



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES**

**6th Session**

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

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

## Speaker

The Hon. Richard Nerysoo  
Fort McPherson, N.W.T.  
X0E 0J0  
(403) 873-7629 (Office)  
(403) 873-5788 (Home) (Yellowknife)  
(403) 979-2668 (Home) (Inuvik)  
(Mackenzie Delta)

Allooloo, The Hon. Titus, M.L.A.  
5024 - 57th Street  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
X1A 1Y6  
(403) 873-7113 (Office)  
(403) 873-4813 (Home)  
(Amittuq)  
Minister of Culture & Communications  
and Renewable Resources

Arlooktoo, Mr. Joe, M.L.A.  
General Delivery  
Lake Harbour, N.W.T.  
X0A 0N0  
(819) 939-2278 (Office)  
(819) 939-2363 (Home)  
(Baffin South)

Ballantyne, The Hon. Michael, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 1320  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
X1A 2L9  
(403) 873-7658 (Office)  
(403) 920-2963 (Home)  
(Yellowknife North)  
Government House Leader  
Minister of Finance and Justice

Butters, The Hon. Tom, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 1069  
Inuvik, N.W.T.  
X0E 0T0  
(403) 979-2373 (Office)  
(403) 979-2373 (Home)  
(Inuvik)  
Minister of Municipal & Community  
Affairs, Government Services and  
NWT Housing Corporation

Cournoyaa, The Hon. Nellie, M.L.A.  
P. O. Box 1184  
Inuvik, N.W.T.  
X0E 0T0  
(403) 873-7128 (Office)  
(403) 977-2405 (Tuktoyaktuk)  
(403) 979-2737 (Inuvik)  
(Nunakput)  
Minister of Health, Energy, Mines &  
Petroleum Resources, Public Works  
and NWT Power Corporation

Crow, Mr. Charlie, M.L.A.  
General Delivery  
Sanikiluaq, N.W.T.  
X0A 0W0  
(819) 266-8940 (Home)  
(Hudson Bay)

Ermerk, Mr. Peter, M.L.A.  
Box 182  
Rankin Inlet, N.W.T.  
X0C 0G0  
(819) 645-2800  
(819) 645-2500  
(Aivilik)

Gargan, Mr. Samuel, M.L.A.  
General Delivery  
Fort Providence, N.W.T.  
X0E 0L0  
(403) 873-7999 (Office)  
(403) 874-3230 (Hay River)  
(403) 699-3171 (Home)  
(Deh Cho)  
Deputy Speaker and Chairman,  
Committee of the Whole

Kakfwi, The Hon. Stephen, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 1320  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
X1A 2L9  
(403) 873-7139 (Office)  
(403) 873-8215 (Home)  
(Sahtu)  
Deputy Government Leader  
Minister of Education and Safety &  
Public Services

Kilabuk, Mr. Ipeelee, M.L.A.  
General Delivery  
Pangnirtung, N.W.T.  
X0A 0R0  
(819) 437-8827 (Home)  
(Baffin Central)

Lewis, Mr. Brian, M.L.A.  
P. O. Box 1320  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
X1A 2L9  
(403) 873-7999 (Office)  
(403) 873-5549 (Home)  
(Yellowknife Centre)

Marie-Jewell, The Hon. Jeannie, M.L.A.  
P. O. Box 1051  
Fort Smith, N.W.T.  
X0E 0P0  
(403) 873-7959 (Office)  
(403) 872-2940 (Home)  
(Slave River)  
Minister of Social Services and  
Personnel

McLaughlin, Mr. Bruce, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 1320  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
X1A 2L9  
(403) 873-7999 (Office)  
(403) 873-6220 (Home)  
(403) 874-2884 (Hay River)

Morin, Mr. Don, M.L.A.  
General Delivery  
Fort Resolution, N.W.T.  
X0E 0M0  
(403) 394-3471  
(Tu Nede)

Ningark, Mr. John, M.L.A.  
General Delivery  
Pelly Bay, N.W.T.  
X0E 1K0  
(403) 769-6703  
(Natilikmiot)

Patterson, The Hon. Dennis, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 310  
Iqaluit, N.W.T.  
X0A 0H0  
(403) 873-7112 (Office)  
(819) 979-5993 (Office)  
(403) 873-2802 (Home)  
(Iqaluit)  
Government Leader,  
Chairman of Executive Council,  
Minister of Executive

Pedersen, Mr. Red, M.L.A.  
General Delivery  
Coppermine, N.W.T.  
X0E 0E0  
(403) 982-5788 (Coppermine)  
(Kitikmeot West)

Pollard, Mr. John D., M.L.A.  
Box 1095  
Hay River, N.W.T.  
X0E 0R0  
(403) 874-2345 (Office)  
(403) 874-2600 (Home)  
(Hay River)

Pudluk, Mr. Ludy, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 240  
Resolute Bay, N.W.T.  
X0A 0V0  
(819) 439-8898 (Arctic Bay)  
(819) 252-3719 (Home)  
(High Arctic)

Sibbeston, Mr. Nick, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 560  
Fort Simpson, N.W.T.  
X0E 0N0  
(403) 695-2452 (Fort Simpson)  
(403) 873-6215 (Home)  
(Nahendeh)

Whitford, Mr. Tony, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 2772  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
X1A 2R1  
(403) 920-8010 (Office)  
(403) 873-5328 (Home)  
(Yellowknife South)

Wray, The Hon. Gordon, M.L.A.  
Baker Lake, N.W.T.  
X0C 0A0  
(403) 873-7962 (Office)  
(819) 793-2914 (Baker Lake)  
(819) 793-2700 (Home)  
(Kivallivik)  
Minister of Transportation and  
Economic Development & Tourism

Zoe, Mr. Henry, M.L.A.  
P.O. Box 1320  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
X1A 2L9  
(403) 873-7999 (Office)  
(403) 873-4136 (Home)  
(Rae - Lac la Martre)  
Deputy Chairman,  
Committee of the Whole

## Officers

Clerk  
Mr. David Hamilton  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Acting Clerk Assistant  
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Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Law Clerk  
Mr. Don Cooper, Q.C.  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Editor of Hansard  
Ms. Marie J. Coe  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Sergeant - at - Arms  
Mr. Harry Finnis, B.E.M., C.D.  
Fort Smith, N.W.T.

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## YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 1990

## MEMBERS PRESENT

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

## ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

**SPEAKER (Hon. Richard Nerysoo):** Orders of the day for Friday, April 6, 1990. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

## ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

**Ministers' Statement 53-90(1): Directive To Public Utilities Board Regarding An Electrical Rate Structure Review**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I wish to inform the Members that I have issued a directive to the Public Utilities Board to undertake a review of the electrical rate structures in the Northwest Territories.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Hear, hear!

---Applause

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** A rate structure, Mr. Speaker, is defined loosely as the rules which govern how the total cost incurred by a utility in providing electrical service, is divided among the customers of the utility.

The rate structures of the investor-owned utilities, Northland Utilities NWT Limited and ICG Northern Utilities Ltd., are already the responsibility of the Public Utilities Board. These rate structures follow a prescribed rule established by the board and refined by it over the years. The rate structure of the corporation's predecessor, the Northern Canada Power Commission, was never regulated. As a result, electrical rates in most of our communities were adjusted over time without the benefit of a consistent set of rate principles. There is now no logical system or structure underlying the rates in these communities.

Consumers and ratepayers of this essential service must be provided with an opportunity to participate in the review of the rate structure. For this reason, I have asked the Public Utilities Board to hold public hearings with the following terms of reference: 1) Review the current rate structures of all electrical utilities in the Northwest Territories, including but not limited to, whether the current rate structures of the electrical utilities produce just and reasonable rates; 2) Determine whether the current rate structures of electrical utilities meet the concerns of the industrial, commercial, government and residential consumers and ratepayers, at various locations in the Northwest Territories; 3) Review matters relating to the subsidization of the cost of electricity in the Northwest Territories, the methods through which this subsidization is provided, and its impact on the supply and price of electricity to consumers and ratepayers.

This review must be territory-wide. The companies that serve us are interconnected, and most of us, regardless of supplier, are linked by a common subsidy system.

I have asked the board to submit a written report by October 1, 1990. If as a result of its review, the board finds that

changes are advisable, the report shall include options, recommendations and methods of implementation to effect these changes.

In view of the necessity of conducting a thorough review of this matter, the government is prepared to provide special funding to the board to assist in this work. In the near future the board will announce the procedures that it will follow in the conduct of this review. Thank you.

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

**Ministers' Statement 54-90(1): Participation In Public Utilities Board Electrical Rate Structure Review**

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, the Government of the Northwest Territories will participate in the Public Utilities Board review of the electrical rate structure as an interested party. Over the years, we have established programs to increase private home-ownership, to increase local community decision-making and budgetary control, and to encourage the wise use of energy by consumers. These initiatives could be affected by the outcome of this review.

There is no doubt that the subsidization of electrical costs to private customers will have to continue. The cost of producing essential electrical services, particularly in the remote communities with diesel generation, is very high. Most private consumers cannot afford to purchase power at cost. As a government, we will ensure that essential consumption remains affordable, and we will encourage the reduction of the unnecessary use that increases the cost for all consumers.

The Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources will be working with other departments to provide ideas to assist the board in the formulation of its recommendations to the cabinet. Thank you.

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

**Ministers' Statement 55-90(1): Regulation To Increase Rates Charged By NWT Power Corporation**

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time I will be tabling regulations which will cause the rates charged by the NWT Power Corporation to be increased by 4.5 per cent on October 1, 1990. This will be an "across the board" change and will apply to all customers except those under specific contract.

The need for this increase is dictated by the vital need for additional revenue to cover operating and capital expenditures for new facilities and services. Although the corporation is entitled to a rate of return equivalent to that of a private sector utility, such as the ICG and Northern enterprises, the rates in this regulation will still result in a return substantially less than that entitlement.

I would also like to note that this is only the second increase since 1983, for a total of 9.3 per cent, whereas provincial

utilities in BC, Ontario and Quebec will see rates rise by over 10 per cent in 1990 alone.

It is intended that this rate increase will be subject to regulation by the Public Utilities Board and will be reviewed during public hearings this summer prior to its taking effect. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Ministers' statements. Ministers' statements.

Item 3, Members' statements. Members' statements. Item 4, returns to oral questions. The honourable Member for Kivallivik.

#### ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

##### Return To Question O510-90(1): Increase In Cost Of Motor Vehicle Registration

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to a question asked by Mr. Lewis on April 4, 1990, with regard to an increase in the cost of motor vehicle registration. The Department of Transportation raised the cost of motor vehicle registration fees effective in April of 1989 from \$40 to \$50 on an annual basis. This was the first increase in these fees since April of 1986.

This year, with the implementation of staggered renewals, the annual fees have been adjusted to account for the shorter or longer periods of registration required to distribute the existing registrations throughout the calendar year. The maximum period of renewal is 18 months for some of the existing registrations, giving a fee of \$75. Some renewals have been for periods less than a full year and consequently the fees would be less than \$50.

There has not been an increase in the annual fee this year, as was indicated by the Member. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Returns to oral questions. Item 5, oral questions. The honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

#### ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

##### Question O536-90(1): Tabling Of Documents Re Quantity Of Salt Put On NWT Highways

**MR. WHITFORD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for highways. Yesterday the Minister, in replying to my question concerning the amount of sodium chloride salt on the highways, indicated that there are some 900 tonnes of the salt being put on NWT highways. I would like to know if the Minister would table the documents, guidelines or regulations that control or direct the highways people on how much salt to put on highways under particular conditions. Would the Minister table those documents for me?

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

##### Return To Question O536-90(1): Tabling Of Documents Re Quantity Of Salt Put On NWT Highways

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will, depending on how thick they are. I have seen highway regulations before. I may send them to the Member, but if they are not too large I will table them in the House. Thank you.

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

Yellowknife South, supplementary.

**MR. WHITFORD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just to remind the Minister that I work by myself and I do not have research staff. I would appreciate if he would be a little bit more specific. While I would appreciate the full document, the area dealing with the salt would be sufficient at this time. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** That is a good Member's statement. However, notice is given. Oral questions. Oral questions.

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

#### ITEM 7: RETURNS TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS

**CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):** Mr. Speaker, return to Question W15-90(1), asked by Mr. Lewis to the Minister of Justice, concerning revision of Northwest Territories statutes.

##### Return To Question W15-90(1): Revision Of NWT Statutes

Hon. Michael Ballantyne's return to Question W15-90(1), asked by Mr. Lewis on February 22, 1990, regarding revision of Northwest Territories Statutes: Revising the statutes of the Northwest Territories, a project which began in 1987, has been an enormous undertaking by the Department of Justice. The revision commissioner has completed her work and the statutes have all been translated into French. The revision will be published in bilingual format by the end of 1990.

The amount of money that has been spent to date on the revision of statutes is \$700,000. The estimated cost of printing the revised statutes is \$330,000. The cost of translating the revised statutes was borne by the Department of Culture and Communications. The revised statutes will be completed by December 31, 1990, at an estimated total cost of \$1,080,000.

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

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

Item 9, petitions. Petitions.

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

#### ITEM 11: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 69-90(1), amendment to the rate structure regulation schedule, Northwest Territories Power Corporation Act. There is a summary in Inuktitut. The document shows the new rates that will be charged by the Northwest Territories Power Corporation starting on October 1, 1990, for each community and type of customer. The new rates are 4.5 per cent higher than are currently being charged.

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

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 70-90(1), Public Accounts of the Northwest Territories for the Year Ended March 31, 1989.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Tabling of documents. Tabling of documents. Item 12, notices of motion. Notices of motion. The honourable Member for Hay River.

**ITEM 12: NOTICES OF MOTION****Notice of Motion 25-90(1): Draft Policy On GNWT Contracting**

**MR. POLLARD:** Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Tuesday, April 10, I will move the following motion: I move, Mr. Speaker, seconded by the honourable Member for Tu Nede, that this Legislative Assembly directs the Executive Council to prepare a draft policy which would permit only companies resident in the Northwest Territories, and who meet the government's business incentive policies, to tender on all Government of the Northwest Territories contracts; and further, that once the draft policy is developed, that it be referred to the standing committee on finance for review before August 15, 1990; and further, that the Executive Council implement the policy upon the completion of the review by the standing committee on finance but no later than September 1, 1990; and further, that the Executive Council immediately undertake negotiations with the Government of Canada to permit any territorial policy to apply to contracts let by the Government of the Northwest Territories that contain a portion of Government of Canada funding. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

Item 14, motions: Motion 19-90(1) and Motion 20-90(1). Motions. Item 15, first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Amittuq.

**ITEM 15: FIRST READING OF BILLS**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to deal with Bill 27-90(1), An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member for Amittuq is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with Bill 27-90(1). Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed Mr. Minister.

**First Reading Of Bill 27-90(1): Official Languages Act**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, that Bill 27-90(1), An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act, be read for the first time.

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 27-90(1) has had first reading. First reading of bills. The honourable Member for Sahtu.

**First Reading Of Bill 21-90(1): Workers' Compensation Act**

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 21-90(1), An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act, be read for the first time.

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 21-90(1) has had first reading. First reading of bills. Honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

**First Reading Of Bill 2-90(1): Judicature Act**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Iqaluit, that Bill 2-90(1), An Act to Amend the Judicature Act, be read for the first time.

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 2-90(1) has had first reading. First reading of bills. Honourable Member for Amittuq.

**First Reading Of Bill 22-90(1): Wildlife Act**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Bill 22-90(1), An Act to Amend the Wildlife Act, be read for the first time.

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 2-90(1) has had first reading. First reading of bills. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

**First Reading Of Bill 23-90(1): Income Tax Act**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that Bill 23-90(1), An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act, be read for the first 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? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 23-90(1) has had first reading. First reading of bills. The honourable Member for Deh Cho.

**First Reading Of Bill 28-90(1): Motor Vehicles Act**

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for High Arctic, that Bill 28-90(1), An Act

to Amend the Motor Vehicles Act, be read for the first time.

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is defeated.

---Defeated

Bill 28-90(1) is removed from the order paper. First reading of bills. First reading of bills. Item 16, second reading of bills. The honourable Member for Inuvik.

#### ITEM 16: SECOND READING OF BILLS

##### Second Reading Of Bill 3-90(1): Planning Act

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that Bill 3-90(1), An Act to Amend the Planning Act, be read for the second time. The purpose of the bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Planning Act to provide that only one copy of a municipal by-law must be sent to the Minister.

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

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

---Carried

Bill 3-90(1) has had second reading and is ordered into committee of the whole for today. Second reading of bills. The honourable Member for Sahtu.

##### Second Reading Of Bill 5-90(1): Student Financial Assistance Act

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 5-90(1), An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill is to increase the maximum aggregate amount of principal which may be loaned to an individual student under the act, and to amend the schedule to establish for the 1990-91 and subsequent fiscal years the maximum aggregate amount of principal that may be outstanding in respect of all loans made under the act. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

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

---Carried

Bill 5-90(1) has had second reading and is ordered into committee of the whole for today. Second reading of bills. The honourable Member for Amittuq.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 27-90(1), An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Unanimous consent is being sought by the honourable Member for Amittuq to give second reading to Bill 27-90(1). Are there any nays?

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Nay.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Let me start this over again. It must be Friday. The honourable Member for Amittuq is seeking consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 27-90(1). Are there any nays?

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Nay.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Consent has been given. The honourable Member for Amittuq.

##### Second Reading of Bill 27-90(1): Official Languages Act

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nahendeh, that Bill 27-90(1), An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to add to the rights and services provided for in the Official Languages Act by establishing Chipewyan, Cree, Dogrib, Gwitch'in, Inuktitut and Slavey as official languages of the Northwest Territories in addition to English and French; by enhancing the rights of those persons who use those official languages in their dealings with the Legislative Assembly and its institutions, the Government of the Northwest Territories and its institutions and the courts; by providing for the appointment of a languages commissioner who will ensure recognition of the rights, status and privileges of each official language; and by providing for the review of the provisions and the operation of the act by the Legislative Assembly.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

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

---Carried

Bill 27-90(1) has had second reading and is ordered into committee of the whole for today. Second reading of bills. The honourable Member for Inuvik.

##### Second Reading Of Bill 11-90(1): Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Act

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, that Bill 11-90(1), An Act to Amend the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Act, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Act to allow the Minister to extend the term for members of the board of directors where a vacancy occurs; to allow the board to exercise its powers in the absence of the chairperson and vice-chairperson of the board; to allow the corporation to make loans for new construction, the purchase of existing housing and home improvements without the necessity of the Commissioner setting amounts, terms and conditions.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Question has been called. All those in



favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 11-90(1) has had second reading and is ordered into committee of the whole for today. Second reading of bill. The honourable Member for Kivallivik.

**Second Reading Of Bill 20-90(1): Northwest Territories Development Corporation Act**

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Bill 20-90(1), Northwest Territories Development Corporation Act, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to establish the Northwest Territories Development Corporation; to set out the powers and duties of the corporation; to establish the capital fund, subsidy fund and capital reserve fund to enable the corporation to fund projects and to incorporate and subsidize companies in order to create jobs, promote economic diversification and generally benefit the economy of the Territories; to establish the venture investment fund and venture reserve fund to enable the corporation to invest in business enterprises in order to stimulate growth of business in the Territories, promote economic diversification and generally benefit the economy of the Territories; to set out guidelines for investment, sale of the corporation's interests and dissolution of subsidiaries or amalgamation of subsidiaries with other companies; to make consequential amendments to the Financial Administration Act. Thank you.

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

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

---Carried

Bill 20-90(1) has had second reading and is ordered into committee of the whole for today. Second reading of bills. The honourable Member for Kivallivik.

**Second Reading Of Bill 24-90(1): Transportation Of Dangerous Goods Act**

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Amittuq, that Bill 24-90(1), Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act, 1990, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to regulate the transportation of dangerous goods; to appoint a director and inspectors who are responsible for the administration and enforcement of the act; to establish permits exempting any dangerous goods from the provisions of the act; to provide for the enforcement of the act; including provisions respecting arrest, inspection, search and seizure; to establish offences and penalties for a contravention of the act; to provide regulation-making powers; and to repeal the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 24-90(1) has had second reading and is ordered into

committee of the whole for today. Second reading of bills. Honourable Member for Nunakput.

