



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES**

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Official Report

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

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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## YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 1991

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Hon. Titus Allooloo, Mr. Arlooktoo, Hon. Michael Ballantyne, Hon. Tom Butters, Hon. Nellie Cournoyea, Mr. Ernerk, Mr. Gargan, Hon. Stephen Kakfwi, Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. Lewis, Hon. Jeannie Marie-Jewell, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Morin, Hon. Richard Nerysoo, 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 (Mr. Richard Nerysoo):** Orders of the day for Wednesday, March 20, 1991. Item 2, Ministers' statements. The honourable Member for Slave River.

## ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

**Ministers' Statement 44-91(1): Disturbance At Yellowknife Correctional Centre**

**HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Later today I will table a copy of the executive summary of the investigative review of the January 1, 1991 disturbance at the Yellowknife Correctional Centre.

---Applause

It is not normally the practice of the Minister, nor the policy of the Department of Social Services, to make public, documents of such a confidential and sensitive nature. I have deleted a reference to a matter which impacts on the security of the centre. It is important for all Members to appreciate that the confidentiality of such documents is paramount in order to protect both the individuals that are providing information and the investigating team that is collecting information on behalf of the government. The protection of the process contributes to a greater assurance of the candidness and accuracy of information that is required to be revealed and documented. It is critical for inmates that the confidentiality of the process be protected in the event of recriminations from their peers.

Out of respect for the process that is required in such circumstances, the full investigation report will not be made public. There has been, however, a great deal of public interest in the recommendations of the report, and for this reason only the executive summary of the investigative review is being made available, containing the full list of conclusions, and it has identical recommendations as the full investigative report.

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

**Ministers' Statement 45-91(1): Tabling Of Consolidated Financial Statements Of The NWT**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr Speaker, later today I will table the Consolidated Financial Statements of the Northwest Territories for the year ended March 31, 1990. These statements have been audited by the Auditor General of Canada.

This is the first time that our government has prepared audited consolidated statements for the government and its public agencies. As noted by the Auditor General in his report on "Other Matters" that was tabled in the Assembly earlier this session, the government is taking a leading role in government financial reporting in Canada. The statements will provide readers with more complete information on the

financial operations of government by accounting for the full nature and extent of the financial affairs of the government and its major agencies.

The public agencies that have been consolidated with those of the government include Arctic College, the NWT Housing Corporation, the petroleum products revolving fund, the NWT Liquor Commission, the NWT Power Corporation and the Workers' Compensation Board. There are no material differences between these statements and the interim financial statements that were tabled in the Legislative Assembly last session. Thank you.

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

## ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

**Member's Statement On 1991 Caribou Carnival**

**MR. LEWIS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to announce Caribou Carnival which takes place down on the ice of Great Slave Lake between March 22nd and 24th. Mr. Speaker, there will be several celebrities coming to Yellowknife; Linda Cullen and Bob Robertson of CBC radio's Double Exposure will be heard on the ice and will be wandering among the events. Also a group called the Cajun Ramblers, a Toronto group, will be coming to Yellowknife to play their Cajun music on the ice and at several dances. People can start getting into the carnival spirit early, Mr. Speaker, by taking in the Caribou Capers show being held in the Caribou Room of the Yellowknife Inn, beginning at 8:00 p.m. on March 21st, that is tomorrow night. The crowning of the Caribou Carnival Queen and Princesses is always the highlight of this capers show, Mr. Speaker; also the display of talent of several local entertainers.

Bingo fans, Mr. Speaker, will not want to miss the Polar Bear Swim Club's car/cash bingo held on Wednesday night of this carnival week. On Friday night the Cajun Ramblers will play at the Elk's Hall at a dance sponsored by the Society for the Encouragement of Northern Talent. At the Explorer there will be the talent show put on by the Tree of Peace Friendship Centre, although all these tickets, I am told, were sold out on the very first day that they became available in February. On Saturday night the Cajun Ramblers will be the headliners at the Trappers Banquet at the Explorer Hotel and tickets are available at the Caribou Carnival office at 873-9698. People can get a start on this carnival by attending the Rotary pancake breakfast at the Anglican Church. They start serving at 8:30 a.m. and go on until 11:00 o'clock. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

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

**Member's Statement On Thanks To Volunteers**

**MR. WHITFORD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to



take this opportunity today to recognize the tremendous value that volunteers put into events in the Northwest Territories.

--Applause

Mr Speaker, at this time of the year we see quite a lot of public events taking place. There is Caribou Carnival, Ookpik Carnival, Toonik Tyme in the Baffin area, and all the communities have their spring breakout, so to speak; but in order for these events to be successful they depend a tremendous amount on volunteers to do the work, and they depend on the business community within their communities to put forward their time and resources to make these events successful. I think, all too often, Mr. Speaker, these things do not really get recognized, and I want to stand here today and say that without these valuable people giving generously of their time and resources, none of these things that we enjoy so much would become possible.

There is, of course, more than just Caribou Carnival and Ookpik Carnival and things; I do not think there is a week that goes by throughout the year when something is not happening that depends on people and there are always those that are really in there and that you see a lot of, but behind the scenes there is untold numbers of people that really do not go recognized. I wanted to get on the record and say thank you to all those persons who could be classified as volunteers that maybe have never had a pat on the back or a proper thank you note, and to say that their contribution is not going unnoticed and that they are indeed a valuable resource to our community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

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

#### ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

##### Further Return To Question O139-91(1): Status Of Research Into Custom Adoption

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Speaker, this is a return to a supplementary question asked by Mr. Gargan on February 25, 1991, on the total expenditure to date of the family law review. The total expenditure has been close to \$282,000. Of this amount, \$60,000 was received as a grant from the Law Foundation of the NWT. The rest was funded by the Departments of Justice and Social Services and the NWT Advisory Council on the Status of Women. Government staff have also assisted in this project.

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

##### Return To Question O315-91(1): DPW Tender Call For Residential Units, Iqaluit

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Pedersen on March 12. The 49 housing units in Iqaluit which were recently advertised are intended to replace housing units presently leased by the government in the Astro Hill complex. The lease for these units is scheduled to expire on July 31, 1991. Negotiations with the landlord for renewal of the units has been unsatisfactory. The Department of Public Works has therefore obtained Executive Council approval to request proposals for their replacement in an effort to obtain competitive rental rates and more acceptable units.

Replacement of these units was not identified in the proposed

1991-92 main estimates which was reviewed by SCOF because Public Works was already funded for the existing 49 units and accurate estimates of the additional costs to lease replacements were not yet known. Further, the department had not yet received formal approval to replace these units. On January 18, 1991 the Executive Council approved the call for proposals and directed that the funding be requested through supplementary estimates. Thank you.

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

#### ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

##### Question O376-91(1): Funding For Divisional Boards Of Education

**MR. NINGARK:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Finance. The divisional board of education gets funding about four times a year. During the next fiscal year, starting on April 1, how are they going to get funding? Are they going to get funding each month or four times a year? The divisional board of education wanted to know about this so I am asking the Minister this question regarding funding. Thank you.

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

##### Return To Question O376-91(1): Funding For Divisional Boards Of Education

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the House recalls, I made a statement in the House saying that the Financial Management Board is in the process of doing a study of our whole method of payments to various boards across the Territories. Because that study has not been completed, we will keep, for another year, the same system in place that we have this year.

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

##### Question O377-91(1): Extension Of March 15 Deadline Re Nunavut Boundary

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Government Leader. Mr. Speaker, as the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and Government Leader, has the Member for Iqaluit been contacted by the federal government concerning the extension of the March 15 deadline for settling the Nunavut boundary issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

##### Return To Question O377-91(1): Extension Of March 15 Deadline Re Nunavut Boundary

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Indirectly, yes, I have been contacted by the federal government, Mr. Speaker.

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

##### Question O378-91(1): Recommendations To Federal Government Re Boundary

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Government Leader. Mr. Government Leader, just to follow up



on Mr. Ernerk's question. What were your recommendations to the federal government on the extension required by the Dene Nation for that agreement?

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

**Return To Question O378-91(1): Recommendations To Federal Government Re Boundary**

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Mr. Speaker, Members will know that Mr. John Parker has been appointed by the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs to report to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs on the outstanding land claims boundary issue between the Dene/Metis and the TFN.

Mr. Parker does not report to me; he reports to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs. I have been kept informed of the work that Mr. Parker has done from time to time by way of information, but I have not been, nor has our government been, involved in the preparation of a report. It is a matter that I consider to be between Mr. Parker and the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs. Thank you.

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

**Supplementary To Question O378-91(1): Recommendations To Federal Government Re Boundary**

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members are also aware that at times the federal government, through the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, requests guidance from this cabinet on affairs that happen in the Northwest Territories. Have you given the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs any guidance in this issue? Thank you.

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

**Further Return To Question O378-91(1): Recommendations To Federal Government Re Boundary**

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Mr. Speaker, my officials have talked to officials of the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs about this matter. In fact, my principal secretary is in Ottawa at this moment meeting with Mr. Van Loon on a number of issues. I, myself, have not spoken to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs about this matter since he told me he was going to be appointing Mr. Parker to do the work. I have not spoken to him about it since. Thank you.

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

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a supplementary question for Mr. Government Leader. Are you saying Mr. Overvold is in Ottawa meeting with Mr. Van Loon? What kind of direction did you give Mr. Overvold?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order, please. I must indicate to the honourable Member that the name of the individual may not be acknowledged to all Members of this House in the manner he posed. Could I ask the Member to pose his question appropriately? The honourable Member for Tu Nede.

**Supplementary To Question O378-91(1): Recommendations To Federal Government Re Boundary**

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Your principal secretary is in Ottawa at this time. What message did you give him to relay to Mr. Van Loon on this issue? Thank you.

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

**Further Return To Question O378-91(1): Recommendations To Federal Government Re Boundary**

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:** Mr. Speaker, my principal secretary is not in Ottawa specifically to meet on this issue. However, knowing that this matter is a current issue and that it might come up in connection with discussions on land claims and other related issues, I have discussed the matter with my principal secretary. Mr. Speaker, the object of the Government of the Northwest Territories in this matter is to make sure that the issue is resolved to the satisfaction of the Dene, Metis and TFN as much as possible. There is a question of the timing of the report, and there are some differences of opinion on how much time should be allowed for the preparation of a report. Mr. Speaker, my advice to my principal secretary is that, as much as possible, the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs should take into account and satisfy the viewpoints of the Dene, Metis and TFN on this matter. The advice is: As much as possible, the concerns of both groups on timing should be considered and taken into account when the Minister makes a decision about the deadline for the completion of the report. Thank you.

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

**Question O379-91(1): Fumes, Leo Ussak School**

**MR. ERNERK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of the Department of Public Works. On Monday, I visited the Leo Ussak School and I did not smell any fumes in the building. I had spoken to the principal of that school and I could not smell any fumes. I, along with the residents of Rankin Inlet, are very happy. I am sure the government is also very happy about this as well. Is the Leo Ussak School improving in that area? Thank you.

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

**Return To Question O379-91(1): Fumes, Leo Ussak School**

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I certainly appreciate the honourable Member bringing some favourable comment on the problems that we face with the Leo Ussak School; however, we are not exactly satisfied yet that we have solved all the difficulties because, as I related in one of my statements, at certain times when the wind was blowing in a certain direction there seemed to be no problems with the school. We will continue to do the major work during the school break just to make sure we have completed the job. Hopefully, the conditions of the last few days will continue to prevail. However, we feel that there still has to be more work done just in case it is just a condition of the weather and the winds that are causing the reprieve from the problems that the teachers and the youth in the school are facing. I would like to say yes, totally, but we still feel it is imperative that we continue with the work. Thank you.

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

**Question O380-91(1): Names Of Aboriginal Leaders Attending University Or College**

**MR. PEDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Some days ago, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Education made a Ministers' statement on employment development strategy. I asked him, that day, for the names of the six northern aboriginal leaders currently attending university or college. Mr. Speaker, may I have a reply to that before we shut down for the recess



tomorrow? Thank you.

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

**Return To Question O380-91(1): Names Of Aboriginal Leaders Attending University Or College**

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Mr. Speaker, the information is available and I was prepared to give it at the appropriate time under the agenda. I can give it now, as the Member requests. The individuals that we have in the program to date, this year, are: The two individuals who started in 1989, Mr. James Ross, from the Inuvik Region, and Mr. Larry Tourangeau, from Yellowknife; 1990 and currently still continuing, Ms. Alestine Andre, from the Inuvik Region, Grace Blake, from the Inuvik Region, Ms. Violet Camsell, from the Fort Smith Region, and Mary Jane Hikomak, from the Kitikmeot Region; Mr. Albert Canadien, from the Fort Smith Region, started in 1989 and left the program to assume a position as director of the language bureau with the government recently. Thank you.

