to distribute the education tax burden as it does its municipal tax burden by setting different education mill rates for different property classes.

Mr. Chairman, the need for these amendments to the Property Assessment and Taxation Act has become clear only in recent months as general assessments have been completed in several municipal taxation areas. I wish to acknowledge and thank Members of the standing committee on finance for their expeditious consideration of these amendments and to Members of the House for allowing the introduction of this bill on a priority basis.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Mr. Pollard, as chairman of the finance committee do you have any comments?

#### **Comments From The Standing Committee On Finance**

**MR. POLLARD:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, when the Minister first presented the bill to the standing committee on finance I do not think the Minister or his staff were particularly well prepared and certainly the standing committee on finance did not grasp or understand the purpose at that time. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, we decided to get some research done. We hired a gentleman by the name of Lawrence Mercredi who did some background work for us and prepared some excellent documents and figures. We now, as the standing committee on finance, understand the implications if this bill is not passed, sir.

Basically, the problem arose from Yellowknife and its general reassessment last year. I do not think it was spotted until a later date and then the government realized that they had to do something about it. What we found out is that there are 12 classes of property tax in Yellowknife and those are under the municipal mill rate and the City of Yellowknife is well within its bounds in establishing those 12 classes. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, and the critic for MACA so you understand sir, they were able to put a different mill rate on different classes of property and that is in the municipal mill rate. But as the Minister said, they were locked into one mill rate for every property in the city of Yellowknife and that applies to other municipalities as well, Mr. Chairman.

With the reassessment I would like to give you some numbers. The assessment for Giant Yellowknife Mines rose by 220.99 per cent, Mr. Chairman. Where the city could vary the municipal mill rate they could not vary the school mill rate, so Giant Yellowknife Mines would have paid a lot more money because they were locked into leaving that mill rate the same. In Northland for a trailer leased lot, the drop was 3.78 per cent. So you have one going up enormously and one going down a little bit. Those were consistent throughout the different taxing areas, Mr. Chairman. Some went up and some went down and they were all by different rates. So the committee recognized that if the City of Yellowknife and any other municipality in this situation was locked into having only one school mill rate they would have a tremendous mathematical problem to make taxation fair in the city of Yellowknife.

As you know, Mr. Chairman, we crunched the numbers and we reviewed all of the data and we came to the recommendation to this committee from the standing committee on finance that this bill be passed with due haste to enable the City of Yellowknife to make some retroactive decisions and have some flexibility with the school mill rate. I would say to Members sitting around the House, if they think they are going to effect changes in the amount of money that people pay in Yellowknife, that decision rests solely with the alderpersons of this city. All we are doing, sir, is enabling them to make some changes. This is just enabling legislation as far as we are concerned, and we recommend it to the House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. General comments. If there are no general comments, does the committee agree we go clause by clause? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. We are dealing with Bill 19-90(1), An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act. Clause 1. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 2. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 3. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 4. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 5. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 6. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 7. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 8. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 9. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 10. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 11. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 12. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Bill as a whole. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Does the committee agree that Bill 19-90(1), An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act, is now ready for third reading? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Could the Chair get further direction as to what item of business they would like to consider? Mr. Ernerk, Member for Aivilik.

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that we report progress.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** I have a motion on the floor to report progress, which is not debatable. The Chair does not recognize a quorum. Mr. Clerk, could you ring the bells please? I have a motion on the floor to report progress. The motion is not debatable. All those in favour? Opposed? 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 Rae-Lac la Martre.

**MR. ZOE:** Mahsi cho. Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bills 18-90(1) and 19-90(1) and wishes to report that Bills 18-90(1) and 19-90(1) are now ready for third reading.

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

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Speaker, I seek consent to proceed with third reading of Bill 18-90(1), An Act Respecting Interim Appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1991.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The honourable Member is seeking consent to proceed with third reading of Bill 18-90(1). Are there any nays?

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Nay.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Proceed, Mr. Minister.

#### ITEM 19: THIRD READING OF BILLS

##### Third Reading Of Bill 18-90(1): Interim Appropriation Act, 1990-91

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 18-90(1), An Act Respecting Interim Appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1991, be read for the third time.

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

--Carried

Bill 18-90(1) has had third reading. Third reading of bills. The honourable Member for Inuvik.

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to seek consent to give third reading to Bill 19-90(1), An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member for Inuvik is seeking consent to proceed with third reading of bills. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed, Mr. Minister.

**Third Reading Of Bill 19-90(1): Property Assessment And Taxation Act**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, that Bill 19-90(1), An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act, be read for the third time.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The motion is in order. To the motion.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

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

---Carried

Bill 19-90(1) has had third reading. Third reading of bills. Item 20, assent to bills. Mr. Clerk, would you ascertain if the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories is prepared to assent to bills?

**ITEM 20: ASSENT TO BILLS**

**COMMISSIONER NORRIS:** Please be seated. As Commissioner of the Northwest Territories I hereby assent to Bill 18-90(1) and Bill 19-90(1). Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I will call the House back to order. Item 21, Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

**CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):** Mr. Speaker, there will be a meeting of the striking committee immediately after adjournment this evening and a meeting of ajauqtit at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning.

**ITEM 21: ORDERS OF THE DAY**

Orders of the day for Friday, March 30th.

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) and Bill 16-90(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 10:00 a.m., Friday, March 30, 1990

---ADJOURNMENT

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