**Second Reading Of Bill 13-90(1): Northwest Territories Power Corporation Act**

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 13-90(1), An Act to Amend the Northwest Territories Power Corporation Act, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill is to provide for payment of petroleum products taxes by the corporation, retroactive to May 9, 1988. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 13-90(1) has had second reading and is ordered into 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 Northern Economy Report: Building Our Economic Future; Motion 5-90(1), Opposition to Exploration and Mining of Uranium in the Northwest Territories; Bill 1-90(1), Evidence Act; Bill 3-90(1), Planning Act; Bill 5-90(1), Student Financial Assistance Act; Bill 27-90(1), Official Languages Act; Bill 20-90(1), Northwest Territories Development Corporation Act; Bill 24-90(1), Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act; Bill 13-90(1), Northwest Territories Power Corporation Act; Bill 11-90(1), Northwest Territories Housing Corporation 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. Could the committee give the chairman direction as to which item of business they would like to deal with? Government House Leader.

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you. With the committee's agreement, the government would like to proceed with Bill 27-90(1), Official Languages Act.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Does the committee agree that we deal with Bill 27-90(1), Official Languages Act?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**Bill 27-90(1): Official Languages Act**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. We are dealing with Bill 27-90(1), An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act. Mr. Minister, are you prepared to make your opening remarks? Mr. Allooooloo.

**Minister's Opening Remarks**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is a great pleasure to be before the committee of the whole to speak about the aboriginal languages amendment. If adopted by this Legislative Assembly, this initiative will have enormous

and positive impact on the future social, cultural and linguistic development in the NWT.

In the bill, we propose amendments to the NWT Official Languages Act, which will have the potential to profoundly influence the preservation and enhancement of the minority language rights in the NWT. These proposed amendments, if passed and adopted by the Members of this Assembly, will make the aboriginal languages in the NWT official languages in the eyes of the law.

The aboriginal people have lived and thrived in the NWT since before recorded history. Hundreds of generations trekked across the tundra, the river valleys and the lakes and the ice floes, developing and sustaining unique culture within this harsh but beautiful land of ours.

Our culture thrived and co-existed in harmony with nature and the great spirits which dwell under the skies of the midnight sun. Our ancestors formed the communities which dotted a landscape stretching over three million square kilometres. The words spoken were the aboriginal languages. In those times there was no English and there was no French. When the first Europeans started to come into the NWT, they brought with them their culture and the their languages. With the arrival of these European people came the powerful new cultures and ways of thinking and living. Those were shared with us and too often were forced upon the aboriginal people. Over time, aboriginal people came to worship new religions, became educated in the new language and new culture and become dependent upon entirely different kinds of work to support their families.

A lot of times aboriginal languages in the North were ignored by the new authorities, and they were suppressed in some cases. Even though the majority of the people were not of European descent and did not speak English, there was no official status given to the languages spoken by the native people in the Northwest Territories. Even in this day, aboriginal languages do not have official, legal status, although approximately 60 per cent of the total population of the Northwest Territories is of aboriginal descent.

As a committee, we met with quite a few organizations to solicit input into drafting this legislation. We met with major organizations representing the native people in the Northwest Territories, namely Inuit, Dene and the Metis, as well as the officials of the federal government dealing in the area of languages.

We know now, today, that the languages developed over thousands of years can be destroyed in only a few generations and today it is recognized and accepted that aboriginal languages are threatened. In some respects, their ultimate survival is in doubt. It is hard to capture or describe the true significance which such laws represent. But time and time again, the task force on aboriginal languages, when studying this issue, heard many eloquent and forceful stories and opinions from men and women from across the North who described the importance of the language and expressed fears for its future survival.

The following example, words spoken during one of the task force hearings perhaps says it best: "Without language there is no culture. It is as simple and as important as that, and that fact cannot be ignored. We have the right to use our own languages."

Mr. Chairman, I wish to conclude by quoting one of the respected Dene elders in the Northwest Territories, George Blondin, who writes in his just published book, *When the World Was New*: "Our ancient stories are about medicine power in the early time when the world was new. Some of

the stories were hard for later ages to believe, but the storytellers told them as they had heard them." I hope that the storytellers of tomorrow will be able to tell their stories in their own languages. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you, Mr. Minister. Before you ask to bring in your witnesses, the Chair will take a short recess.

---SHORT RECESS

The committee will come back to order. General comments on Bill 27-90(1), An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act. Could the committee give the Chair direction? Mr. Ballantyne.

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will make some very brief general comments. Mr. Chairman, this particular act, as people have said, has been in people's imagination and in their hearts for many years and today we hope to have it actually etched into something more permanent. I see this as a tremendous step forward and I was very proud to have served on the committee. Once we pass this act, I think we can demonstrate to other Canadians and to people around the world that it is possible for people with different languages and different cultures to work together for common objectives. I see this act as a bridge between the various cultures and peoples who make up the Northwest Territories. I think it is very important because of that.

In the Northwest Territories we are facing very many important issues. We have talked, over the last few days, about the social issues that are facing us. Many Northerners are involved in the final negotiations for land claims. Many important topics that have been worked on for the last 15 years are coming to a head and now more than any other time in our history, or at least our modern history, in the Northwest Territories we need to do things that bring us together. I think that none of us has an illusion as to our power and importance in the country as a whole. We are a small population; we do not have a lot of political power; and when we argue among ourselves, when we have major differences, especially when those differences come about on racial, linguistic or cultural lines, I think we do not do ourselves any good. If we are to take our rightful place in Canada, I think we all have to work together, and I for one think that this act is an important step to achieve that goal of Northerners of all races and cultures working together for common goals.

To conclude, many people have spoken eloquently and I think it is a tremendous step forward for the people of the Northwest Territories. I think it is especially important at a time in Canadian history when this country is being torn apart because of the difficulty in dealing with two languages. There is a chance that if Meech Lake does not go through that we are on a path to major constitutional difficulties in this country. I hear municipalities in Ontario are proudly proclaiming that they are unilingual, and I see the bad reaction that that brings in Quebec.

I see us as leaders in this country. I think that if over the next few years we can demonstrate that we as 55,000 people in this vast land can make eight languages work. It will serve as a tremendous model for other Canadians who find it difficult to find within their hearts the depth of feeling or vision to even try to make two languages work. I think we all can be quite proud of this step. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

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

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** General comments on Bill 27-90(1). Is the committee ready to go clause by clause? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Would the committee allow me to bring in my officials to answer some questions?

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

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Proceed, Mr. Minister. Could you introduce your witness, please?

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My deputy minister, Dave Porter.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. 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, official languages. 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, official languages of the Territories. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 7, proceedings of the Legislative Assembly. 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. Clause 13. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 14. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 15. Mr. Ballantyne.

**Motion To Amend Clause 15, Status Of Commissioner**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to introduce an amendment to clause 15. I move that clause 15 of Bill 27-90(1), An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act, be amended by adding the following subsection immediately after proposed subsection 20(2): "(3) The commissioner shall rank as and have all the powers of a deputy head of a department."

**Clause 15, Deferred**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Can the Chair have a copy of your motion? Mr. Ballantyne, because there is translation of this particular motion, the Chair would suggest that we defer clause 15 until we have appropriate translation. Does the committee agree?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 16. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 17. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 18. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 19. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 20. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 21. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Clause 22, commencement. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. The Chair will recess until we have the translation of the motion that was proposed by Mr. Ballantyne. Mr. Kilabuk.

**MR. KILABUK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have the copies of clauses 15 and 17 but we do not have the copies of clauses 16, 17 and 18 available, so I would like to get a copy, please. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. ZOE):** Mr. Kilabuk, while the Chair is recessing we will get you the appropriate translation. We will now recess until we have the appropriate translation of the motion proposed by Mr. Ballantyne.

--SHORT RECESS

#### Revert To Clause 15

I would like to call the House back to order. We now have Mr. Ballantyne's motion translated into English, French and syllabics. For the record, Mr. Ballantyne, would you read your motion again?

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that clause 15 of Bill 27-90(1), An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act, be amended by adding the following subsection immediately after proposed subsection 20(2): \*(3) The commissioner shall rank as and have all the powers of a deputy head of a department.\*

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** The motion to amend is in order. To the motion.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

#### Motion To Amend Clause 15, Status Of Commissioner, Carried

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion to amend is carried.

---Carried

Clause 15, as amended. Agreed? Mr. Ballantyne.

#### Motion To Further Amend Clause 15, Meetings With Representatives Of Official Languages, Carried

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** I move that clause 15 of Bill 27-90(1), An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act, be amended by adding the following subsection immediately after proposed subsection 21(2): \*Meetings with representatives of official languages (3) For the purposes of soliciting the advice of representatives of each official language, the languages commissioner shall meet not less than once a year with the representatives of such organizations as may be prescribed by regulation.\*

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. I believe the motion to amend has been circulated to Members. The motion is in order. To the motion.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed? The motion to amend is carried.

---Carried

Clause 15, as amended. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

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

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Does the committee agree that Bill 27-90(1), An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act, is now ready for third reading, as amended? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. I would like to thank the Minister and his witness for appearing before our committee. Could the committee advise the Chair as to which item of business they would like to proceed with? Mr. Government House Leader, do you have any suggestions? Mr. Ballantyne.

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The government is prepared to proceed with the Department of Culture and Communications.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Does the committee agree that we

now proceed to Bill 9-90(1) and deal with the Department of Culture and Communications? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Mr. Minister, are you prepared to make your opening remarks at this time?

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

**Department Of Culture And Communications**

**Minister's Opening Remarks**

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Yes, Mr. Chairman. It is my pleasure to present to the House the budget of the Department of Culture and Communications. The fiscal arrangements with the Government of Canada have placed considerable constraints upon all government departments. The Department of Culture and Communications' budget for 1990-91 is \$11,733,000 comprised of \$9,614,000 in O and M and \$2,119,000 in capital.

Since becoming the Minister, I have directed the Department of Culture and Communications to work co-operatively with non-government organizations as well as with other departments within the GNWT. While pursuing the delivery of the programs of the department, we are increasingly promoting the service functions that we have a mandate to carry out. I intend the department to become better at carrying out its service mandate effectively in recognition of the government's overall need to use resources wisely.

The Department of Culture and Communications will be encouraging the communities of the NWT to take a greater role in development of their own community cultural programs. This not only recognizes the fiscal realities of 1990 but acknowledges the importance of local efforts to save our cultures.

#### **Languages**

The special committee on aboriginal languages has met over the last three months to address the issues outlined by the House. As the chairman of that committee, I have presented the report to this Assembly. In recognition of the high priority this House places upon aboriginal languages, it is my intention, through continuing negotiations with the federal government, to enhance aboriginal language services in the NWT. French language requirements will also be met.

The Dene standardization project, again, began working on standardizing the writing system for each Dene language in 1987, and completed this work in 1989. This committee was jointly sponsored by the Departments of Culture and Communications and Education, and was made up of Dene speakers and language specialists who held meetings in western Arctic communities to reach decisions on standard symbols and roles for writing Dene languages.