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

**Question O381-91(1): Tendering Of Bids For Goods And Services Provided At Expo '92**

**MR. WHITFORD:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Economic Development. Mr. Speaker, the question I would like to ask the Minister is, in light of the positive response that the House has given to Mr. Wray and his initiatives for Expo '92, I would like to ask him if his department has already been out seeking bids and quotes for goods and services to be provided at Expo '92.

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

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not aware of any, but that is not to say that it has not happened. I think the best thing for me to do is to take the question as notice and find out if, in fact, any contact has been made and with whom, and then I can advise the Member.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The honourable Member is taking the questions as notice. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Tu Nede.

**Question O382-91(1): Signing Of Contracts, Fort Resolution**

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be to the Minister responsible for MACA and the NWT Housing Corporation. Mr. Minister, it has come to my attention that your officials from MACA have been in Fort Resolution and have informed the Nuni (Ye) Development Corporation that they will be building a fire hall. It is my experience, I guess, through working with you for the past three years, that time management is very important to you. Mr. Minister, when your officials go to Fort Resolution to sign the contract with Nuni (Ye) for the fire hall, will they also at the same time make Housing Corporation officials available to sign the contract for the warehouse/office complex that is being negotiated with the Housing Corporation now?

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

**Return To Question O382-91(1): Signing Of Contracts, Fort Resolution**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Mr. Speaker, the Member and I have discussed the possibility of Nuni (Ye) erecting the warehouse that we require. As I indicated to the Member last week, I have advised the president of the Housing Corporation that I felt we should go to the community in the very near future, or at least have our vice-president for construction go to the community in the very near future, and sit down with the corporation management and work out the parameters and the details. I do not know when he will be doing that, but instructions have been given to him to carry out that visit as soon as possible.

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

**Question O383-91(1): Possible Termination Of Arctic College Childhood Education Program, Iqaluit**

**MR. ERNERK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct this question to the Minister of Education. It has to do with child care. I have recently learned that the early childhood education program at Arctic College in Iqaluit may not continue this year. Mr. Speaker, is this true?

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

**Return To Question O383-91(1): Possible Termination Of Arctic College Childhood Education Program, Iqaluit**

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Mr. Speaker, when the day-care legislation was passed by the Legislature in 1988, Arctic College, with the co-operation of industry and Social Services, went about developing a training program so that northern people could go through training to seek employment in the day-care centres that we were going to open across the Territories. The Department of Education and Arctic College did not make funds available for these training programs but, rather, federal funding was accessed from the Canadian child care initiatives fund, which is managed by the Secretary of State. This was funding of a temporary nature set up, I think, for three years, and it is set to expire in June of this year. Presently we do not have any base funding set aside in our budgets for the diploma level studies to continue, but we are having meetings with CEIC, the Canadian Employment and Immigration Commission, to determine exactly how much interest there is out in the communities for training, what type of training is required and what type of training is being demanded by potential students out in the public. Right now, negotiations on training plans are expected to happen very soon between Manpower and our government, and part of the negotiations will include discussions on the nature and extent of training that will be required in the area of child care. We have no definitive plans at this time other than what I have just reported. Thank you.

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

**Question O384-91(1): Completion Of Electricians' Training**

**MR. KILABUK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is directed to the Minister of Education. I have always been concerned about this issue. Right now the people who are being trained as electricians, are there going to be people completing their education in this field in the near future? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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



**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:** Mr. Speaker, I will have to take that question as notice.

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

**Question O385-91(1): Request For Wager Bay To Become A National Park**

**MR. ERNERK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is directed to the Minister of Renewable Resources. I have been talking to residents of Repulse Bay and other members of my constituency of Aivilik regarding Ukkusiksalik that will become a park. (Translation ends) So will the government consider recommending to the Government of Canada to make Wager Bay a national park? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Return To Question O385-91(1): Request For Wager Bay To Become A National Park**

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I must say how times change. The federal government has always wanted to see Wager Bay a national park and have indicated that several times in writing. However, the former Minister of Economic Development and the Keewatin Inuit Association essentially did not agree, and as such, the concept of Wager Bay becoming a national park, from what I understand, was taken off the agenda.

As the Member knows, this is a very beautiful area; it has some very unique characteristics. I think that as a national park it could probably serve the economy of Repulse Bay, primarily, and perhaps even Chesterfield Inlet, well.

What I will undertake to do is that I will write as the Minister responsible in the Territories, to the communities of Repulse Bay and Chesterfield Inlet, the communities affected, as well as to the Keewatin Inuit Association and Tungavik Federation of Nunavut, telling them of the Member's wishes and ascertaining if, in fact, there has been some changing of minds, particularly at KIA; and if that is the case, I will inform the federal government that perhaps the residents of the area are willing to discuss the concept of a national park. Thank you.

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

**Supplementary To Question O385-91(1): Request For Wager Bay To Become A National Park**

**MR. ERNERK:** (Translation) This will be a supplementary question. I think the Minister and the government should be thinking in terms of developing this in the 1990s. The residents of Repulse Bay, Mr. Speaker, have always said that they own the Wager Bay area. Can you assist the residents of Repulse Bay to establish Wager Bay as a national park? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Further Return To Question O385-91(1): Request For Wager Bay To Become A National Park**

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will do whatever I can to assist them. I must inform the Member that I do not think there was any opposition in the past to Wager Bay becoming a national park, but the former Minister of Economic Development and Tourism was very definite in

terms of the wishes of the residents of that area. At that time he communicated to us and to me as another MLA in the Keewatin that the residents of that area in no way wanted to see a national park created. It was backed up by letters from the Keewatin Inuit Association and, I believe, one or two communities in that area to that effect. I will go back and ascertain from those groups just what their feelings are. If the feelings are more positive now, and I have no reason to believe that the Member is not reflecting those positive attitudes, then I can certainly assist the residents by trying to put it back on the federal agenda. Thank you.

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

**Question O386-91(1): Economic Development Officer Responsible For Lake Harbour**

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is directed to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. I am wondering who the economic development officer is for the Lake Harbour area, and I would like to know where this officer is located.

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

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you. The responsibility for economic development for Lake Harbour lies with the regional office in Iqaluit. I do not know which officer has been assigned to look after Lake Harbour. It may be the officer from Cape Dorset or the officer from Iqaluit, but I will find out for the Member.

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

Item 6, written questions.

Item 7, returns to written questions.

Item 8, replies to Opening Address.

Item 9, petitions.

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

**ITEM 11: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS**

**HON. TOM BUTTERS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 70-91(1), Annual Report of the NWT Liquor Licensing Board, 1990-91.

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

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have two documents to table. I wish to table Tabled Document 71-91(1), The Northwest Territories Law Foundation Eighth Annual Report for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1990.

Mr. Speaker, I also wish to table Tabled Document 72-91(1), Public Accounts 1989-1990, Consolidated Financial Statements of the Government of the Northwest Territories, Volume I and Volume II.

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

**HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 73-91(1), the Executive Summary of the investigative review of the January 1, 1991 disturbance at the Yellowknife Correctional Centre.



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

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 74-91(1), a proposed bill, An Act to Amend the Territorial Hospital Insurance Services Act, in English and Inuktitut.

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

**HON. GORDON WRAY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 75-91(1), a proposed bill, The Agriculture Products Marketing Act. Thank you.

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

Item 12, notices of motions. Item 13, notices of motions for first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Slave River.

#### ITEM 13: NOTICES OF MOTIONS FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

##### Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 32: Corrections Act

**HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL:** Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, March 22, 1991, I shall move that Bill 32, An Act to Amend the Corrections Act, be read for the first time.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Notices of motions for first reading of bills.

Item 14, motions. Item 15, first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

#### ITEM 15: FIRST READING OF BILLS

##### First Reading Of Bill 28: Interim Appropriation Act, 1991-92

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Iqaluit, that Bill 28, An Act Respecting Interim Appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1992, 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? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 28 has had first reading. First reading of bills. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

##### First Reading Of Bill 27: Revolving Funds Act, No. 2

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kivallivik, that Bill 27, An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act, No. 2, 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? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 27 has had first reading. First reading of bills. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

##### First Reading Of Bill 29: Public Utilities Act

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 29, An Act to Amend the Public Utilities 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? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 29 has had first reading. First reading of bills. Item 16, second reading of bills. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

#### ITEM 16: SECOND READING OF BILLS

##### Second Reading Of Bill 28: Interim Appropriation Act, 1991-92

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that Bill 28, An Act Respecting Interim Appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1992, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to make interim appropriations for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1992.

**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 28 has had second reading and is referred to committee of the whole for today. Second reading of bills. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Speaker, I seek consent to move to second reading of Bill 27, An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act, No. 2.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The honourable Member for Yellowknife North is seeking consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 27. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed.

##### Second Reading Of Bill 27: Revolving Funds Act, No. 2

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Slave River, that Bill 27, An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act, No. 2, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Revolving Funds Act to establish the granular program revolving fund which will establish and manage stockpiles of granular material.

**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 has had second reading and is referred to committee of the whole for today. Second reading of bills. Item 17, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Bill 7; CR 2-91(1); Bills 8, 9, 10, 28 and 27, with Mr. Gargan in the chair.

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

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Yesterday, when we concluded we were dealing with Bill 7, and we finally finished the Department of Social Services. What is the government's wish at this point? Mr. Ballantyne.

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the permission of the committee the government would like to proceed to Bill 28, An Act Respecting the Interim Appropriation Act, 1991-92, for the Government of the Northwest Territories; followed by Bill 27, An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act; followed by the Department of Renewable Resources, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Does the committee agree that we deal with Bill 28, followed by Bill 27, and then the Department of Renewable Resources? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. Mr. Ballantyne, proceed with your opening remarks.

#### Bill 28: Interim Appropriation Act, 1991-92

##### Minister's Opening Remarks

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the Interim Appropriation Act, 1991-92, provides authority for the government to continue operations after April 1st in the event that the main Appropriation Act for 1991-92 is not passed by the Legislative Assembly before the start of the new fiscal year. Once the main Appropriation Act for 1991-92 is approved, the interim authority ceases to have effect. When this occurs, all expenditures that have been made under the interim act are deemed to have been expenditures under the main Appropriation Act. In this way the Interim Appropriation Act does not increase the amount of appropriation authority granted to the government by the Legislative Assembly in the main estimates.

This Interim Appropriation Act contains sufficient appropriation authority for: 1) regular operations and maintenance expenditures for the month of April; 2) for the full value of both operations and capital contracts that the government anticipates will be entered into in the month of April.

In accordance with the Financial Administration Act, the full amount payable under a contract during the fiscal year must be charged to an appropriation when the contract is awarded. For example, the amount of appropriation authority sought for capital includes the full amount of the capital project budget for 1991-92 that is expected to be paid to the contractor

during the fiscal year. The specific contract requirements that have been included in the Interim Appropriation Act have been estimated by each government department based on their project-by-project assessment of how ready they are to proceed with a contract award in April.

Mr. Chairman, there are many variables and some guesswork in the process to come up with interim appropriation amounts. However, the government has calculated its interim requirements as accurately as possible. As the authority provided in the Interim Appropriation Act ceases once the main Appropriation Act is passed, the main objective of the Interim Act is to ensure that unnecessary delays in delivering services and capital projects to the public do not occur. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

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

#### Comments From The Standing Committee On Finance

**MR. POLLARD:** Mr. Chairman, the standing committee on finance has reviewed the bill. Mr. Chairman, we were supplied with the detail by the Minister. The standing committee on finance has recommended to the Minister that he bring the bill to the House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. General comments. Does the committee agree that we go clause by clause? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

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

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

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

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

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

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

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

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

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

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed

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

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

--Agreed



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

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Schedule, Vote 1, operations and maintenance. Total operations and maintenance, \$179,138,787. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Vote 2, capital. Total capital, \$72,867,700. Mr. Zoe.

**MR. ZOE:** Mr. Chairman, could I ask the Minister what percentage of capital is this from the overall capital of the government?

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

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** It is about 43 per cent, Mr. Chairman.

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

**MR. ZOE:** Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Vote 2, capital. Total capital, \$72,867,700. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Total appropriation, \$252,006,487. 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 28, An Act Respecting Interim Appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1992, is now ready for third reading? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** We will now turn to Bill 27. Mr. Ballantyne.

#### **Bill 27: Revolving Funds Act, No. 2**

#### **Minister's Opening Remarks**

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The community granular program is a very important program; its purpose is to identify, develop and stockpile granular materials to ensure that they are available for use on capital projects in non-tax based communities. Through this program

the location of suitable quantities and quality of gravel and the long-term granular requirements of the government and communities are identified. This is particularly important at this time when sand and gravel selection is occurring as part of the land claims process.

Since 1984 the GNWT has recognized the need to provide sources of good granular materials, in an environmentally acceptable fashion, for use in construction and maintenance by GNWT departments, the Housing Corporation, the federal government, communities and private contractors and individuals. The granular program has been well received in the communities through the provision of good quality materials at a reasonable cost and by maximizing local involvement in its operation.

Granular materials in stockpiles will be available to all consumers, GNWT departments, the Housing Corporation, federal departments and agencies, communities and private contractors and individuals alike, at a price which will recover the cost of producing and stockpiling.

Mr. Chairman, to anticipate some questions that were asked at the standing committee, the revolving fund will be used to pay for the up-front costs for granular investigations and studies required to identify sources of granular materials; contracts to acquire and stockpile granular materials in communities, this may include quarrying, crushing, screening and stockpiling resources; administrative fees to local contractors hired to manage the sale of granular resources from that stockpile within the community.

Some of the key steps that the revolving fund allows for granular resources to then be sold to users and the revenue earned by sale be used to finance future granular program expenditures. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. The standing committee on finance. Mr. Pollard.

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

**MR. POLLARD:** Mr. Chairman, the standing committee on finance has reviewed Bill 27 and recommends it to the House. Thank you.

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

**MR. ZOE:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just one question for the Minister with regard to Bill 27 concerning the limits proposed under schedule A. Why are we setting the limits in schedule A? There are four fiscal years listed in schedule A and we are setting limits for each year. I want to know why the Minister is setting these limits. Why can we not leave the limits up to the next government coming in; why did we do it in that manner?

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

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is the anticipated increases that will be needed over the next four years based on our projections to bring the fund up to the proper operating limit, so that is why it is there.

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

**MR. ZOE:** Mr. Chairman, maybe the Minister did not understand my question. Under schedule A of Bill 27, I realize we have to have a limit on a yearly basis for revolving funds. In the first fiscal year April 1, 1991, to March 31, 1992, they have a limit of \$8,200,000. In the following year we have a limit of \$11,200,000. My question to the Minister was, why



were the other three years, the last three years in schedule A, required at this time? Why can we not leave that limit up to the next government coming in, rather than us setting the limit for them? Thank you.

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

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you. Conceivably we could come back every year, but this allows the government some flexibility in administering the fund and it allows a bit more flexibility for longer term contracts and what have you. The Member is right, if you wanted to bring it back every year and redo, you could. This is, administratively, an easier way of doing it.

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

**MR. ZOE:** It could be administratively easier for the people to administer this program, but what I am suggesting, I guess, is that in the first year of the new government coming in they could set their own limits for the next four or five years. Why are we doing it for them? The limit could be the same as what is being proposed by the government, but that option should be left to the next group coming in, rather than us setting it up to 1995. I am suggesting that maybe the first two years could be incorporated and the next government could make amendments to change schedule A. That is all I am suggesting.

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

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** If the Members would like to do that, I do not think it is a big issue. It is not a big issue for us. If it is a bigger issue to the committee and you want to delete the last two years, that is fine.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. General comments. Does the committee agree that we go clause by clause? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. 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):** Schedule A. 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 27, An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act, No. 2, is now ready for third reading? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** We will now go to the Department of Renewable Resources. We are dealing with page 12.2, Department of Renewable Resources, 1991-92 main estimates. Mr. Alloo.

#### **Bill 7: Appropriation Act, 1991-92**

#### **Department Of Renewable Resources**

#### **Minister's Opening Remarks**

**HON. TITUS ALLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (Translation) I welcome the opportunity to present my budget for the Department of Renewable Resources. (Translation ends) Our plan is to select our personal ties to the land. These ties form the basis for the cultural and spiritual health of our peoples. Like you, I feel that we must keep those ties alive. The land and its resources are also our personal wealth. As a government, we are determined to keep this wealth intact.

In my opening remarks, Mr. Chairman, I will first touch briefly on our government's track record in environmental protection. I believe that our government has demonstrated its commitment to protecting the health of our Arctic environment. Last year, the Government of the Northwest Territories began revisions to the Territorial Environmental Protection Act and the legislature also passed the Environmental Rights Act. In the policy area, the Executive Council approved the sustainable development policy and established the Northwest Territories round table on environment and economy.

Nationally, we have been participating in Ministers' councils so that other Canadians are aware of our needs and viewpoints on renewable resource management. As well, we continue to pursue agreements with our neighbours, in particular, Alberta, to protect the quality and quantity of water entering into the Northwest Territories. Through our government's commitment to clean water, we have become involved in two court actions. In the Daishowa case, we seek a federal environmental impact review of this project. In the Oldman Dam case, we argue for the need for a federal environmental review whenever there are transboundary impacts from development. We now await the ruling of the Supreme Court of Canada on the Oldman Dam court case.

Internationally, we hosted the April 1990 meeting of the Finnish initiative in which all circumpolar countries are working to an international agreement to protect the Arctic environment. The circumpolar countries have met several times since then and our government has been a member of the Canadian delegation each time.

#### **Programs For Renewable Resource Management**

In the coming year, our government will be following up on all these issues. I believe these actions are all necessary to fulfil our mandate. What I want to highlight today is the support that we provide to the ordinary residents of the Northwest Territories. We spend a considerable amount of money and time to involve residents in the management and use of our renewable resources.

Next year, we will provide about three million dollars in grants and contributions to hunters and trappers and their



organizations. This money is used for many purposes, from core funding for local and regional hunters and trappers associations to support for hunting and trapping activities. Each community has unique needs. Therefore, where possible, we have structured programs to allow the local HTAs to decide on the best use for funds. Of these funds, one million dollars go directly toward supporting trapping activities. Trappers receive grants for fur trapped in the Northwest Territories. Old traps can be exchanged for the new humane traps being developed, and trapper education workshops are held. While we work to support fur trapping, we would like to increase the value of fur by looking for ways to process and market fur in the North.

Resource management boards made up of resource users now exist in all regions. These boards provide important advice on how to manage our renewable resources. We need this advice if decisions on management and research are to reflect community priorities and needs.

We continue to promote the local use and protection of renewable resources. This year we will again have \$300,000 available for small demonstration projects that are organized at the community level. Last year, projects included developing access to woodlots, testing local fisheries, developing recycling programs and purchasing equipment to support new outfitting ventures. We also expect to administer a significant portion of the new economic development agreement within the renewable resource economic sector.

The major objective in our forest fire management program is to protect people and property from forest fires. In addition to this protection, local residents and businesses receive financial benefits from involvement with forest fire management activities. Approximately five million dollars are paid in salary and wages. This goes directly to the communities and includes 170 seasonal employees and over 400 extra firefighters that are hired each year. About two million dollars is paid each year to community corporations that provide crews to undertake forest fire management activities.

Northern aircraft companies receive about \$4.5 million worth of aircraft charters and almost one million dollars is used to purchase materials and supplies from northern businesses. In total, these expenditures account for one quarter of the department's annual budget.

In addition to direct financial benefits, our department also works to develop direct contact with territorial residents. Wherever we conduct research on wildlife or forests, we involve local residents and keep them informed of progress. We maintain offices in over 35 communities in the Northwest Territories.

Our staff visit people out on the land and this year we are looking at other ways to deliver programs in communities without renewable resource offices. Where we can make arrangements, a local resident will be contracted to provide some of the department's services.

Within communities we work closely with local hunters and trappers associations when making local resource management decisions. Working at this level allows us to blend local and traditional knowledge most effectively into our research and management activities.

We believe public consultation is part of our work. We hold public meetings to gain input on important decisions. This year we had extensive community meetings on the draft Bathurst caribou management plan, the draft polar bear management plan, the new forest fire management policy and on land use planning initiatives. Most of this consultation will continue next year and we expect to release a public

discussion paper on the management of Barren Ground grizzly bears.

We spend a considerable amount of effort talking with children who will be the future guardians of our resources. Our staff members make many presentations to school classes each year. With help from the Department of Education, we have developed reference material for use by teachers and students. We want our children to learn about the resources and environment they will one day be responsible for.

We feel strongly about continuing to involve residents in the management and use of renewable resources. Through this involvement, the public can learn about our programs and make informed decisions. In return, we gain knowledge on public priorities and needs. This allows us to adjust our programs accordingly.

#### Fiscal Restraint A Factor In Reassessing Plans

However, there is one important factor causing all government departments to reassess their plans -- fiscal restraint. I believe that all Members should know how the Department of Renewable Resources is attempting to respond to fiscal restraint. This factor is challenging us to be as efficient as possible. We have undertaken an operational review which will identify improvements we can make.

With less money available, we look for additional sources of funding. For example, we will conduct several projects this year with funding from the northern oil and gas action program or NOGAP. There is potential that the federal government's Green Plan will fund additional projects such as cleaning up abandoned sites that contain contaminants. We have made strong statements to the federal government that northern Green Plan programs must complement our government's priorities and co-ordinate with our activities.

Mr. Chairman, we continue to seek more ways to pool our resources with other agencies. This is how we are able to organize a water monitoring program for the Slave River. Other examples of co-operation are: 1) Our contaminants program is run in conjunction with the Department of Health; 2) Through Fisheries and Oceans Canada, we have had a five year agreement on fish stocking; 3) Forestry Canada assists with research on forest pests and diseases and forest fire management.

Federal fiscal restraint has also had an effect. Two weeks ago, you all heard the announcement that the federal government cut funding to the joint federal-territorial northern land use planning program. I am continuing my efforts to alter this decision. Our government strongly believes in the value and benefits of land use planning and we would like to see this program remain intact.

There is no doubt that fiscal restraint will affect other departmental operations. I have taken some time today to describe to you what we already do for the people of the Northwest Territories. We want to continue to serve our public in the best manner possible. I believe that with your help and by working together, we will achieve the maximum benefits for our people with the funds and programs that we have.

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If it is okay with you I wish to sit down with my witnesses from my department.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Mr. Minister, before you bring in any witnesses, we will take a 15 minute break.

---SHORT RECESS

Mr. Minister, you could bring in your witnesses. For the



record, could you introduce your witnesses please?

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my left is my deputy minister, Jim Bourque, and to my right is my assistant deputy minister, Bob McLeod.

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

#### Comments From The Standing Committee On Finance

**MR. POLLARD:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I have two motions. The first deals with the fur industry. Mr. Chairman, it is our understanding that following an industry rule of thumb, a five million dollar fur harvest can result in as much as \$100 million market value of finished fur products. Further, it is a labour intensive industry. In light of the potential economic benefits and job creation, Members of the standing committee on finance, Mr. Chairman, believe that it is time to stop the studies and get on with the job in order to accomplish this end.

#### Motion To Establish Tanneries To Further Development Of Fur Industry

Therefore I would move the following motion, Mr. Chairman: The standing committee on finance recommends that the government, through the Department of Renewable Resources, the NWT Development Corporation and/or through the economic development agreement, establish tanneries and other facilities for the further development of the fur industry in the Northwest Territories in order to take raw materials to finished goods. Thank you.

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

**MR. ERNERK:** Point of order.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Mr. Ernerk, your point of order.

**MR. ERNERK:** Point of order, Mr. Chairperson, I see no quorum.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you. We do not have a quorum. I will ask the Clerk to ring the bell to bring in more Members. Mr. Pollard, your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Ernerk.

**MR. ERNERK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to fully support the motion just brought forward, and I would like to make some comments with regard to my support of the motion. I am in full support of the fur facilities in the NWT. The Minister of Renewable Resources and I, and the Government Leader, wear sealskin vests here and they are really nice and are a good advertisement for the Inuit. Although we are in full support, the sealskin vests we use we bought in Greenland. I have always been in full support and thinking of the constituents I work for, they have always supported the fur industry in Coral Harbour and Repulse Bay.

If we were to get tanneries in our communities, we would see more of these sealskin vests that we use around here throughout Canada, and that would really help our fellow Inuit and the Members of this House. Because of this, the constituents I work for would be using the renewable resource products a lot more. I support them in what they want to do, and I would like to see a well organized industry so that I can help the Inuit and other native people. I will be in support of this motion. Thank you.