In the coming fiscal year, the Department of Culture and Communications plans to raise the profile of aboriginal languages by overseeing the initial stages of the implementation of the Dene writing system, to publish the South Slavey dictionary that was completed this year and to work with the Department of Education on the Gwitch'in and Chipewyan dictionaries. The Language Bureau is also developing a terminology bank for Inuktitut. To encourage the promotion of languages at the community level, those applications that focus on aboriginal languages will receive

priority when they are being considered by the cultural affairs staff.

#### **Libraries**

The public use of library services in the NWT showed significant growth in 1989-90. More and more people are using library materials every year and requesting greater access to libraries. Through the use of library facilities for creative community programs, the people of the NWT are recognizing libraries as important recreational resources, as well as educational and research resources. Increased use of libraries indicates a successful promotion and development of literacy in the NWT by all departments and the individuals that have worked to improve literacy over the years.

Aboriginal language materials now appear on the shelves of community libraries, as special efforts are made to collect, catalogue and distribute aboriginal literature. Inuktitut materials were placed in 13 Inuit communities as a result of a special project in 1989, and more materials are currently being catalogued for distribution. Library services planned for the coming fiscal year include continued purchase and distribution of aboriginal materials as a high priority for the public library program.

In an effort to provide improved access to the 47,000-title public library collection, a computer-accessed catalogue of the collection is in use. The catalogue is continually enlarged as new titles are added. Efforts to provide access to the catalogue from a greater number of communities throughout the NWT continue as computer terminals are added to the system.

The introduction of a video collection to the library services program was a highlight of 1989 following successful negotiations with the National Film Board of Canada. The 2700-title video collection, which contains northern, children's, documentary and entertainment selections, has been distributed to 19 community libraries across the NWT. As with book collections, the video collection will be rotated from one library to the next through the year.

#### **Television And Radio**

Under the northern satellite communications program the department added Snare Lake and Trout Lake in 1989 to the group of communities in which we have installed satellite receivers to rebroadcast stations. The program provides satellite communications to communities in the NWT with populations under 500 that receive no other radio and television reception. Once the service is established in a community, the Department of Culture and Communications provides a 24-hour emergency call number in the event of disrupted service. The department also undertakes an annual maintenance visit where the equipment is inspected, repaired and replaced where necessary.

In light of the recent budget cuts by the Secretary of State, where the northern native broadcast access program was cut by 16 per cent, the radio and television section of the department is more than ever before using its resources in a developmental manner in support of native broadcasting societies. It must be recognized, however, that my department does not have the resources to replace the federal cuts to the native broadcasters. As I announced in the House the other day, I am prepared to do everything I possibly can to support native broadcasting. I announced that my department will find the resources to ensure that the Inuit Broadcasting Society will be funded in the amount of \$120,000 for the continuation of its excellent children's programming. This does not replace the Secretary of State funding but ensures that this valuable

program will continue.

My department is continuing discussions with the Secretary of State in an effort to identify possible options to replace the 16 per cent budget cut through NNBP. I am committed to continue to fight in support of native television, especially as we approach the airing date for Television Northern Canada.

My department will also use its video expertise to promote the use of video production as an effective alternative in the delivery of government programs and will be assisting departments in contracting native communications organizations for program production. They will also be using their contacts in the Canadian video community to bring organizations such as TV Ontario and Alberta Access into contact with NWT native communications organizations with the hope that co-productions will enhance the northern video producers.

The department continues to be a founding member and the recognized major promoter of the Television Northern Canada, TVNC, a consortium along with aboriginal communications societies from the NWT, Labrador, northern Quebec and Yukon, as well as CBC, Northern Telecom, both the Yukon and NWT territorial governments, and departments of the federal government. TVNC, Television Northern Canada is scheduled to go on the air in November, 1991. TVNC represents an extremely important step forward for aboriginal language communications in northern Canada as well as for the delivery of educational and socially relevant programming. I am proud to say that the Government of the NWT has taken a lead role in the promotion of Television Northern Canada as a truly northern television network. With the Secretary of State hitting hard at native communications budgets, this government must remain strong in its support of and involvement in TVNC in order to see this exciting communications and educational development reach success.

The television and radio section of the Department of Culture and Communications will take a fresh approach to the task of video production in the coming fiscal year. The section will be concentrating on the services that it is able to provide to other departments of the government. The staff will use their creative and technical talents to support government departments in taking government programs to the people of the NWT.

My colleague, the Hon. Jeanne Marie-Jewell and I have agreed that our departments, Social Services and Culture and Communications, will work together on a series of positive visual messages for broadcast on television as public service announcements aimed at NWT youth. The messages will highlight the good things in life and strive to build individual self-esteem. This joint effort involving staff from Social Services, cultural affairs, the language bureau and the television section will demonstrate the effectiveness of interdepartmental co-operation in the delivery of departmental programs in a cost effective manner. If this pilot venture proves successful, then further production would be recommended to other departments.

Staff from various sections of my department are also working on the child sexual abuse committee co-ordinated by Social Services. Specialists will provide both technical and cultural information for community workers such as RCMP, social workers and educators.

### **Museums/Heritage**

The museums/heritage division embarked on a revised long-range strategy focussing on community involvement in historic research, community access to artifacts and archival materials, heritage training and regional and community museums

development in 1989-90.

Highlighted in the past year were archaeology projects in which young people were involved. These were the Mackenzie Delta Heritage Project, the Arviat Archaeological Project, and the Norman Wells Historical Centre, focussing on the Canol Trail. In addition, the project Keewatin Nuna-Top 1989 included young people in the recording of traditional Inuit geographical names. All projects were carried out in conjunction with community heritage interest groups. Other projects have included the design of buildings, the repatriation of art and artifacts, and development of heritage training workshops.

Following the 1989 agreement with DIAND to repatriate the 1600-item Inuit art collection, shipments have commenced. The whole collection has arrived. Materials received to date are being unpacked, and during 1990 they will be documented and catalogued. At least one major exhibit will be prepared for circulation in the Nunavut area.

### **Cultural Affairs**

The cultural affairs activity is responsible for initiating work on the promotion of cultural and artistic diversity. During 1989, cultural affairs concentrated on developing two new programs: the oral tradition program and the support to northern performers program. Individuals receiving funds from the oral tradition program attended a three day workshop where they worked with the archivist and museum staff and shared information about their own unique situation and concerns. Copies of the tapes will be stored in the NWT archives. Individuals are encouraged to apply for second year funding to assist the community in developing this as useful educational material.

Cultural affairs will chair the traditional knowledge working group. This committee will include representatives from the Departments of Renewable Resources, Justice, Health, Education, Social Services, Culture and Communications, and Economic Development and Tourism, as well as the non-government organizations such as Dene Cultural Institute, Dene Nation, Inuit Cultural Institute, Metis Heritage Society, Science Institute, Arctic College, Northern Heritage Society, and Inuvialuit Regional Corporation. These representatives will work together to develop a strategy for the study and use of traditional knowledge within the government programs and throughout the NWT.

The Northwest Territories Arts Council and the support to northern performers programs are both dedicated to the promotion of cultural and artistic diversity in the NWT. During 1989-90, the Arts Council funded over 25 individuals and organizations. The Arts Council provided the Arctic Winter Games organizers with a \$50,000 contribution to showcase NWT performing and visual artists. This year's edition of the Arctic Winter Games was a huge success and set a new standard for cultural programs. Although everyone enjoyed the sports events, participants were totally impressed with the cultural celebrations. I would like to thank the NWT Arts Council and all of the organizers who made the 1990 Arctic Winter Games an event to remember.

The support to northern performers programs was responsible for over 40 performers attending festivals across Canada as well as the NWT. I have directed the department that the cultural diversity of the NWT must be represented at southern festivals before a contribution from this program is approved.

In summary, the budget emphasizes a continued commitment to community-based heritage and cultural programs. The direction will be carried out in a spirit of co-operation between

my departments and other departments of the government and people of the NWT. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Mr. Pollard, as chairman of the standing committee on finance, does your committee have any comments to make on the Department of Culture and Communications?

#### Report Of Standing Committee On Finance

**MR. POLLARD:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to comment, sir, on television services. The committee does not support the proposed expenditures for TVNC. Members believe that the television services should be privatized. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Mr. Minister, will you be bringing in any witnesses?

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Yes, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** I believe the Minister is seeking approval from the committee. Does the committee agree that the Minister bring in his witnesses? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. General comments. Member for Natilikmiot.

**MR. NINGARK:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, as you are aware, we have some artifacts in our communities in the North that have never been taken out of the original locations. There are times when the archaeological groups come to our communities and take artifacts away to places like Yellowknife or Ottawa for their museums. To me, those artifacts rightfully belong to the communities and the people in those areas. I am wondering if the department has any plans to enable the communities to have their own museums so that those artifacts could remain in the communities. Mr. Minister, do you have any plans to initiate such a program? Thank you.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is my hope and it is the hope of my department that, eventually, there will be museums in the smaller communities in the NWT. We are striving toward that goal to have museums, and through the development of these museums we will be able to display a lot more artifacts that belong to the individual communities, plus we will in the near future be looking at possible changes to our legislation in that respect. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Mr. Ningark.

#### Artifacts To Be Left In Graves

**MR. NINGARK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Some of the artifacts as part of our culture are in the graves in the traditional style. The Inuit way of life in the past was that whatever has been put in a grave, for example artifacts, are not to be removed from that grave. I believe the same thing applies to the Dene. Perhaps this should be recognized by the government as well. The archaeologists who come to the communities should be notified that these artifacts should not be removed from the graves. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Any comments, Mr. Minister?

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the case of burial grounds, if they are more than 50 years old and located outside cemeteries, they are considered to be archaeological remains and as such they are protected by the archaeological site regulations which prohibits unauthorized disturbance. Archaeological burials might be investigated only if the Prince of Wales Museum, which is part of our department, has issued a permit to allow the disturbance of the burial locations.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Mr. Ningark.

**MR. NINGARK:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What I am referring to is that the archaeological sites are stated as being either a tent or community site or a grave. According to our cultural customs, any artifacts, any items that belong to the graves, are sacred to our culture. I am wondering if the museum here in Yellowknife or elsewhere respects that culture, that no artifacts should be taken out of the graves. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. Any comments, Mr. Minister?

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Chairman, yes, plus when there is a request to get a permit to do archaeological work, generally the person who is seeking the permit will be encouraged to talk to the community to get approval.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. General comments. Member for Baffin South.

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have questions on artifacts, for example, the bones of bowhead whales, or sites where the Thule people used to live. In our community there is a location where the bones from the bowhead are old and we have heard that they are not to be removed from that site. There was one time when somebody took a bone. It was to be taken to Iqaluit but we have been told that they were not to remove the bones of bowheads. We were told this. I want to know if this is true, that the bones of the bowhead cannot be removed from the sites. Thank you.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the bones from a bowhead are on a site where there was a sod house or if they were made by our ancestors, they are not to be disturbed. If they are there for a reason or had a purpose for being there, they are protected.

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

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand. So they must have made a mistake. I will check into it further. We have been advised that where the Thule people lived they are not to be touched. But when they are not supervised regularly -- does that apply to the people who live in the community? Do we fall under that regulation where we cannot touch them either?

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The old sites where the Dorset culture Eskimos lived cannot be disturbed without a permit; even for the people who live around those places, they need a permit and approval to disturb them.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Member for Baffin South.

**MR. KILABUK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I

have heard that that was the case. Who looks after those kinds of things? Because there are some areas where they are not supervised, people do not go to those areas. Who looks after that when people have to go to those sites?

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if the museums can be advised of artifacts taken from sites.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** General comments. Member for Natilikmiot.

**MR. NINGARK:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Who has jurisdiction over the artifacts in the Territories, within the communities? Is it the territorial government or does the federal government have the ultimate power to regulate the use of artifacts in the Territories? Thank you.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, it is both governments' responsibility in this area. We are thinking of drafting legislation to that effect. Thank you.

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

**MR. NINGARK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the legislation is to be changed, maybe the communities can be recognized in that legislation. Those things should belong to the communities. Once that legislation is put in place, the communities should be given that power.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Once that legislation is proposed, we will be able to deal with it in the House. In the Nunavut land claims they are trying to make an agreement regarding that.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Member for Baffin Central.

**MR. KILABUK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to not removing the artifacts because they are protected by law, yesterday and today we agreed that the aboriginal languages should be used. I think we will have to deal with the fact that the artifacts should stay with the Inuit. The present legislation does not recognize that the Inuit are rightful owners of those artifacts. If I were to get an artifact before it was recognized, where can we get permits, from the territorial or federal government? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) It would be from the territorial government.

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

**MR. KILABUK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In some places some artifacts are very close to the shore. We know it is crown land. Would I have to get a permit from the territorial government for some and, if it is on the shore, would I have to get a permit from the federal government?

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Both permits would be from the territorial government.

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

**MR. KILABUK:** (Translation) Mr. Chairman, if I were to remove an artifact or discover some that were very appealing and unusual and if I wanted to sell them or give them to friends, would there be a price tag?

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Anything found cannot be sold.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. General comments. Are there any further general comments? Mr. Lewis.

#### **Film Series Could Focus On Issues From Various Departments**

**MR. LEWIS:** This is very brief, Mr. Chairman. I noticed that many departments have plans to do films of one kind or another. We talked about doing something on violence, and other departments, Renewable Resources has I know in the past bought very expensive equipment with the intention of making films. I wonder if this is another area where the government could maybe get its act together, because it strikes me that with all the different issues that we are trying to deal with, instead of just simply dealing with it as one separate, isolated, problem, to me it would make far more sense if the government could get together to agree that perhaps it is time to develop one thing with a focus. The northern family, if you like, would have some kind of impact as a series of things, where the context is familiar to people. It could develop all these themes on violence or on the environment and on family matters, and so on, instead of just fragmenting stuff all over the place. You get together and say, "Look, here is an opportunity for us to develop something using our resources in the best possible way." You get a theme -- I am not thinking of a real soap opera, but the same kind of concept, if you like, of something that you can look forward to, the next episode of this particular family and how it deals with these different concerns.

It seems to me, listening to various proposals from departments, that they are all thinking along the lines of doing something that is visual. Perhaps the Department of Culture and Communications should take the lead in this area and get the expertise from the other departments about the issues that they think should be included in some kind of a series of things that people can look forward to. Once they identify with the group of people and become interested in it, then I think there is a good potential here for developing something that is distinctive, that is northern, that is exciting and makes good use of our resources. That is all I want to say, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Mr. Minister, do you have any comments?

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Chairman, I agree that we should put our resources together as a government to produce something that is unique to the Northwest Territories. In that spirit of co-operation with the other departments, we are planning to produce a series of teen productions. So far we have been able to work closely with Social Services in terms of producing programs. I will name a few examples: youth initiatives in Inuit Broadcasting Corporation, Native Communications Society, Sir John Franklin Territorial High School, St. Patrick's School, Pido Productions, Yellowknife Films. I think we have started already, in terms of co-operation with the other departments, producing films that are unique to the Northwest Territories and we intend to continue to do that.



**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** General comments. Are Members agreed that we go clause by clause now?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

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

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** That puts us on to page 5.11, directorate, total O and M, \$647,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

#### **Publications And Production, Total O And M, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Page 5.12, publications and production, total O and M, \$993,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

#### **Language Bureau, Total O And M, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Page 5.13, Language Bureau, total O and M, \$1,885,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

#### **Museums/Heritage, Total O and M**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Page 5.14, museums/heritage, total O and M, \$2,290,000. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Chairman, I am not too sure if the Minister is aware of it, but we have a situation in Fort Providence in which the church that was built there many years ago, the foundation is no longer safe, so the church has been shut down since before Christmas. We have, for the bigger services, been using the community hall. The community also uses a small chapel that accommodates about maybe 30 people at the most, if you are abiding by safety regulations. So we have a situation in which we do not have a church in Fort Providence. I just wanted to bring that to the attention of the Minister.

I have received some estimates from a general contractor by the name of Stan Pope and he estimated that it is going to cost at least around \$25,000 to restore the foundation. The foundation is the only difficulty that the community is having. Once that is done, the rest of the building is okay. But we do have a basement, and that is the reason why there are times when the church has been flooded, during the spring time, not flooded by the river, but by water draining into the basement which weakened the foundation so that now there are only some poles that are supporting the foundation. You cannot put a large number of people in there or else the building would cave in, or the floor would, anyway. I just wanted to bring that to the attention of the Minister so that he is aware of it.

The community has raised, to date, about \$4000 and that was done just by donations. I have been written to requesting a donation. They also have these collection jars in the different stores for people to put in money. Mainly the money that has been raised is from people just putting in a dollar, 25 cents, that sort of stuff, but it amounted to about \$4000. This is just to remind the Minister that perhaps in the future, you will be

getting a letter from the community requesting your support on that. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Mr. Minister, do you have any comments?

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank the Member for notifying us of this situation. Unfortunately, we are not able to do it this year, but since the Member has given us notice, we will look at the possibility for future projects.

#### **Museums/Heritage, Total O And M, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Page 5.14, museums/heritage, total O and M, \$2,290,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

#### **Library Services, Total O And M, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Page 5.15, library services, total O and M, \$1,493,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

#### **Cultural Affairs, Total O And M, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Page 5.16, cultural affairs, total O and M, \$1,293,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

#### **Television And Radio Services, Total O And M, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Page 5.17, television and radio services, total O and M, \$1,013,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

#### **Details Of Grants And Contributions**

##### **Total Grants, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Page 5.18, details of grants and contributions. Grants. Total grants, \$216,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

##### **Total Contributions**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Page 5.19, contributions. Page 5.20, total contributions, \$1,606,000. Agreed? Mr. Pedersen.

**MR. PEDERSEN:** Under this heading, when we give out these grants and contributions, oral history, northern performers, et cetera, normally we have some sort of conditions with it, either at the end of a specified project that the people have to submit a report, some obligation on reporting back, to produce a certain thing. Do we ensure that the things that we fund are, in fact, carried out and that the conditions of the funding are met? Do we follow up and

ensure that?

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Yes, we do, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Page 5.20, total contributions. Mr. Whitford.

**MR. WHITFORD:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I had a similar question to the one of Mr. Pedersen's. I was trying to find the background information that I had on it. I had a list that indicated where some of the money was going, for producing music by northern musicians. I notice a similarity in the number of different applicants. There were several there that were receiving around \$7000 for the production of three original northern songs. Is any investigation done into the background to see that these songs are produced? Are they all belonging to the same band; all producing the same songs or three different songs? If that is the case, then we should have a tremendous amount of original music written in the Territories here for some \$25,000 or \$30,000. I want to know if any checks are done to see if these people are all playing for the same band or not.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Chairman, the NWT Arts Council has the responsibility of making recommendations to the Minister as to which groups should be funded. There are strict guidelines and checks to make sure the funds are utilized in the proper manner.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Page 5.20. Mr. Pedersen.

**MR. PEDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if it would be possible, if not too much work for the department, that once a year they put together information, stapled together, grants given out and what the results of these grants were. If it was music produced, then list what happened to it and where it might be obtained. We are talking about \$1.6 million and I fully support the money going out, but I think it would be nice to know that what we gave it out for had, in fact, happened. Would it be possible, if it were not a great cost item, to produce such pages for our information in the future?

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Yes, it is quite possible. We could do that for next year.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Mr. Whitford.

**MR. WHITFORD:** Mr. Chairman, would this list include the answer to the question I asked; if in fact we are giving a grant for an individual to produce three original songs, then would it give the title of the original songs and the name of the individual? I am concerned that public money is being spent on the production of songs and I would like to know what songs are written so I can go and buy the records if they are out.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Yes, if that is the Member's wish then that will be included.

#### **Total Contributions, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Page 5.20, total contributions,

\$1,606,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

#### **Total Grants And Contributions, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Total grants and contributions, \$1,822,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Page 5.21, detail of work performed on behalf of third parties. Page 5.22, total department, \$2,949,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

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

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Page 5.10, program summary for the Department of Culture and Communications. Total O and M, \$9,614,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Does the committee agree the O and M is concluded and we now go on to capital?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

#### **Publications And Production, Equipment Acquisition, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Page 5.11, capital estimates, publications and production, equipment acquisition, headquarters. Total headquarters, \$61,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

#### **Publications And Production, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Total publications and production, \$61,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

#### **Language Bureau**

#### **Equipment Acquisition, Fort Smith, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Under detail of capital, page 5.13, Language Bureau, equipment acquisition, Fort Smith. Total Fort Smith, \$15,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**Equipment Acquisition, Keewatin, Total Capital, Agreed**

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Keewatin. Total Keewatin, \$20,000. Agreed?