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

**MR. NINGARK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to express my appreciation to the Member for Hay River for making this motion. I am from the Natilikmiot, which means that I come from a place where there are seals, so I am in support of this motion. Those of us who are from the smaller communities in the North are very concerned about economic opportunities. Tanned skins today are being made and people want to see this happening more as we can sell them more easily in that condition. We can also use the tanned fur in our own communities because they can be made into mitts and bags; and especially they can become an economic opportunity because we do not have that many jobs in the communities. I will be supporting this motion because it is directed to the people of the NWT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you, Mr. Ningark. To the motion. Mr. Arlooktoo.

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to say a few words in support of the motion that is presently on the floor. I think this motion is a very good one for the aboriginal people, so I would just like to say that I will be in support of this motion. We have to think of this motion in terms of all of the communities and all of the residents of the NWT, not just my constituency. Whenever something comes up for economic development, a lot of the programs are only useful to some communities, but I will be supporting this motion since this will be directed to all of the communities, to all the people and all the hunters and trappers in the NWT. I just wanted to make that comment in support of this motion. Thank you.

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

#### Motion To Establish Tanneries To Further Development Of Fur Industry, Carried

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

---Carried

Thank you. Mr. Pollard.

**MR. POLLARD:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The next motion, Mr. Chairman, concerns the Banks Island and Victoria Island musk-ox herds. Mr. Chairman, the department indicated to the committee that a feasibility study has concluded that the investment and operating costs of developing an industry around the harvest of the Banks Island musk-ox herd was greater than the potential financial benefits. However, the standing committee on finance is concerned that the cost of not exploiting this resource, in terms of the results of diseases associated with overpopulation, may be greater than the cost of development.

#### Motion To Reconsider Feasibility Study On Banks Island And Victoria Island Musk-Ox Herds

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I would move the following motion: The standing committee on finance recommends that the Department of Renewable Resources reconsider the feasibility of the development of the Banks Island and Victoria Island musk-ox herds in light of the potential effects of uncontrolled overpopulation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan):** Thank you, Mr. Pollard. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Pedersen.

**MR. PEDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman,



I obviously fully support this motion, whether it be this department -- Renewable Resources, I think, is going to have to take the lead in it because of the need for the control of the size of this herd, and particularly the control of the growth of this herd. The observations that the department provided us in the standing committee on finance, that the costs of an industry around the harvest of the Banks Island musk-ox would be greater than the potential financial benefits, to me was an absurd observation because it certainly does not take into account the spin-off benefits from creating employment and getting people off social dependence and into a situation where they are providing a meaningful contribution to the society in which they live.

This motion, Mr. Chairman, is closely tied, I think, to the previous one of the tannery, because the two go together. I agree that if you look at musk-ox only from the point of view of being a meat production, then it may not be economically feasible to do so. If, however, you look at it -- that is why this recommendation is not specific to meat production -- if you look at the skins to be tanned, and the leather industry around that; the wool industry around the harvesting of the qiviut; and, additionally, the craft industry around the musk-ox that we should be harvesting -- probably around some 5000 per year -- it indeed becomes the major opportunity in that area of the world for employment of all who are today unemployed. I strongly support this motion, and I trust that other Members will do the same. Thank you.

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

**MR. POLLARD:** Mr. Chairman, I think the standing committee on finance gets a little upset, sometimes, when we are told that if you go into a particular industry, it is not necessarily going to make money and therefore we should not look at it. I think the view that we have taken on these kinds of things is that where these kinds of businesses are marginal, even if we are losing money in the business, if it is putting to work people who are in some other fashion recipients of government money, be it welfare or unemployment insurance -- if you look narrowly at the business opportunity then, yes, it is losing money, but if you look at the thing in the broader aspect of interdepartmental moneys, then to this whole government it may, in fact, be saving money. We have been frustrated when there seems to be, at times, a lack of co-operation between departments and a lack of consultation in this regard. I would encourage Members to support this motion.

I would also encourage the government to take a broader look at things when we are trying to utilize resources and put people to work who would not normally be working. I think the standing committee on finance would appreciate if the government would take that broader view. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Question.

**Motion To Reconsider Feasibility Study On Banks Island And Victoria Island Musk-Ox Herds, Carried**

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

--Carried

General comments. Mr. Ernerk.

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

would just like to say a few words regarding the Department of Renewable Resources and the budget. When you are looking at their budget, they have quite a sizeable budget for the Northwest Territories.

First of all, some of the opening remarks by the Minister were very good in some parts. I am very happy to hear them. I think that I can give further support to some of the comments that he made. I include myself as a hunter or a harvester, and I am also a land-user. The land is good to me and I like the land and the sea, which also helps me. The water that I drink when I am thirsty is there. I also appreciate the land, and I have to treat the land well in order for it to serve me. We have to keep our water clean. I agree with the Minister wholeheartedly. I support him in that I also want to keep the water clean.

In the areas of economic opportunities, the Minister is well aware of them because he is an aboriginal person. The deputy minister appreciates that and I will probably be making a few points about those.

When you are talking about renewable resources, this is a very big area and it takes a lot of hard work. Renewable resource harvesting is part of the aboriginal people's life. First of all, I will talk about whale harvesting, or the lack of it.

**Desire Of Inuit To Harvest Bowhead Whales**

I know that the people in my constituency have always requested to hunt bowhead whales and I support them in their endeavour, because bowhead whales used to be part of their traditional culture. I will continue to support the people from my area, to hunt whales. I think it is not an impossible task, to hunt whales again, if we could have an open dialogue with the Canadian government to explain to them exactly what this means. We can explain to them that in our land -- we should be telling them why we want to hunt bowhead whales and that this is part of our culture and tradition and we want to keep it as part of our lives in the 1990s.

I think that if we approach it this way, the Canadian government would eventually approve of our hunting whales. The people of Alaska and Greenland, when they wanted to do that, were allowed to harvest whales, especially in Alaska. I think we can do the same thing in Canada. Inuit today see bowhead whales in their hunting grounds every summer, and they say that the numbers are increasing all the time. This has been observed by the hunters. (Translation ends)

I guess my question to the Minister, Mr. Chairperson, is that I think Inuit have a right to harvest bowhead whales under subsistence living, for subsistence survival purposes. Right, Mr. Minister? Thank you.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have been pursuing this issue with the current Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, as well as the previous Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, federal, to see if anything could be done in terms of harvesting of bowhead whales in the NWT. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans maintained that in the Eastern Arctic the species are endangered and therefore they are reluctant to release a harvest to be allowed in the Eastern Arctic. I understand they have been talking with the Inuvialuit throughout this winter, and their talks will conclude very shortly, in terms of trying to come up with a harvest, a one-time harvest, in the Beaufort Sea.

When the present Minister was appointed to his position, we had an Atlantic Council of Fisheries meeting and I approached him privately to see what possibilities there are to come up



with a one-time quota. His response was not favourable and his officials' response to our officials has not been positive in terms of trying to come up with a quota or one-time harvest.

I think we do understand a desire by some of the aboriginal people to harvest bowhead whales. We support the concept of harvesting for subsistence purposes, but the responsibility at this time is still with the federal government. They would have to agree to a harvest before any harvest could take place. Qujannamiik.

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

**MR. ERNERK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Both the Minister and I are aware that the federal government in the North does not support the concept of subsistence use for the aboriginal people of the NWT. The Canadian government has never given consideration to the people of the North. They make laws and regulations without knowing the ways of the aboriginal people. I understand that in Alaska the areas where they harvest whales, they can only do 35 strikes to hunt bowhead whales. There was a study done in that area by the World Wildlife Fund which found that there are over 4000 bowhead whales in that area; also in Hudson Bay there are over 450 whales; when there was a survey done that is how many they found. When you are an Inuk and look at what is happening, if I could have direct contact with the federal government and if I could talk to the Prime Minister, I would tell him exactly what the hunters are feeling. We see those animals every summer in Repulse Bay near Coral Harbour. On our offshore areas we see a lot of whales nowadays, much more so than in the past. I can talk to him about that, but the Prime Minister of Canada, Brian Mulroney, refuses to understand this point of view. He does not have a concept of what aboriginal people are and what their traditional lifestyle is.

There are many reasons why the federal government is refusing to understand what we are talking about. Those of you who are here, I know you support us in this endeavour regarding the harvesting of whales. If the Inuit harvested one whale, this is not going to deplete the population. The Inuit in our communities have been thinking, that, "If I could at least hunt one whale in my lifetime." My question is, do you know if the bowhead whales are increasing? Do you know the growth rate of the population in Hudson Bay? Do you know what is the growth rate of the bowhead whale population in the NWT? What I am trying to say is that if the Inuit can have a one-time bowhead whale hunt, I do not think we are going to be depleting the growth rate. Thank you.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was asked by the MLA for Baffin Central and I replied to him about bowhead whales. There are not accurate statistics. Even the Canadian Wildlife Service, or other federal departments, or ourselves, do not know exactly how many there are at the present time in Hudson Bay or Foxe Basin or in Davis Strait. We do not know what the population is in these areas. I replied to the Baffin Central Member that we will be lobbying the Canadian Wildlife Service again to determine how many bowhead whales there are in the North.

Regarding the comments by the Member for Aivilik that the Inuit see more and more bowhead whales, we are told this when we come to the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**MR. ERNERK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe the Member for Natilikmiot has further comments.

Later on I will have more comments also. I would like to thank the Minister for his responses to my questions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

#### Hunting In Communities

**MR. NINGARK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. While the Minister of Renewable Resources is at the witness table, I would like to state that hunting is still used in the communities. I am pretty sure that in the future it will still be used. There are some communities that do not have a renewable resource officer, and they should be provided with one, especially when there are hunters in the communities.

Some of the hunters say that in the summer or spring they occasionally see helicopters. Maybe they are doing surveys or looking for soapstone or whatever. A lot of times they are not exactly aware of what the helicopters are doing. If there were going to be surveys, they would be happy to know in advance.

The migratory birds that go into our communities, that migrate in the winter -- we often hear that they are not to be killed in the spring or summer. Once they arrive in our areas, they have nesting places and they increase their population and then they leave again. Once they migrate, maybe in September, then they can be hunted; but they come to our region when it is off-season. Using our cultural and traditional ways, I think we should be able to hunt them. The hunters do not have any other source of income. If they want hunting equipment, skidoos or outboard motors or canoes, maybe they can be assisted in some way to purchase these, maybe through the hunters and trappers association. A lot of times the hunters and trappers associations are short of funding, too. If they could be assisted with the funding, then this would be good.

The last question that I have is with regard to the fuel ships. I do not know exactly which route they take, but maybe the Department of Renewable Resources -- do they do any surveys on the fuel ships, as to which route they take? Are they advised when fuel ships are coming in? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The first item you brought up concerned the helicopters that might be doing surveys in our regions and whether we are aware of them. We will try and advise the communities, as we have tried to advise before. Once we know exactly what they are doing, we will let them know. We will be working on this.

The migratory birds that go into the regions of the North usually fly up during the off-season and they also leave when the season is still closed. This regulation was established in 1916 and we are trying to make it better so that it will apply more to the North -- have the federal government change the Migratory Birds Conventions Act.

Regarding the assistance for the hunting equipment, as you are aware, the special ARDA program is no longer in existence. We are trying to work out something else, but it is not completed yet. We are trying to establish that the hunters are to be assisted and we are working with the Minister of Social Services, her deputy minister, my deputy minister, and myself, and also with Economic Development, to try to see how we can establish an assistance program; but it is not completed yet.



As well you asked if we monitor fuel ships. Because we do not have the funding we cannot use aircraft to do surveys, especially on the fuel ships. If any of the hunters or anybody else found something, then we would want to be advised. Thank you.

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

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to make a brief comment. The first question I would like to ask is, if a hunter loses his equipment, or if his skidoo sinks, or he loses his canoe while he is hunting, is there an insurance that replaces that equipment by your department? Thank you.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If there is a loss by a hunter accidentally, because of the weather or something like an act of God, and if they lose their equipment, then we can replace it. But the money that is available is not very large. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** (Translation) I am not a Speaker; I am a chairman. Mr. Arlooktoo.

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If there is going to be a replacement, who is responsible to decide to replace them and what exactly is replaced? The guns or equipment, skidoos, canoes, outboard motors -- can they all be replaced, even the rifles? Who decides whether they should be replaced?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** (Translation) Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Because of the lack of funding that is available for replacements, an individual can get up to a maximum of \$4500. If equipment needs to be replaced, the hunters and trappers association would make such a recommendation to Renewable Resources.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** (Translation) Thank you. Mr. Arlooktoo.

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I asked two questions. What about the rifles? Can they be replaced also? They are part of the hunting equipment. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** (Translation) Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The person who loses equipment can get up to \$4500. It is up to that individual to purchase what he wants with that money. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** (Translation) Thank you. Mr. Arlooktoo.