**Equipment Acquisition, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Total equipment acquisition, \$220,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

---Agreed

**Equipment Acquisition, Kitikmeot, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Kitikmeot. Total Kitikmeot, \$10,000. Agreed?

**Contributions, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** On page 5.16, continuing with detail of capital. Contributions, headquarters, total headquarters, \$100,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

---Agreed

**Equipment Acquisition, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Total equipment acquisition, \$45,000. Agreed?

**Contributions, Fort Smith, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Fort Smith, total Fort Smith, \$20,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

---Agreed

**Language Bureau, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Total Language Bureau, \$45,000. Agreed?

**Contributions, Inuvik, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Inuvik, total Inuvik, \$45,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

---Agreed

**Museums/Heritage****Buildings And Works, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Page 5.15, museums/heritage, buildings and works. Headquarters, total headquarters, \$175,000. Agreed?

**Contributions, Baffin, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Baffin, total Baffin, \$1,001,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

---Agreed

**Buildings And Works, Baffin, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Baffin, total Baffin, \$75,000. Agreed?

**Contributions, Kitikmeot, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Kitikmeot, total Kitikmeot, \$10,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

---Agreed

**Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Total buildings and works, \$250,000. Agreed?

**Total Contributions, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Total contributions, \$1,176,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

---Agreed

**Equipment Acquisition, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Equipment acquisition, headquarters, total headquarters, \$220,000. Agreed?

**Museums/Heritage, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Total museums/heritage, \$1,646,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**Library Services**

**Buildings And Works, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Page 5.18, continuing detail of capital. Library services, buildings and works, headquarters, total headquarters, \$90,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**Buildings And Works, Inuvik, Total Capital, Agreed**

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

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**Buildings And Works, Kitikmeot, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Kitikmeot, total Kitikmeot, \$20,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Total buildings and works, \$135,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**Contributions, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Contributions, headquarters, total headquarters, \$65,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**Contributions, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Total contributions, \$65,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**Library Services, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Total library services, \$200,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**Television And Radio Services, Equipment Acquisition, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Continuing detail of capital on page 5.20. Television and radio services, equipment

acquisition, headquarters, total headquarters, \$167,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**Television And Radio Services, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Total television and radio services, \$167,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Page 5.09, program summary for the department. Capital expenditures, total capital expenditures, \$2,119,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Does the committee agree that this concludes the capital estimates for the Department of Culture and Communications, and this concludes the total main estimates for the Department of Culture and Communications? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** The committee thanks you and your witness, Mr. Minister. Mr. Government House Leader, what do you plan to do next?

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The government is prepared to go ahead with the Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Does the committee agree that we go to the Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** The committee is agreed. Mr. Kakfwi, do you have any opening remarks to make?

**Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat**

**Minister's Opening Remarks**

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to present to the Legislature the proposed 1990-91...

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. McLaughlin):** Excuse me, Mr. Minister. Just for Members' information, we are on page 2.12 under the Executive for this part of the budget. Sorry, Mr. Minister, if you would continue.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Where was I? ...main estimates for the Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat. The secretariat is a central Executive agency reporting directly to myself and the Hon. Titus Allooloo, Associate Minister. Its main function has been to represent

this government at the comprehensive land claims negotiations, mainly between the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut and the federal government and the Dene/Metis and the federal government. As well, the secretariat has responsibilities and provides advice in the areas of northern political development, aboriginal self-government and the identification and protection of aboriginal rights in a constitutional context. We also provide advice and support to the political and constitutional development committee of the Executive Council, which I chair.

In the area of claims, as Members may be aware, implementation of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement, which was signed a few years ago, is still proceeding. An arbitration board has finally been appointed to work to ensure that implementation goes smoothly, to help the parties in interpreting the contentious sections of the agreement and in arbitrating other matters as they are identified from time to time.

We are presently working with the Inuvialuit and DIAND to develop a Treasury Board submission to access implementation funding for the period 1991-92 to 1993-94. The federal implementation funding for this period will be provided to the Government of the Northwest Territories through a contribution agreement, which has been the practice to date. However, the federal government is proposing that an adjustment be made to the GNWT A-base so that, in the future, the GNWT would be solely responsible for financing its implementation obligations.

We have taken the position that implementing land claims is a federal responsibility and therefore a separate implementation funding mechanism would be more appropriate. The Inuvialuit Regional Corporation agrees that a separate funding mechanism would recognize the federal government's ultimate responsibility, would be more able to react to unexpected expenditure fluctuations and would provide them with an ability to track the expenditure of such funds by the GNWT. Discussions on this important matter have just begun.

#### **Involvement In Nunavut Agreement In Principle**

Mr. Chairman, Canada has just completed the negotiation of a land claims agreement in principle with the Inuit of Nunavut. We have, as a government, I believe, played a significant role, especially in the final negotiations in Ottawa that took place last month.

The Government of the Northwest Territories and the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut have undertaken to develop a process, within six months of signing the AIP, that would guide the creation of a Nunavut Territory consistent with the Iqaluit Agreement of January 15, 1987, including a territory-wide plebiscite on a boundary for division. We have also undertaken to continue the working group process already established, to determine prior to the final agreement, the feasibility, parameters, costing and potential implementation of a wildlife harvesting income support program for the Nunavut settlement area. Any program that might be agreed on by the two governments and the TFN would be established outside the claims process, with funds dedicated by TFN and available from existing federal and territorial programs.

The two government cabinets and the TFN board of directors have already approved the AIP as a basis for negotiating a final agreement. TFN has invited the Government Leader and the Prime Minister to participate in a signing ceremony which is being planned for later this month in Igloodik. What has happened to date, Mr. Chairman, is that the TFN and the federal government and ourselves have initialled an agreement in principle. Once the text is finalized, then we will be invited

to take part in the signing of an agreement in principle.

The most complex and difficult negotiations that we are involved in, as you will all be aware, are those with the Dene/Metis. This claim, as you know, is being negotiated jointly by two aboriginal organizations, the Dene Nation and the Metis Association. The negotiations are complicated by the fact that the final agreement will have an impact on Treaties 8 and 11. While the final agreement will not extinguish the treaties, specific rights such as rights to reserves, money, hunting, fishing and trapping will be replaced by provisions in the final agreement. Political, program and cultural rights which may flow from the treaties are unaffected. Hunting rights in the provinces are not surrendered and the annual celebration of the treaties will continue. These provisions make this claim unique in that the treaties are continued and a modern comprehensive claim is also made.

#### **Importance Of Completion Of Dene/Metis Agreement**

The main focus that everyone has in concluding these negotiations is to provide certainty and clarity of rights to ownership and use of land and resources. The final settlement, therefore, must result in certainty and predictability with respect to the use and disposition of lands by both parties affected by the settlement, and that is what the intent of the deal is.

At present, the Dene/Metis, as you are well aware, are meeting. They met yesterday and today and they will meet tomorrow to decide what their course of action will be. As you know, the Minister has agreed to meet with them on Monday, perhaps here in Yellowknife, to assess for himself whether the leaders, the chiefs, in sufficient number, have demonstrated the will and are willing to give some tangible evidence that they are not only agreeing to initial the deal but also, as presidents and vice-presidents and chiefs and Metis leaders, to say, "Yes, we agree to initial and also we will do everything we can to convince our people that it is a good deal and that we should do everything we can to make it be seen as a positive development."

The Minister, as I understand it, will make a decision with them following their discussion on Monday about whether or not he thinks there is sufficient support for initialling the AIP and sufficient will on the part of the leaders to sell this claims package to the people that the chiefs and the Metis people represent in the communities. If the Dene and Metis agree to initial, they will have until early 1991 to complete land selection and ratify the agreement. The deadline for completion is January. The TFN agreement in principle requires that a final agreement is in place by December of this year and with ratification targeted for a year from now.

As you know, all people of the North, and this government as well, have an enormous stake in the outcome of claims negotiations and as a government we are doing everything that we can to ensure that some momentum and progress is maintained. As you know, we have acquired the assistance and advice of Bob DeLury, who was formerly with the Inuvialuit, the only person who has been able to assist an aboriginal group to develop and push through a final land claims agreement with the federal Government of Canada. We have also committed additional resources that we have at our disposal to contribute to the completion of these agreements on schedule.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a few comments on some of the activities that we planned as a secretariat for the coming year. As I stated earlier, the TFN final agreement must be negotiated by December of this year. Land selection in the Dene/Metis settlement area will continue through the

year, and this will also soon begin in the Nunavut area by the TFN.

The implementation of these agreements, I believe, represents a major challenge insofar as they provide for public boards responsible for environmental management of land and water in the Northwest Territories. These will be important activities throughout the implementation period of both claims. Our government has taken the position that the agenda for political and constitutional development in the Northwest Territories requires that the legislation establishing these boards be legislation of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories. We are pressing to resolve this question early, so we can immediately begin on the development of the legislation.

#### Self-Government

In the area of self-government, the Dene/Metis final agreement provides for Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories to enter into negotiations with the Dene/Metis to conclude agreements on self-government. We have already indicated our willingness to assist communities in restructuring local governments pursuant to the Charter Communities Act so that they can more appropriately reflect traditional community decision-making practices. We also want to enhance the ability of community governments to make decisions with respect to the delivery of public programs and services at the community level. Similar discussions are also being held with representatives of the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation as all communities in their settlement area have indicated an interest in our policies to enhance their community governments. It is my view that the negotiation of self-government arrangements will be a long-term and continuing process.

In conclusion, I wish to say that claims negotiations activities have increased significantly over the past few years. I believe, with the agreements being close to finalization, that activities will continue to increase even more. For example, parallel processes are being set up by DIAND to develop implementation plans and budgets and to conduct land selection negotiations. The GNWT must participate in these important negotiations, and so additional O and M is being requested to meet this increase in activity.

The political and constitutional development committee of the Executive Council, like other Executive committees, has also experienced an increase in its activities to the point where it now requires permanent secretariat support. An additional person year and salary dollars is being requested to provide this support to the committee. Thank you.

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

#### Comments From The Standing Committee On Finance

**MR. POLLARD:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, it is very disturbing to Members of the standing committee on finance that there is no Inuit or TFN direct representation in the secretariat. While the committee is not questioning the abilities of the current staff responsible for the TFN claim, there are obvious discrepancies between the type of staff representation for the Dene/Metis and for the Inuit. Members encourage the secretariat to promote a co-operative resolution of differences between the Inuit and the Dene/Metis, rather than a continuation of the confrontational approach. I think that springs mostly, Mr. Chairman, from the boundary issue. So we are suggesting that the secretariat could perhaps play a greater role there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you, Mr. Pollard. Mr. Kakfwi, do you have any witness that you would like to bring

into the House? Does the committee agree? Mr. Minister, bring in your witness, please. Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat is on page 2.12 of your main estimates. For the record, Mr. Minister, would you introduce your witness?