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Now that the whole NWT heard that, I would like to make another comment. The fur assistance program, given to people who sold skins, that assistance is given out only at the end of the year. I am asking if it can be given out more frequently. As Inuit, it would be better to try and get the assistance as soon as possible because of the cost of going out hunting, and if we must wait a year, we cannot do too much hunting. If they can be given out more frequently, I am pretty sure that there would be more hunting. Can this be given out more frequently?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** (Translation) Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) I have asked my department to look into this. Right now they are checking to see if they can pay out before the end of the year. It is being worked on at this time.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** (Translation) Mr. Arlooktoo.

#### Houses For Outpost Camps

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The shacks that are provided to the outpost camps through Renewable Resources, the units are ordered through Renewable Resources. I have a problem with those buildings that they get for the outpost camps. They have no outside panelling or colour. If the wood is painted, then the wood would last longer. If there can be some improvement in those, maybe provide metal sidings, then those buildings would last a lot longer. It would prevent it from getting wet, also. I am not aware if you are responsible for this, but I am raising it to see if there can be any improvements made. A lot of times it is not complete and they cannot have a stove that can be used for cooking because we have been told that it is against the law; they are only allowed to have some sort of a heater. I wonder if they can be provided with outside panelling and with a proper stove, if that can be worked on. I do not know if there are any more applicants for outpost camps who require this. I think there should be improvements on this.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we order the houses for outpost camps, the HTA is often involved in providing the houses for outpost camps. When they are going to order a house for the outpost camp, we give the funds to the HTAs for them to provide houses.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** (Translation) Thank you. Mr. Arlooktoo.

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am sure the outpost camp will be happy to hear about this, along with the residents of the NWT. With regard to hunters and trappers associations in the settlements, are they responsible for managing wildlife or are they just in the offices administering these programs? Are they also involved in wildlife management? For instance, a person in Cape Dorset and Lake Harbour, are they just office people and not involved in outside activities? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** (Translation) Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Our wildlife officers that are situated in communities do have a lot of paperwork to do, and also they can assist the community through the HTA; they also work co-operatively with the HTA in the community. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** (Translation) Thank you. Mr. Arlooktoo.

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I agree with you, but I know that wildlife officers do not usually go by what the HTA wants them to do, but they have to do what the HTA wants in Baffin. We will be looking into this matter also. The reason I am asking about it is that I have to travel within my constituency of Baffin South to Cape Dorset and there is a lot of wildlife out there. I travel back and forth in the winter and summer, and I have never seen a



wildlife officer out on the land. That is the reason I was asking if they were just office people, or if they are involved in outside activities, because I have not once seen a wildlife officer out on the land. Perhaps I will be telling my constituents that the HTA can request their officers to go out on the land within my constituency. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** (Translation) Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think his comments were just an information item.

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

#### Concerns Regarding Marine And Land Animals

**MR. PUDLUK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have various concerns regarding wildlife in our region, particularly marine and land animals. First of all, I have a concern regarding caribou management. In our region the caribou population is not increasing at this time. We have come to realize, in the Baffin Region, for almost two to three years now, that the caribou population is not increasing and they are not calving. If that is going to be the case this year, it will be obvious that the caribou will not be increasing in the coming year, and there are a lot of wolves around. We have been advised by outpost camp people about this. This is the first concern that I have. I am not too sure how we should manage this caribou area, but I know your caribou biologists will have to be more aware of this problem. They used to do a caribou survey in our region with respect to their vegetation.

I know that the Canadian government is responsible for marine and land animals, but I have never seen any of their officials up in my region. I have never seen a marine biologist in the High Arctic. I think the territorial government is the only one looking after this problem, and they do not seem to have too much authority or power over what the Canadian government does. I think the federal government has given the responsibility to the territorial government only on lakes, but they have not given them any responsibility for marine animals. Have the territorial and federal governments ever come to an agreement on wildlife management so that in particular the responsibility for marine animals can be given to the territorial government? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** (Translation) Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To date management of the marine animals is the responsibility of the federal government, and they are not willing to give this responsibility to the territorial government. Even in the Atlantic provinces or British Columbia, they have not transferred such responsibility. Only the federal government has the responsibility for marine animals and marine wildlife management. We have come to agreements when it comes to fisheries and giving out licences. We have a responsibility as ex-officio members, but we do not have the total responsibility for deciding what to do with marine animals. Thank you.

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

**MR. PUDLUK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can understand this situation, but we are a unique territory compared to the provinces; we are very unique in this area. We have to depend on the marine animals and we have hunted them whenever we can. For example, we hunt seals all year round, and in some communities they fish for char all

year round. We totally depend on marine and land mammals, particularly marine animals. We are very much involved in managing our marine animals, and I think it would be better if we could be more involved in this area. For example, there might be some fish and marine animals that are contaminated by mercury, because we all know that the ocean has currents and it is always an ongoing thing. Of course our marine animals have to depend on the ecology and other plankton.

In the response that you gave to me previously, you did not say that these animals are no longer contaminated. When that is the case, I think you should be more aware of this in the future. Particularly those whales, they know that they have mercury in their systems. They have some diseases. It is alarming to hear about these situations and I do not think I would want to know, in the future, that these animals are now infected with contaminants and we no longer can feed on them. I do not want to be told this in the future. You have advised the people that it is not dangerous to our health yet. We can still eat the marine animals, but in the future I think it could become very serious for our health, particularly for those of us who feed on marine animals. I think that is all for now. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ernerk):** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you. Further to his comments, we are aware of what you just said and I thank you for your comments. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ernerk):** (Translation) Thank you. Mr. Lewis.

#### Reasons For Lack Of Progress On Renewable Resources Development

**MR. LEWIS:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not have an awful lot to say on this subject, but it struck me that we are in our fourth year now and many Members have told me that we keep on raising the same issues year after year after year. We have said that renewable resources is the key for any kind of economic development in many of our communities because there is nothing much else. I keep on hearing the same issues raised: that we should be doing all kinds of stuff with our renewable resources so that we can develop some kind of an economy.

So I suppose if we are really going to be serious, we should be asking the questions now. Why is it that over the last 20 years the same issues keep on being raised every year and the same answers are given all the time? I would like to ask the Minister, why is it? In his experience now, in his fourth year, after more than three years of experience as a Minister in this department, what does he see as the barriers? Why is it that we do not do all these things that we say are so important to do?

For example, we have had Mr. Pedersen for about seven years now, from what I am told, talking about musk-ox. We have heard the same story about harvesting fish. I will not go on at great length, Mr. Chairman, but I want to know, why is it that these things do not happen? What is the Minister's opinion of the barriers that prevents this kind of stuff from happening? I do not expect the government to be in business. I do not expect them to be running fisheries and running meat plants and all that. But what is the barrier that prevents these kinds of resources from being developed so that we can develop jobs and opportunities?

I hope to be here again for another four years but I would be very, very depressed if I would be raising the same issues again over the next four years that Members have apparently



been raising year after year, all the way back for 20 years. I would find that very depressing.

So Mr. Alloo, perhaps, with his experience, could tell us what he sees as the barriers for having these renewable resources being developed to the advantage, not of individual people for subsistence, but in terms of developing an economy.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the main problem has been transportation. The resources that we would like to harvest, that are readily available to be harvested, have a hard time getting to markets. We find that the transportation is the major problem to get these marketable products to the marketplace.

But there are quite a few things happening on a small scale. There is fish marketing, Arctic char, out of Cambridge Bay. There is also a turbot fishery that is starting to be quite satisfactory, and it is developing. The key has to be more sensible transportation before we can start marketing these types of renewable resources products in a big way. We have got to find the solution to our transportation problem.

There is also an experiment through our demonstration projects, producing caribou jerky, nikku, and musk-ox nikku that is transportable and is quite successful. It promotes economic development, employment in the small communities. Qujannamiik.

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

**MR. LEWIS:** Mr. Chairman, I live here in the NWT and I have lived here for a long time and although I was never in a position where I lived entirely on country food, sometimes I get a taste, and I think I would like to get some caribou or some musk-ox or any other product that suddenly I have a craving for. I have, in fact, looked around this city many times because I have felt a craving for something and I find that there is nothing there. I thought to myself that this is a little bit like the Soviet Union; if I depended on that kind of food, if I had not been brought up with the store-bought food, it would be a little bit like living in the Soviet Union, because I phoned around to different places in town and they have got nothing. They say, "We have got a tiny bit of whitefish, maybe. That is it." So I thought if I were dependent on that as my food source, something that I had always been attached to, I would find it very difficult to accept living in the 20th century. It is very hard to accept that that is the kind of availability of food that we have in the capital city of the NWT, with something like 15,000 people living here, and an increasingly large percentage are native people who have been brought up living on that particular kind of food. I am concerned that, although the Minister has pointed out that you can get different things, I can tell you that I have tried to get many of these different things and I have had to phone to Cambridge Bay and say, "Could you ship that down to me so that I could have it." It is not a question of it being readily available, even for people that live here in the Territories.

#### Transportation Issue Discussed

If he says that transportation is the issue, Mr. Chairman, I will just give you one example. It is not a renewable resource. It is another kind of resource, but it just shows you the degree to which the whole world, if you like, faces transportation problems in a world economy. When I was at the opening of the Northwest Tower, the Northwest building, I noticed that they had beautiful red granite on the outside of the building, beautiful stuff, so I asked the architect where that red granite

had come from and he laughed. That red granite we have 20 miles away from here. Between here and Rae there is all kinds of that stuff. He said, "That is true; you have it here." So I said, "Where did this stuff come from?" He said, "Actually, it is from Brazil." I said, "How did it get polished? It looks so nice." He said, "They sent it from Brazil to Italy and they polish it in Italy. They do the cutting and the polishing in Italy, and when they have finished polishing it in Italy, they send it back to North America and I guess you eventually get it in the NWT." And yet, we have the same stuff only 20 or 30 miles from here.

My question about transportation is, how is this such a huge problem? I know that we have questioned how good our transportation system is, and Mr. Pedersen has raised this because of deregulation, and so on. I would have thought that we know how to transport stuff. That is not complicated. We know what airplanes are; we know what roads are, wherever they exist; we know what they do; so transportation is not a problem. We know how to transport stuff.

I will give you a hypothetical question. Suppose I were a very wealthy man and I have a very great interest in getting into the musk-ox business, and I have been able to identify a kind of a technology and a market whereby 5000 musk-ox could all be mashed up and made into jerky and there would be a market for it, we could employ a lot of people, and so on. If I wanted to do that, and if I decided I wanted to do that this year, what would I have to do? I want to kill 5000 musk-ox because I am told that that is the kind of yield you have there in the Territories, and I can solve the transportation problem because I know what airplanes are, I know what trucks are. If I can solve that problem, what would I have to do in order to do that?

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps my deputy minister can comment more than my answer to the question.

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

**MR. BOURQUE:** Mr. Chairman, in response to the honourable Member's question, I suppose that the first thing you would have to do is to enter into a joint venture with the Inuvialuit, who have the biggest population of musk-ox in the NWT. You would be able to give the people there a hand to harvest the surplus musk-ox on Banks Island.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ernerk):** Thank you, Mr. Bourque. Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:** Okay, that is one option, Mr. Chairman, but the musk-ox I have heard most about in this House, in fact, have been the musk-ox that live on Victoria Island; in fact, all the way through the Arctic islands apparently there are musk-ox. The ones that Mr. Bourque has referred to, as I understand it, have become so over-populated in that area of the world that they are now going down below the treeline and coming down even below Colville Lake and near Fort Good Hope. They are solving their problem by finding more space to move in, so they are not as overcrowded as they once were because they are finding new places where they do not mind living. When you are living right up North on those islands and you cannot really move that easily, my question would be, for the kind of musk-ox that Mr. Pedersen has continually talked about, as I have been told, for something like seven or eight years now, if I wanted to do what I would like to do, if I were a very wealthy person, how would I get in to those musk-ox that are on Victoria Island and take advantage of whatever quota I am told would make sense for harvesting



those musk-ox?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ernerk):** Qujannamiik. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Chairman, first of all, the biggest quota that is available to the Northwest Territories is on Banks Island, the majority of which is owned by the Inuvialuit. It is in the Inuvialuit Holman region. I understand the quota for Victoria Island is quite a bit smaller. I do not have the figures here, but I will get them very shortly. We do not have a quota yet for the musk-ox down in Colville Lake, but we are working towards getting a quota. We have an experimental quota of 14 this year for the musk-ox near Snowdrift. The biggest population seems to be on Banks Island and that is the one we are concerned about. We would like to get this product to the marketplace. The Inuvialuit have found a possible solution. Also, Mr. Chairman, some of these quotas are being used by sport hunters.