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Mr. Chairman, I have with me Mr. Charles Overvold, the director of the secretariat.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you very much. General comments. Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat. Mr. Pedersen.

**MR. PEDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Could the Minister advise me -- I am sort of taking this out of his leading comments -- if there is a sufficient agreement to initial the Dene/Metis land claims agreement, meaning then that the Minister would feel there was sufficient commitment by the negotiators and chiefs to take this agreement to the communities to, as the Minister said, "sell it", what is the process required, if that happens, for ratification of the initialled agreement?

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

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Mr. Chairman, the first part of the question that was raised, was raised by myself because it comes in the form of a letter from the Minister of Indian Affairs. I think those letters were made public earlier this week. The Minister has written to the presidents of the Metis Association and Dene Nation, basically saying that he is still willing to let the agreement be initialled, but that he wants to see some tangible evidence of the support that the Dene/Metis leaders have for this document. I think he would expect some way in which he can be convinced that people are not just saying, "Yes, let's initial it and we will take the document and throw it in front of our people in the communities and let them decide." I think he is clearly stating in those letters that he wants the leaders to come forward and say, "Yes, we support the initialling because we think it is a good deal and we are going to make a commitment as chiefs and Metis leaders, as presidents and vice-presidents, to support the deal and to go out and convince our people." Not to simply come forward and say, "We agree to allow the negotiators to initial and we will be the carriers of this package, we are going to throw it in front of our people and let them decide." I think if that happens there might be a possibility that the Government of Canada will not initial the deal. So that is the political assessment that the Minister is going to make on Monday, as I understand it, unless a more clear message is made to him by the present leadership meeting that is going on right now.

The second part, the part of ratification, I know the ratification calls for votes in the regions. Of all the eligible beneficiaries of the Dene/Metis claim in each region, two thirds of the people must vote and two thirds of those eligible must be in favour of the deal. I am not clear what happens if some regions reject it and others do not.

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

**MR. PEDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What I was trying to make clear is exactly what the Minister is not clear on either, and that is, what happens if all regions but one agree to it? But just to clarify, the Minister said two thirds of those eligible to vote must agree. Is that two thirds of those casting votes must agree or two thirds of those eligible?

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

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** I am sorry. What I should have said is two thirds of those eligible to vote have to cast their votes and of those that cast their votes, at least two thirds of

them must be in favour of it.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** General comments. Does the committee agree we go to details?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**Aboriginal Rights And Constitutional Development, Total O And M, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat, total O and M, \$794,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Does the committee agree that this concludes the Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. I would like to thank the witness, Charles Overvold. Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Ballantyne, what is the wish of the government?

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** The government is prepared to proceed with the NWT Power Corporation Act.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** The government wishes to deal with Bill 13-90(1), NWT Power Corporation Act. Does the committee agree?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Madam Minister. Please make your opening statement.

**Bill 13-90(1): Northwest Territories Power Corporation Act**

**Minister's Opening Remarks**

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, the request for an amendment to the Power Corporation Act is stated clearly on the statement of purpose of the bill. The purpose of this bill is to provide for payment of petroleum products taxes by the corporation, retroactive to May 9, 1988. When we first brought in the Power Corporation Act this was overlooked and at this point in time there is no legal mechanism for the taxes to be collected from the Power Corporation. This is an amendment to rectify the situation.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you, Madam Minister. Standing committee on legislation comments, Mr. Sibbeston.

**MR. SIBBESTON:** Mr. Chairman, I do not have any materials before me with respect to that. I do not know who is handling this for our committee, if I can get them I will tell you what the committee thought of the bill.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** I am sorry. These are money issues. Are you also the deputy chairman of the standing committee on finance? I am just wondering if the chairman of the finance committee, Mr. Pollard, has any comments. Mr.

Pedersen.

**Comments From The Standing Committee On Finance**

**MR. PEDERSEN:** Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the standing committee on finance, this was considered by the committee and the committee's recommendation was to pass it to the House.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. Bill 13-90(1), An Act to Amend the Northwest Territories Power Corporation Act. Does the committee agree to go clause by clause?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Clause 1. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

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

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Does the committee agree that Bill 13-90(1) is now ready for third reading?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Mahsi cho. Mr. Ballantyne, what is the wish of the government?

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Chairman, may we proceed to Bill 1-90(1), An Act to Amend the Evidence Act?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Is the committee agreed to deal with Bill 1-90(1), Evidence Act?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Mr. Ballantyne, please make your opening statement.

**Bill 1-90(1): Evidence Act**

**Minister's Opening Remarks**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The amendment to this act essentially will limit the definition of action to civil matters. The section would comply with paragraph 11(c) of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which reads, "...that any person charged with an offence has the right not to be compelled to be a witness in proceedings against that person in respect of the offence..." So such an amendment means that the definition of action in section 2 of the act no longer applies in section 4. The effect of the amendment is that section 4, which deals with compellability of witnesses, only applies to civil proceedings and arbitration and no longer applies in respect to inquiries or prosecutions for offences committed against a by-law or regulation made under the authority of such an act.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. The

chairman of the standing committee on legislation, Mr. Sibbeston.

#### Comments From The Standing Committee On Legislation

**MR. SIBBESTON:** Mr. Chairman, the standing committee on legislation reviewed this bill on January 23, 1990 and is satisfied that it be presented and possibly passed now.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. To the act. Are there any general comments to Bill 1-90(1)? Does the committee agree that we go clause by clause? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Clause 1. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Clause 2. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

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

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Does the committee agree that Bill 1-90(1) is now ready for third reading?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. Mr. Ballantyne, what is the wish of the government?

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you. The government is prepared to go forward with the Public Utilities Board part of the budget, followed by the Highway Transport Board in the main estimates.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** The government has requested that we deal with the Highway Transport Board, Public Utilities Board, page 2.19. Does the committee agree?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Mr. Ballantyne, would you like to make your opening statements?

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

#### Executive, Public Utilities Board

#### Minister's Opening Remarks

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Public Utilities Board is a regulatory agency authorized under the act which regulates electrical and gas utilities in the Northwest Territories. The board is currently composed of five appointed members and has a support staff of five public servants, split equally with the Highway Transport Board.

The 1990-91 budget figures illustrate a total current budget for both the Public Utilities Board and the Highway Transport Board of \$647,000, offset by estimated incoming Highway Transport Board revenue of \$156,000. The proposed estimates reflect an increased budget which includes staff salaries.

The 1990-91 total increase of \$75,000 reflects an increase to the Public Utilities Board. Under the new act the additional funding will be offset by the recovery of board hearing costs from all regulated utilities during the fiscal period. An estimate of approximately 30 to 50 per cent of the total budget requirement may be recovered.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to take this opportunity to outline the rather unique nature of this budget. As you know, this budget is split between the Public Utilities Board and the Highway Transport Board. Both are full regulatory boards authorized and mandated under law. The Public Utilities Board, being a regulatory agency, is faced with ongoing O and M costs that relate directly to tasks to be brought before it. The non-discretionary costs are not now within any existing budget, however, they are reflected in the 1990-91 budget and these categories are: hearing costs; expenses and training of the counsel assigned to the board; court costs as assigned by the Supreme Court; adequate funding to recognize an ongoing training program for the board members and staff.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my remarks. The board's executive director is unfortunately not here, so I will endeavour to handle any questions. I have just today, Mr. Chairman, announced the directive that has been given to the board to begin the process for a public rate review and I think the Minister's statement that I gave today is pretty self-explanatory. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. General comments on the Highway Transport Board and the Public Utilities Board. Mr. Whitford.

#### Regulation Of Power Corporation By Public Utilities Board

**MR. WHITFORD:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question for the Minister about the Power Corporation and the Public Utilities Board. Will the Power Corporation come under the Public Utilities Board by the end of this year?

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

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** I do not have the exact date. I do not think an exact date has been set. We expect, though, and the wish of both myself and the Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources is that, within the next two years the Power Corporation will be a fully regulated utility under the auspices of the Public Utilities Board.

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

**MR. WHITFORD:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I heard what the Minister has said, but why is the process going to take so long? Why is it going to take two years? At the moment the Power Corporation can operate without any public input to its rate structures and other things that would govern utilities. Why so long?

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

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** At the longest, two years. The reality is that the former Northern Canada Power Commission was under no regulatory body. Presently the Executive Council, upon notice given to the Legislative Assembly, can increase rates, but the Minister has said that the rate increase that was announced today will be put before



the Public Utilities Board. Until we have done an analysis of the rate structure, and we expect that the rate structure review will be finished in the fall, it will take some time to analyse that review to make the necessary changes to how we do things -- it might in fact entail more changes to legislation; until that work is done, it was agreed -- in fact I think agreed to in Norman Wells by the legislation committee -- that it was a proper approach to take. Our goal is to have it fully regulated, but we have a lot of work to do. It has been a very short time since we have taken over the Power Corporation. I think it was also agreed to by the Public Utilities Board that some time would be necessary before we got the corporation into a proper state where it could, in fact, be totally and fully subject to the Public Utilities Board.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Mr. Whitford.

**MR. WHITFORD:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Probably the final question and comment. I can fully appreciate that we have just taken over the corporation and it has a long way to go, and a lot of redesigning has to take place before it is finally a totally territorial functioning body. Although I can appreciate all of the above, I am still concerned about the protection for the public while all of this restructuring is taking place, and analysing of operational costs, et cetera. The price of power can go up substantially without any kind of public input into what the public can bear, or something.

I think the communities of Hay River and Yellowknife, being the largest consumers, do require a certain amount of protection and public input. I am concerned that it is going to take this length of time. I would certainly want to encourage this government and this Minister to ensure that all stops are pulled out to ensure that we have the corporation reporting to the PUB as soon as possible. I would like to see it by the fall session.

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

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Both the Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources and myself also agree with what the Member is saying. As I explained before, there are a number of processes that have to be gone through before we can arrive at that state. We will get there as quickly as we can. It is in the interests of the government as well as the public that this utility is regulated by the Public Utilities Board. There is a lot of work to be done not only within the Power Corporation but also within the Public Utilities Board itself. Members of the board, staff of the board, have been undertaking extensive training over the past year because once they take over responsibilities for the Power Corporation, their job becomes much more complex. So it was agreed by all parties that a certain period of time was necessary. We will try. We understand what the Member is saying and we agree with the Member. We will try our very best to have that happen as soon as possible. Thank you.