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

**MR. LEWIS:** I will try again, Mr. Chairman, because my question has not been answered really. I appreciate the Minister giving me information about wanting to do something on Banks Island and the fact that there is a quota near Snowdrift, and I appreciate the fact that there has not been a quota established yet for the area around Fort Good Hope. The question that is still unanswered was that if an entrepreneur -- I will not use me as an example -- who had really looked at this and could see that it was an area that had been talked about for 20 years, in other words, this Assembly had expressed its interest in the solution to this problem, they had looked through the records and they say, "This has been raised so many times, I am an entrepreneur, I know all about the meat business, I know all about marketing meat, and obviously these people are interested in doing something." If that person was interested in developing a musk-ox meat business in the NWT, to establish a herd which could be harvested and we had to give him some direction as to how he should go about it, some advice and so on, what would that person have to do? That is all I am asking, what would that person have to do if, in fact, he wanted to get into the business of harvesting and selling meat to a market which has not yet been developed very much at all. That is the issue that has been raised for all these years. I am trying to get an answer to that question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** Qujannamiik. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the person that Member is talking about wants to do it right now I suppose the first thing he would have to do is, as my deputy minister mentioned, is to go into joint venture with the Inuvialuit where the quota is the largest. We have been approached for a commercial quota. So far we have been able to make the harvesting quota of musk-ox available to them. I suppose if this rich man comes into the Northwest Territories and has a proposal we will be looking at the situation very closely to see where we could accommodate him. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** (Translation) Thank you. Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not want to prolong this too much but really then what the Minister is saying is, the barrier that this person has to overcome could be the Minister and the deputy. There is nothing in place which says that this is the way you do it, this is the system, this is how you go into business. If you want to go into the musk-ox harvesting business there is nothing set down so that it is very clear what an individual has to do in order to take advantage of an opportunity that this House has said for

many, many years that we should be doing. The barrier then is the Minister and his staff. Is that correct?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** Qujannamiik. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Chairman, the barrier would be with the availability of the resources. If the resources are there, this government has been supporting harvesting. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** Qujannamiik. Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:** Thank you. My last question, Mr. Chairman. In the area that has been talked about for the last so many years, which is the area on Victoria Island where I am told there is an overpopulation of musk-ox, there is no sustainable yield, if you like, established for that area. Is that correct? Is that the barrier, that you do not know how many musk-ox could be commercially harvested in the area that Mr. Pedersen has been talking about? Is that the problem?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** Qujannamiik. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Chairman, our understanding is that there is no overpopulation on Victoria Island. The sustainable yield that we have been establishing is about 1100 musk-ox. Holman Island's quota is 500; Cambridge Bay, 530; and Coppermine, 50. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** (Translation) Thank you. According to the list that I have -- Mr. Sibbeston.

#### Hunting Of Migratory By Aboriginal People

**MR. SIBBESTON:** Mr. Chairman, I must continue that line of questioning that I did with Mr. Allooloo last Friday, regarding the migratory birds. Members know that I provided information to the effect that in the Yukon, the Yukon Minister of Renewable Resources has ordered his officials not to lay any charges dealing with the spring hunting of migratory birds, based on the fact that the Crown had entered a stay of proceedings with respect to a charge against a native person hunting duck. I must say that I am a bit disappointed with the Minister for not following suit. The answers that he gave were passing the buck a little bit, saying that there was a federal review of the matter and leaving it at that. I just cannot understand why he cannot, himself, follow the Yukon decision to not lay charges against any aboriginal persons here in the North.

So I will ask the Minister again, what is the problem? Why does he not just follow suit? Why does he not be as bold as the Minister of Renewable Resources in the Yukon? Why are we all of a sudden, with respect to our jurisdiction where there are more native people, where we are under more severe environmental constraints which is harsher in our part of the North than in the Yukon. Why are we behind the Yukon in this matter?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** Qujannamiik. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will answer the same question that he asked me during question period last week. I believe that the Yukon is finally following suit to the Northwest Territories. Here in the Northwest Territories we have not charged anybody harvesting migratory birds even though we know that it takes place amongst our people.

On the other hand, it is my understanding that the Yukon government has been enforcing the migratory birds regulations and finally they are saying that they will not -- they will look the other way as we have been doing ever since we became



ex-officio members enforcing the regulations.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** Qujannamiik. Mr. Sibbeston.

**MR. SIBBESTON:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think what is lacking here in the Northwest Territories is a very clear statement by the Minister saying that definitely the Minister and his officials will not be laying any charges against any aboriginal people hunting and shooting migratory birds here in the spring. The Minister says that our practice has been to not lay charges but it is still not clear to people. In our part of the North, if for no other reason for our part of the North, for the Dene and Metis, we need to know because the feeling -- I bet if I were to ask any of the Dene and Metis people in the West here whether they fear the game warden catching them with ducks or geese in the spring, they would all say that if they were to shoot any ducks or geese in their view they are breaking the law and that they fear the game warden.

It is not like in the Eastern Arctic where the practice has been that the game officials and RCMP have just turned a blind eye and have not really looked closely at what was happening, so people have done it as a practice and as a way of living. But in our part of the North, down the Mackenzie Valley, it is still believed by Dene and Metis that when they are hunting ducks in the spring that they are breaking the law and if they are caught, if they are seen by a game warden or an RCMP they will be charged. There is this unsettling concern so we need to have the Minister state very clearly to the people that because of developments in the law, aboriginal rights to hunt and fish in Canada, that now aboriginal peoples will not be charged for any infractions of Migratory Birds Convention Act this coming spring. That is the kind of clear statement we need, otherwise there is still going to be that fear and uncertainty. So can the Minister once and for all make that statement?

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** I have stated in this House that I cannot make a general statement saying that we will allow any kind of harvesting. I will be making a statement after we hear from the Canadian Wildlife Service concerning their response to the court cases that have developed over recent years regarding the rights of aboriginal people to harvest fish and wildlife. I understand they will be making a policy statement. After they make a policy statement, I will be able to make a public statement in regard to that. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** (Translation) Thank you. Mr. Sibbeston.

**MR. SIBBESTON:** Do you expect that policy to be clarified and provided with a view to making a clear statement this spring before the ducks and geese start flying in the next month or so?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** Mahsi cho. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Chairman, I have been told that the Canadian Wildlife Service will be making their public statement prior to spring.

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

**MR. SIBBESTON:** I guess we will look to the Minister's announcement before too long. I am still a bit suspicious of government, especially federal bodies, and wonder if they are going to make the right policy decision. Can the Minister at least tell me, as he says there has not been any charges laid for the past 10 years, is that likely to continue for another year or two? Just so this spring we know, despite what the Dene and Metis do with respect to hunting ducks and geese, that

there are not likely to be any charges this spring.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our practice will not change this year unless there is substantial change on the part of government. I would like my deputy minister, since he has vast experience in this area of law enforcement, to give more detail to the committee.

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

#### Law Enforcement By Game Officers

**MR. BOURQUE:** My understanding is if there is a statute in force and our officers are ex-officio appointments, that once you are appointed, the prerogative of whether or not to proceed with the charge is the officers prerogative. We have to encourage him not to proceed.

Now what we would have to do as far as the Migratory Birds Convention Act is concerned, is revoke the appointments of all our officers in the field. This is something I will be discussing with the Canadian Wildlife Service and also our legal division. I think we have all said that we think the current legislation to restrict hunting of migratory birds is a bad piece of legislation, but in the meantime if you have legislation on the books and you have officers appointed to enforce that legislation, that poses a problem. The only way to get out of it, if that legislation is not changed, is to revoke the appointments of our people so they will not be able to enforce the Migratory Birds Convention Act.

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

**MR. SIBBESTON:** I understand the deputy minister to say that this is a consideration that he, and perhaps the Department of Justice are considering doing, as a way of dealing with the matter. Apart from that, is the Minister or deputy minister prepared to issue any instructions to their game officers with a view to having any matter brought before either the deputy minister or Minister before a decision is made as to whether a charge is laid. It just seems to me that as the deputy minister says, these game wardens are ex-officio officers, police officers, under the Migratory Birds Convention Act and so if one was really living according to law and carrying out their duties in a very official way, they would have perhaps no choice but to lay the charges if they are going to be true to themselves and true officers under the act. In that situation we may get situations where game wardens feel compelled to lay the charge.

I am just wondering, is the deputy minister or Minister issuing any instructions with respect to the game wardens conduct and manner that they are to carry out their duties this coming spring?

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** We have, Mr. Chairman.

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

**MR. SIBBESTON:** I wonder if the Minister would be prepared to give us information and copies of instructions that he has provided to his officials. Just so that we know precisely and definitely what is out there, what instructions are given to game officers.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Yes, I will provide the Member with that information.



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

#### **Caribou And Musk-Ox Skins Not Utilized**

**MR. PEDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to clarify something for the House later on. Earlier on I was not using ventriloquy and Mr. Lewis was not lip syncing, that was really him talking about musk-ox and it was very refreshing to hear someone other than myself plugging that issue. I have been doing it alone for so long. Thank you, Mr. Lewis.

I agree with Mr. Lewis, and you all know I do that, of course. I happen to think that the musk-ox we were talking about before, that renewable resources in general is the greatest single gift that we had and the biggest single opportunity that we have to solve the employment problems, the economic problems and the social problems that we have in our outlying communities. It is not a problem that has any direct bearing on Yellowknife or any of the greatly populated areas, but it has a very indirect bearing even on the populated areas.

I want to try this time, so I am not using exactly the same words as I have in the past, to put it in a different perspective. From the department I have solicited information in previous go rounds of this nature, of the number of winter-killed caribou we have, and the number I have been given is 45,000 winter-killed caribou annually in the NWT. That is not particular to one region.

Now you can say 45,000 skins and it is very easily said, but not very easy to comprehend. Now if you take this hair off those skins and you estimate each skin to come out at only one-sixteenth of an inch, you end up with a 235 foot high stack of skins. In other words, Fraser Towers twice over. A 20-storey apartment building high of caribou skins alone, if you tanned them.

The musk-ox we talked about between Banks Island and Victoria Island, approximately 5000, is probably about a 150 foot stack of these.

In addition, if we utilized them instead of wasting them as we now do -- we do that with these 45,000 winter-killed caribou hides too -- the Nunakput and Kitikmeot Region combined, which would make good economic sense to develop as a region, those two together, have a capability of producing some 30,000 seal skins per year. There is no quota on them, but in the mid-1960s the Department of Fisheries and Oceans in writing -- to the area administrator of that area, which was me at the time, so I know -- stated that as long as the catch did not exceed that number they would not even worry about putting a quota in. That was an absolute safe number to take.

So when you combine the skins that we do do something with now, basically the fine furs, with the ones that we do not do anything with, we are looking at -- I do not know what our share in that area of the 45,000 winter-kills would be, but it may be about 5000 -- about 40,000 to 50,000 hides a year if we did anything with it.

I talked earlier about the other meat products, the wool products from the musk-ox, the qiviut from musk-ox, and I simply cannot understand why we are not making a massive effort to solve the economic problems of that whole region, when we have this great gift walking around asking and demanding to be utilized. While at the same time we go in and we invest money -- I have nothing against the project -- but we invest money in the Hanging Ice Bison Ranch, where we, with great pride now talk about, "We now have 100 animals." Well good for us if we now have 100 animals. Up in our part of the world we should be killing 5000 a year and we are not.

Transportation, we keep mentioning transportation as being a problem. Yes, it is a problem, but problems are there to be overcome and it is a problem that can be overcome. It is all a matter of priority. If you want to overcome the transportation problem and if you want to make it a priority, I can give you two suggestions of how to do it. Transportation, as I said when we debated transportation, is nothing more than the movement of people and goods. That is what transportation is. We accept quite clearly that when we transport people and goods from one side of a piece of water to another side -- we call them ferries -- that is something that we, as a government priority, should invest our government money in building that darn ferry, staffing it and establishing a very subsidized rate for the movement of people and goods to cross that piece of water.

I submit to you, Mr. Minister, and to the committee that that is all we do with musk-ox or whatever product we want to work on. We ferry it around. We use air ferries, they do not float. But transportation is transportation and if our government wishes to make it a priority then the solution is not that difficult. So you can do it either by taking over the transportation for the purpose of achieving your goal as a priority, or if you do not want to do that, you can do what probably is simpler and better and that is simply to institute a production subsidy on items manufactured and produced out of renewable resources and arts and crafts. If you did that then the transportation becomes a negligible thing because your production costs are more competitive and in total, between transportation and production, you then become equal with the marketplace you are aiming at.

#### **Tanneries Could Be Established**

I do not see it as an insurmountable problem. It is a matter of where our priorities are. Are we going to go in and are we going to solve it or are we going to piddle away as we have done for years and say, "Yes, we need to do it, but it is a great big problem and we do not know how." What it is going to take, Mr. Chairman, is an investment of probably some \$10 million up there and a large tannery, preferably in Inuvik where you have the running water and disposal facilities for the wastes and so on -- I am told that Inuvik was designed with a sewage plant designed for 20,000 people, so they should be able to handle it and they certainly have the running water -- put the portable meat plants in, whatever plants are required for the separation of wool from hair, so that we can get an industry based on qiviut established.

There is not a higher labour intensive industry anywhere than the production of renewable resources. It is an industry that our people would fit well into. They are familiar with the basic product they work with. It is an industry that would establish some degree of honourability back into people, they would be making a living and contributing to society from what exists within their society. It would not be a foreign type of thing.

Mr. Chairman, I do not think that we can continue, should we be allowed to continue, to keep passing the buck and saying this is Inuvialuit and this is their property. Surely there must come a point -- and I will ask the Minister directly to tell me -- at what stage must you, as a department move in and kill musk-ox on Banks Island that are not now being killed for the purpose of game management and disease prevention? When does that happen? Because it will happen sooner or later at the kill level we are at now.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That question is a bit difficult to answer. We are saying that to maintain the population now, we need to harvest roughly between 4000 and 5000 a year from Banks Island. As to



when the government would come in to cull the animals, it would be a difficult decision to make. We would base that decision on our scientific studies. Thank you.

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

#### Harvesting Quota Is not Sufficient

**MR. PEDERSEN:** Mr. Chairman, I know the difficult position I am putting the Minister in because I used to sit there too. Mr. Minister and committee Members, it is a question you are going to have to take a stand on because we are not harvesting anywhere near the quota we should be. The time will come when you have to make that decision. Whether or not we should bring your biologist in here to tell us or whether you should go back and ask them so that we can get an answer on it, but you had better start considering that. We have not harvested anywhere near the quota we should have been harvesting ever out of that herd since we established a commercial quota.

My next question for the Minister is, out of the herds on the two islands -- Banks and Victoria -- what is the latest estimate on the population count between the two islands? What is the total commercial quota for the various communities that harvest those herds between Banks Island and Victoria Island? What is the annual kill out of that commercial quota? When we have these figures, I think they will demonstrate clearly the predicament we are going to get into if we do not take advantage of this unique opportunity to solve our problems.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The estimated population for Banks Island is between 15,000 and 45,000. The commercial quota that we have established is 5000 and roughly 400 animals are harvested a year. On Victoria Island, the population is estimated to be around 25,000. The commercial quota we have established is 1080 with an estimated harvest of under 200 animals. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Arlooktoo):** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Pedersen.

**MR. PEDERSEN:** Mr. Chairman, I think these figures are quite revealing. We are talking about the herd between two islands which in fact you can cross quite freely. They are very close to each other. There are some 75,000 animals. We talked about the problems and it was foremost in everybody's mind about the wood buffalo in Wood Buffalo National Park. I think we are talking about a herd of 5000 total? Here we talk about a herd in totality that does not come near the quota we should be taking. I also think, Mr. Chairman, that if we compare these figures that we have just now been given to the figures that we were given the last time I had an opportunity to get the Minister to put figures in the House, that they have gone up considerably since that time which again shows clearly that we do not harvest. We are harvesting at about 10 per cent of what we should be harvesting. When we do not harvest that we get this tremendous increase from year to year. If we have 50,000 this year, we should be talking 5000 but we are only taking 400. Normal logic would tell us that next year we will have 55,000 running around there. I submit to you, Mr. Minister and committee Members, that we better start looking at either making a massive investment up there and truly taking advantage of this very unique, God-given gift to us there. If we are not prepared to do that, then we better look at emergency plans on what we are going to do from a population control basis than simply go in and kill them off. I hope, Mr. Chairman, that I will have convinced others. I have obviously convinced Mr. Lewis who spoke eloquently on it, and I thank him for that again. I will not comment any more on renewable resources. In the other

species we should be harvesting and do harvest, the principle of the musk-ox applies to all of them, I think. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Arlooktoo):** (Translation) Thank you. Mr. Minister, do you wish to respond? Mr. Morin.

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Since we are on the subject of musk-ox, presently...

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Arlooktoo):** Order, please. Mr. Morin.

**MR. MORIN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The quota is 14 for Snowdrift, but meat is meat. What I wanted to comment on is that the department is presently in the process of negotiating with the community of Snowdrift a joint management plan for the musk-ox. I would like to encourage the Minister as well as his deputy minister and the assistant deputy minister to keep doing that. That is the proper way to manage wildlife. Work at the grass roots level with the community and you will get something positive accomplished and no negative response from a Member like myself. There is a place and time to push or gently shove a department and encourage them to do the right thing, but there is also a place and time to let them know that they are doing the right thing and congratulate them on that. That is what I am doing in one sense. You are going in the right direction by negotiating with the communities on the management of their local resources.

In Fort Resolution, we are far ahead of everyone else when it comes to buffalo management. This is due, in part, to the department's involvement. Your assistant deputy minister, Mr. Minister, Bob McLeod, has been to Fort Resolution many times. He is doing an excellent job working with the community as well as Cormack Gates, the buffalo person at Fort Smith. That should be continued. Of course, like anything else, big Jim Bourque has his hand in there guiding. They are doing very well and we should not wait for other communities or wait for the big picture to develop. We should not slow down to what is happening in Fort Resolution. We should move ahead and try to keep that going on-stream.

The buffalo in that area are separate from any other herd. They are not part of the park herd. They are completely separate and, hopefully, Mr. Minister, you will take time to come down there sometime in the near future. You are the only Minister of this government that has not been in my riding yet. That invitation will be open. Oh yes, you were there but I was not home. That is right. There is an invitation there open for you and hopefully you could, at that time, meet with the community in Resolution and Snowdrift and continue to talk on those issues.

#### Water Pollution And Fire Fighting Are Concerns Of Region

We are still looking forward to working with the department to do water testing in the Fort Resolution bay. The people have a concern about the water because of the way the winds are and the currents and the structure of everything there, any pollution coming out of the Slave River ends up in our water intake. We are quite concerned about that. I understand that the Fort Smith people are dumping raw sewage into the Slave River. I do not know if they have got around to putting in the proper sewage treatment. They are usually good neighbours but it is not good to do that to your neighbour either. Hopefully your department will look into that and make sure that they do not continue that practice, unless they want to take their drinking water down river where it is being dumped. Water is very important and hopefully your department is very aggressive with jurisdictions to the south of us who are attempting to pollute all of our water in the Northwest Territories, and not to spare any energy and do everything possible to keep the water clean.



Mr. Minister, you are responsible for fire fighting in my region. We have suppression crews in Snowdrift and Fort Resolution. There are two in Fort Resolution and two in Snowdrift. I think Resolution wins the award every year for the best fire fighting crew. They are a good group of people that have learned to work well with each other and they have learned to put out fires. I would like to encourage you to bring them on a little sooner this year and have them start a few, and do some prairie burning in our area. It is a practice by aboriginal people years before and it would also help to improve the feeding areas for buffalo. A lot of our buffalo prairies are grown in, so hopefully you will do that. I brought that up three years ago and it was supposed to be in the works, then the department had to do a study about how fast the willows grow or something like that, to see if fire helps them grow. I think that is finished so I would encourage you to look into doing that.

There was a forestry base in the capital two years ago. We asked you to defer that for Snowdrift so that the community could co-ordinate all of those capital projects together so that we could benefit, but it disappeared out of there and I am assured that it is still lingering in the background and hopefully you will not forget that. We did not defer it indefinitely and we will be looking forward to seeing that in the capital budget next year. I am pretty sure that you would do that.

As you know, Mr. Minister, the East Arm of Great Slave Lake is one of the most beautiful spots in the Northwest Territories. We have a lot of tourists out there. The tourists that come to the lodges are usually regulated by the lodges, or the fisheries, but there are a lot of people who come out there from Yellowknife. Just last week, I believe, a local person from Snowdrift graduated from the forestry program in Fort Smith. He has a house in Snowdrift so there is no problem with the housing, so as soon as you can move his stuff back in on the barge in the summer you should have him employed there as a game warden. It is desperately needed because Snowdrift is becoming accessible by Yellowknife and you have to make sure these people do not kill too many caribou or catch too many fish, or pollute and leave their garbage behind. The game warden can be used to enforce the regulations.

While we are talking about Snowdrift, I have brought this up to your deputy minister before about using the forestry. This summer they used the planes to drop gas off to some trappers so they do not have to pay for another plane in the fall to take gas out there. Hopefully you will keep doing that. As well, I would like to thank yourself and your deputy minister, Jim Bourque, in the assistance they gave us last summer while they had a plane in the area, for moving people and equipment to Fort Reliance. As well, being flexible with your suppression crew in Snowdrift to allow them time off while they had that cultural event in Fort Reliance. So we would just like to thank you publicly on that issue.

I notice that through the local newspaper here that Yellowknife has boats to rescue people around here who do not know how to handle themselves out on the lake. Most of our people, in general, can handle themselves pretty well on the water but we are getting some influx of people from Hay River that are not that boat-wise or survival-wise on the land. There have even been some boats lost on the south shore of Great Slave Lake. Your game warden in Fort Resolution has an old beat-up 18 foot Lund there that is in pretty rough shape. It is not really equipped to handle waves. The game warden is not really equipped to go out on the land. He is a fair-weather traveller only because of the equipment that he has. If people break down at Stony Point then we have -- at least here on the north shore you have all kinds of islands that you can get behind and it is a lot safer travelling here. We have

approximately 50 miles of open water there, rough water, so I would like to see, through your capital money, to try to put a half decent boat for your staff in Fort Resolution. At least then we could call on them when we had to go out and help someone. If they had a half decent boat where they could handle the waves -- at present they have some old beat-up Johnson and an 18 foot Lund that leaks pretty bad. If you could possibly look at replacing that equipment I think it is needed in Fort Resolution.

#### Hides Needed For Craft Work

Mr. Minister, I have tried to get moose hide for ladies in Snowdrift to tan, green hides, and I heard through the moccasin telegraph just last week that the department has a bunch of green hides in Fort Smith. If possible, could you make those available to the women in Snowdrift because there is a lack of hides. That is not really the most ideal moose country and they need moose hides.

As well, we should look at possibly changing the legislation or making a policy so that the department can actually -- for example, in Fort Resolution the game warden could buy green hides and then resell them for the same value. If you pay \$75 for a moose hide, that is about 15 gallons of gas, and that would encourage that hunter to bring that moose hide in, rather than leave it on the land because he knows he would have a market for it. Then you could resell it to people either in the Dogrib region or the Snowdrift area. On the side of the highway sometimes you see moose hides laying there and that should not be allowed. It shows complete disrespect for the animals as well as being a waste of the renewable resource. Maybe we should look at having some sort of law that says you have to bring those in because we are going to pay for them anyway. That would ensure that we would have a supply of green moose hides. Also, if Mr. Wray is going to sell handicrafts we are going to need those hides to make that handicraft to sell at Expo in Spain.

We should also look at caribou hides this fall. Hopefully the department can get together with the NWT Science Institute to develop a tool to assist the ladies in tanning the hides. I am not going to elaborate on how this tool should be made, it has already been passed on to the Science Institute. Your department can get a hold of them so that can be done in time, so that we can process enough caribou hides to make handicrafts this fall to go to Spain, because you may have not enough hides. You need the hides to make the handicrafts. Possibly your department could look at helping to do that.

In general, Mr. Minister, for this year your department is doing pretty good. If I have issues, I usually deal with Mr. Bourque or Mr. McLeod, and it has been a positive relationship lately. It was shaky during the buffalo hearings, where I did not think you were saying the right things, or forcefully enough, but I guess it turned out okay in the end because we seem to be winning and moving ahead. In general, Mr. Minister, I would encourage you to continue to do the work you are doing and I would just like to say that you have excellent staff, the ones I work with, and the main thing we are all working for is to...

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** Mr. Morin, your 10 minutes are up. Mr. Minister, would you like to respond to that comment.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Member's statements are very well taken. Thank you.

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

#### Concerns In Deh Cho Riding

**MR. GARGAN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for giving me the opportunity to speak. I have a number of concerns that I



wanted to address at this point, but before I do that, I want to thank the Minister for some of the programs that he has established or initiated in my constituency. I know that Mr. McLeod is from Fort Providence, but we do not see him there, but it is nice to see him here. We also see him quite often in Fort Resolution.