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

**MR. WHITFORD:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we will hold the Ministers to their commitments and we will certainly keep looking over their shoulders and we suggest they do the same thing.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. General comments. This concludes the Public Utilities Board. We will go to the Highway Transport Board. Mr. Wray.

## Highway Transport Board

### Minister's Opening Remarks

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My opening remarks will, to some degree, echo those of my colleague responsible for the PUB, Mr. Ballantyne, who has reviewed his responsible area with you. I will attempt to clarify my portion of the responsibility for the budget, that being the operations of the Highway Transport Board.

The Highway Transport Board is a full regulatory board authorized and mandated under law by the Public Service Vehicles Act. The Highway Transport Board functions as a full administrative tribunal adjudicating applications for new trucking authorities, amendments, sales and transfers, renewals and disciplinary actions, to a conclusion. The board is made up of five appointed members with a staff of five shared with the Public Utilities Board under my colleague, Mr. Ballantyne.

There has been no increase to the Highway Transport Board's budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Increases to this item pertain to the PUB only and will be spoken to by Mr. Ballantyne. You may also note that incoming revenue from this board offsets to a large degree part of the operating budget of both boards.

The revision to the Public Service Vehicles Act has continued during the past year in order to bring our legislation into line with the federal deregulation initiatives. A draft has been prepared and over 450 copies have been circulated to the general public, industry and enforcement agents for consultation. It was my intention to present that bill at this session. However, I have concerns with respect to some of the negative consequences of deregulation. In reviewing the draft bill, I was not satisfied that the bill in its present form would adequately protect the interests of Northerners and so have asked my officials to make changes for presentation at the next session, in the fall of 1990. These changes will be transmitted to industry for their input.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening remarks.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Highway Transport Board. General comments. Highway Transport Board. Mr. Whitford, do you have any questions? Does the committee agree to go to details?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**Highway Transport Board/Public Utilities Board, Total O And M, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Highway Transport Board/Public Utilities Board, total O and M, \$647,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

### Detail Of Grants And Contributions

**Grants, Total O And M, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Page 2.20, details of grants and contributions, total grants, \$499,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**Contributions, Total O And M, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Page 2.21, contributions, total contributions, \$2,938,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**Grants And Contributions, Total O And M, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Total grants and contributions, \$3,437,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**Executive, Total O And M, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Back to page 2.08, program summary. Executive, total O and M, \$16,754,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**Executive, Total Capital, Agreed**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Total capital, \$98,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Total expenditures, \$16,852,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Does the committee agree that this concludes the Department of the Executive. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Mr. Ballantyne, what is the government's wish?

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Chairman, I would recommend that we go ahead with Bill 5-90(1), An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** The government is requesting that we deal with Bill 5-90(1), An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act. Does the committee agree? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Mr. Kakfwi, do you have opening

remarks?

**Bill 5-90(1): Student Financial Assistance Act**

**Minister's Opening Remarks**

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Mr. Chairman, the amendment proposes two related changes to the Student Financial Assistance Act. The first one is that it will increase the total of the principal amount of all loans that may be made to a student who successfully completes an approved undergraduate program and is accepted into an approved postgraduate program. Secondly, it will amend the schedule to the act to increase the maximum aggregate of the principal amounts outstanding under the act. Those, very briefly, Mr. Chairman, are the two changes that the amendment proposes. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you, Mr. Minister. This act did not go through the standing committee on legislation. Mr. Lewis, are you the deputy chairman of the finance committee? Okay. Do we proceed? Okay. Are there any general comments on Bill 5-90(1), An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act? Mr. Whitford.

**MR. WHITFORD:** I am not sure if the questions that I would have fall under this particular amendment, but they come under the program in general. As this is a loan, I trust that means that the money is to be paid back to the government. Over the past year and a half, I have had a number of complaints or concerns expressed by people who were unable to pay the money back and they were seeking advice. First of all, I would just ask, is this in fact, because it is a loan, money that has to be paid back to the territorial government? Is that correct?

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

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Yes.

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

**MR. WHITFORD:** The money has to be paid back in its entirety, or is part of it forgiven, or is it forgiven because of the individual working in the Territories? Or, does it have to be paid back in cash?

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

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Mr. Chairman, what the Member is talking about is not related to these two changes, but if he wants the information we could provide it to him. It is an area that I would need some staff to help me address because I know there are some difficulties with individual students when they do not fall under some of the criteria. There are some rather unusual circumstances sometimes where we are forced to make what we think are reasonable adjustments on how to deal with individual cases. There is a whole area of regulations and requirements that each student is required to meet in order to get loans and then how they are paid back. Some of them are forgiven and some of them they are requested to pay it back. I cannot answer the Member's question myself right now.

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

**MR. WHITFORD:** Mr. Chairman, yes, I understand that and perhaps I seek guidance to see whether or not that would come under this particular area. So I will not pursue this line of questioning further at this time. Mr. Chairman, while I have

the floor, I would like to seek consent to extend the sitting hours.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Mr. Whitford, could you be more specific? Is this to conclude this item, or to extend sitting hours until three, four, six o'clock? Please be more specific.

**MR. WHITFORD:** It has been suggested that 2:30 p.m. would be an appropriate time.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Mr. Whitford. Members can make a motion to extend sitting hours to deal with the item at hand. In this case, it is to deal with the Student Financial Assistance Act. Once we conclude that, then that is as far as your motion could go. Mr. Whitford.

**MR. WHITFORD:** Thank you for your indulgence, Mr. Chairman. Can I ask another question? I realize that we want to finish this, but there are a number of other small items that we can do before the end of this day and I just wondered if we could. Okay, to the end of this item.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Mr. Whitford, I did not hear a motion yet with regard to extension of hours. It is also two o'clock. Mr. Whitford.

#### Motion To Extend Sitting Hours, Carried

**MR. WHITFORD:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a motion that we extend the sitting hours to conclude this item.

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

General comments, Bill 5-90(1), An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act. Mr. Whitford. No questions? General comments. Does the committee agree that we go clause by clause? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Clause 1. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Clause 2. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Clause 3. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Bill as a whole. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Does the committee agree that Bill 5-90(1) is now ready for third reading? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** I will rise now and report progress. Thank you very much.

#### 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. Member for Deh Cho.

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bills 1-90(1), 5-90(1), 9-90(1), 13-90(1), 27-90(1) and Committee Report 1-90(1), and wish to report that Bills 1-90(1), 5-90(1) and 13-90(1) are now ready for third reading, and that Bill 27-90(1) is ready for third reading, as amended. Mr. Speaker, your committee wishes to report progress.

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

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**MR. SPEAKER:** Item 19, third reading of bills. The honourable Member for Amittuq.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek consent to proceed with third reading of Bill 27-90(1), An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member for Amittuq is seeking consent to proceed with third reading of Bill 27-90(1). Are there any nays? There are no nays? Proceed, Mr. Minister.

#### ITEM 19: THIRD READING OF BILLS

##### Third Reading Of Bill 27-90(1): Official Languages Act

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, that Bill 27-90(1), An Act to Amend the Official Languages 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? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

---Applause

Bill 27-90(1) has had third reading. Third reading of bills. The honourable Member for Nunakput.

##### Third Reading Of Bill 13-90(1): Northwest Territories Power Corporation Act

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded

by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 13-90(1), An Act to Amend the Northwest Territories Power Corporation Act, be read for the third time.

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 13-90(1) has had third reading. Third reading of bills. The honourable Member for Deh Cho.

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to seek unanimous consent to return to Item 3, Members' statements.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Member is seeking unanimous consent to return to Item 3, Members' statements. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Honourable Member for Deh Cho, you have unanimous consent.

### ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

#### Member's Statement On Denial Of First Reading Of Private Members' Bill

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Speaker, I feel very bad about the denial of my Private Member's Bill regarding the Motor Vehicles Act. I am very disappointed that the act was denied first reading and did not go through the discussion stage, so that Members, including myself, would have been able to make arguments about why we should or should not support it.

Mr. Speaker, before a Member can bring a Private Member's Bill before this House there is a whole legal process and a lot of work to go through. It takes up lawyers' time; it takes up staff time; and it also takes up Members' time. A lot of effort goes into preparing a Private Member's Bill. Members of this House could have had the courtesy of recognizing the work involved by allowing the bill to proceed at least to committee of the whole for discussion. Quite frankly, I feel that all of those hours of time and effort, that was denied in a second with the casual waving of the arms, all the work has been killed.

The Government Leader indicated, although not on record, that he wanted to save lives. For the information of Members and the public, under my bill the Minister would have had the exclusive power to make decisions regarding the use of seat belts in municipalities. These discretionary powers would have been similar to the way the Liquor Act is set up.

Naturally there would be a political price to pay in the event that Ministers did not act in the wishes of the community. I do not think they want to take that political risk. So now we have to live with the present act which, in my view, makes criminals out of model citizens and discriminates against people who have large families. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Members' statements. Item 20, assent to bills. Is it the wish of this House that we proceed with assent to bills?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**MR. SPEAKER:** Mr. Clerk, would you ascertain if the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories is prepared to give assent to bills?

### ITEM 20: ASSENT TO BILLS

**COMMISSIONER NORRIS:** As Commissioner of the Northwest Territories I hereby assent to Bill 27-90(1).

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:** Item 21, Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

**CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):** Mr. Speaker, meetings for Monday, April 9: ajauqtit at 9:00 a.m.; at 10:00 a.m. the standing committee on rules, procedures and privileges.

### ITEM 21: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Tuesday, April 10th.

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: Motions 19-90(1), 20-90(1) and 25-90(1)
15. First Reading of Bills: Bill 26-90(1)
16. Second Reading of Bills: Bills 2-90(1), 4-90(1), 7-90(1), 10-90(1), 11-90(1), 12-90(1), 15-90(1), 17-90(1), 21-90(1), 22-90(1) and 23-90(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); Motion 5-90(1); Bills 3-90(1), 11-90(1), 20-90(1) and 24-90(1)
18. Report of Committee of the Whole
19. Third Reading of Bills: Bill 1-90(1) and Bill 5-90(1)
20. Assent to Bills
21. Orders of the Day

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Clerk. By the authority given to me by Motion 22-90(1), this House stands adjourned until Tuesday, April 10, 1990, at 1:00 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT

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