Mr. Chairman, as the Minister is aware, there was an agreement between the department and the community of Fort Providence to monitor the bison herd, and also to provide guides for the bison hunts. The community has accumulated over \$24,000 worth of work done, but I understand from Rita Coleman, I believe, that the department has already informed the community that they have run out of money, so they will not be able to cover the costs. I would like to ask the Minister whether, in fact, this is true, and if the dollars have already been spent this year, whether the department would look at compensating the community in this year's budget. I would like to ask the Minister on that.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** Qujannamiik. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to bison hunting, it is not true that the money ran out. Whatever is owed to DIGGA Enterprises will be paid for this year's hunt. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** Thank you. Member for Deh Cho.

**MR. GARGAN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One other thing that the Minister is aware of, since I have brought it to his attention several times, is with regard to mobile radios for Kakisa. You were willing, if they established a hunters and trappers association, to provide them with \$7000 to help them operate. It is really up to the community to decide how the \$7000 will be spent. Mr. Minister, has there been any progress with regard to that matter?

Also, the Minister indicated that, in co-operation with Municipal and Community Affairs, they are looking at a policy to address the matter of community freezers, and I wonder if that policy paper has been prepared with regard to providing community freezers.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me understand the Member's concern with regard to radios in Kakisa. Is he talking about what are considered to be mobile radios or telephones, or the SBX-11 which is normally used by the hunters and trappers throughout the NWT?

With respect to community freezers, we have developed a paper that we hope to bring forward to cabinet. That has not gone to cabinet yet. Thank you.

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

**MR. GARGAN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was referring to the bush radios that the hunters could take with them when they go out on the land. With the elimination of the Special ARDA program, I know that the department does not provide one of the programs that was usually used for purchasing such equipment, but the Minister did indicate that the community of Kakisa wanted to establish a hunters and trappers association and with that would come something like \$7000 which perhaps they could use for the purchase of such equipment. I am just asking whether the hunters and trappers association has been established and whether they will receive the money.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ernerk):** Thank you, sir. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Chairman, the Member is correct that once the community has decided to establish a renewable resource committee or what we normally call HTA in the community, once they establish renewable resource contact, then the department is willing to provide them with the same funding that we normally give out to communities in the NWT.

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

**MR. GARGAN:** Is there presently a person from the department assisting the community to establish the HTA?

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, our wildlife officer could assist the community.

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

**MR. GARGAN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Right now, even though there is a desire to establish an HTA in Kakisa, the department has not assisted to date on that establishment. Am I correct?

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Chairman, we are prepared to assist the community any time the community requires.

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

**MR. GARGAN:** One problem that has been experienced by the local hunters and trappers association in Fort Providence -- I would think that most HTAs in the communities run out of money before year end. It is basically because a lot of assistance has been given to local hunters and trappers because you no longer have the lynx incentive program -- that is one area where the local hunters and trappers have said that they no longer have the kind of money necessary to assist the hunters and trappers, and they have even gone further to say that they cannot even establish caribou hunts.

For example, this year the community of Fort Providence cannot go out to Lac la Martre or toward Snowdrift to do those hunts any more because they ran out of money before Christmas.

I realize in your program summary you do have a 7 per cent increase for your salaries, but your grants and contributions have gone down by four per cent. I have always supported the department because I think this is one area where the government should spend more money, to assist the hunters and trappers, and even though I said it last year and I will say it again, I think this is one department where I am sure all Members support an increase in the grants and contributions. I do not know if a motion would make any difference as to whether those increases would occur, but I would like to ask if the department is getting messages from the hunters and trappers associations indicating they are running out of money earlier than usual and if there are any plans of the department to assist further the hunters and trappers associations.

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

#### More Assistance For Hunters And Trappers

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Chairman, as I stated earlier, I am working with the Minister of Social Services to find innovative ways to assist local hunters and trappers throughout the NWT that will be provide more assistance than



we have in the past. We have been working with the native organizations, Dene and Metis and TFN, to establish that program. But that work has not been completed. Once we establish the program, we are hoping to put all the resources that we contribute to hunters and trappers into one pot and thereby we will be able to assist more in the area of individual contributions to local hunters and trappers.

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

**MR. GARGAN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand that the department is also looking at reforestation. The one area where reforestation is going to occur is in the Cameron Hills area, where 55 hectares of area would be reforested. Who is going to be doing the reforestation?

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have been doing reforestation in the past few years. Last year we planted 120,000 spruce and fir seedlings around Jean Marie River, Fort Smith and Cameron Hills. We hired 20 local residents. This year we are looking at using Evergreen Forest Management. They are working on a proposal. Normally we hire local people to do these things. Thank you.

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

**MR. GARGAN:** The other concern I have will affect the hunters and trappers up here. It is with regard to the federal government implementing the firearms control, especially with the amount of ammunition that is going to be used. I am sure that is a concern to the department, and I do not know whether or not the department has made the federal department aware that it is a concern here.

We also have a concern with regard to guides that are taking tourists on hunts and the dangers of an attack by a wild animal. I am wondering if the government has established a position on that in support of the hunters and trappers and the guides that are provided, Mr. Chairman?

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Chairman, I did not quite understand the question. Was the Member asking what we will be providing to hunters and trappers or through hunters and trappers to the guides? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ernerk):** Thank you, Mr. Minister. Would you like to repeat your question, Mr. Gargan?

**MR. GARGAN:** Mr. Chairman, my concern is that there may be federal legislation restricting the amount of ammunition you can carry in one rifle. I am wondering whether or not the department has taken its own position. The NWT does represent a large majority of people that would have a concern. If the amount of ammunition is lessened to one or two -- I do not know what the case will be -- I think it would be a concern to the department and hunters and trappers in the NWT as well as people that provide guides for hunting polar bears, bison, caribou or that type animal which might require restricting the amount of ammunition which could jeopardize a life and death type of situation.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Chairman, yes, we have submitted our comments on the proposal through the Minister of Justice of our government. They are maintaining liaison between ourselves and the federal Justice Department, communicating our concerns and interests in this piece of

legislation. My understanding is that if the legislation passes, there will be mandatory firearm safety training and testing for people who are trying to acquire a firearm acquisition certificate for the first time.

There are also some restrictions, as the Member indicated, in the amount of ammunition you will be able to have in the magazine of a gun. This is still a proposal. The legislation has gone to a federal committee. The concern that we have is the revision to our program and manuals which will be necessary to meet the new requirement that we will have to do. The proposed banning of rifle cartridge magazines capable of holding more than five cartridges will be affecting many subsistence hunters who use all military rifles with larger capacity magazines.

#### **Amendment To Wildlife Act**

There will also be a required amendment to the Wildlife Act to ensure that our legislation is consistent with the Criminal Code of Canada. The proposed fee will increase to \$50 to acquire an FAC, firearm acquisition certificate. Possibly the provision allowing waiving of the fee for trappers and subsistence hunters will impact us as we will likely be in a position of deciding who is and who is not a trapper or a subsistence hunter. The Proposal of a 28 day cooling off period and the requirement for two reference names before issuing that FAC will not easily be accepted. Many people cannot wait for 28 days when they are going out hunting. We have been communicating these concerns to the federal government, through out Department of Justice, through Mr. Ballantyne. Thank you.

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

**MR. GARGAN:** I support the Minister's initiative with regard to trying to address the needs of hunters and trappers in our area and whether or not they might be able to get away with being waived from that legislation.

Mr. Chairman, the other issue is that he did make a statement just the other day with regard to the land use planning being terminated effective at the end of this month, a couple of weeks from now. We do not have anything other than what has been implemented by the federal government. I realize that, but I am just wondering whether or not there might be a way of continuing that program or if there is a new direction by the government to do something with regard to land study of land planning, but of a different scale, maybe. Is this pretty well a dead issue? Is there no incentive in that area, period, tough luck, that is it? Is that pretty well the bottom line, or is there any hope that the federal government is looking at new programs in the area of lands?

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Mr. Chairman, I do not know if the federal government is looking at other programs that would take over the land use planning. We feel that this is an important program and I am pursuing it with the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs to see if he could do anything to replace the program. I know that the management steering committee, which my deputy minister chairs, has written a very strong letter to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs and, as I stated in this House, the Government Leader will soon send a letter to the Minister stating the importance of this program and asking that it be continued.

We have not had a formal response to our efforts made by the federal Minister yet, but I believe that we will soon know. Plus I will be talking to the Minister tomorrow morning on this topic.



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

**MR. KILABUK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think Renewable Resources is getting more responsibilities. Also, in assisting and giving ideas to the HTAs, there is a need for improvement in this area, especially for the HTAs. Because they are the ones who assist the hunters in their communities and sometimes there is communication between the government and HTAs and I know you are receiving a lot of information from the communities through HTAs. They try to do their best to assist the hunters in their communities. That is how I see it, and I am pretty sure sometimes you start asking the hunters and trappers why they want things that way, and they can make their own decisions.

#### Funding To Pay HTA Secretaries

But I think there is still room for improvement with the hunters and trappers associations, mainly because they do not have a proper secretary manager. The problem is that the funding is never available and I know the funding is very hard to get all over the Territories. As long as the associations have proper funding, they will run better.

Every organization needs staff, but ever since the hunters and trappers were established there is never enough money for them to run their responsibilities properly. Sometimes they could hire an experienced secretary, but they have to resign because they are not getting enough money or they are not even getting paid. So I think we have to look at this. If the hunters and trappers do not have a proper manager or secretary, there will be a lack of communication in the community. Perhaps the secretary managers could start getting paid from the HTAs, even if it is a part-time job.

The HTAs are trying their best to do their jobs, but they are not even getting honorariums for their meetings. This will become a problem again in the future, because the hunters and trappers are saying they want to get paid for doing their jobs. Nowadays all the different organization members want to get paid to attend meetings all over the Territories. They do not want to operate on a volunteer basis any more. I think we should look into these concerns of the hunters and trappers because they are going to be getting more responsibilities as well. In my community, they usually inform me that they could do their job better if they had a secretary, but they do not have the funding to hire a secretary. Perhaps the government could allocate some money, even for a part-time secretary for hunters and trappers, because as long as they are not getting paid I think it will be getting harder for the hunters and trappers to be assisted by experienced staff.

That person could also be assisting the wildlife officers, especially when that officer does not speak the local dialect, because the communication is supposed to be between the government and the HTAs or local people. As long as there is staff, and as long as the person knows about his responsibilities with the hunters and trappers, I know that person could be trying very hard to assist both the government and the HTA and local people. As Minister, I wonder if you could consider this in the future, or have you dealt with it in the past? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** (Translation) Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We usually provide some funding to the HTAs. This year we are going to be allocating \$821,000 to HTAs. With respect to your comments about hiring a manager, we will need extra funding, but I will look into this to see if it could be done.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** (Translation) Thank you. Mr. Kilabuk.

**MR. KILABUK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want you to give consideration to the fact that not all the HTAs will be able to get full-time or part-time workers. I am talking about my community, because a lot of the HTAs in the communities have stiff competition even when they are selling meat products. There is not a very good market in Pangnirtung, because the hunters themselves are already well supplied in the community. Perhaps you should be looking at the individual HTAs and which ones would require secretaries. I am not concerned about the HTAs that are self-sufficient, but I think you should look at the HTAs individually to assist those that need it the most.

Also, we all know that if a hunter breaks the law he can be taken before a court. His hunting equipment, boat, rifles, et cetera, can be seized. How would you be able to assist a hunter who relies on his equipment to survive to get food once his equipment is seized because he was harvesting outside the law? If the hunter happens to be from an outpost camp, would you be able to give him assistance? I think this will be a very unfortunate incident for a full-time hunter whose only livelihood is hunting if he is caused to lose his equipment. Would you be able to do anything about this? This hunter would not be put in jail but his equipment would be seized. Would you be able to assist him in some way or would you just forget about him?

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you. If that should happen, we would not be able to assist him in any way. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (MR. NINGARK):** Mr. Arlooktoo, you are next.

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to make some general comments about fishing sites or commercial fishing and how they are sometimes closed to public fishing. If you are going to close any lakes or rivers without having legislation, what empowers you to do that? What can be done, Mr. Minister, if you do not have the legislation to do that? In an area of my constituency there are two proposals where they want to close a lake or river from fishing in order to build up the stock. This is not through legislation but is by an agreement with the hunters and trappers. Would you be able to assist the people who want to close down fishing from lakes or rivers? If an individual asks you to assist him, would you be able to help them? Can it be done through the HTA? If they forbid netting of fish in a certain lake, would you be able to assist them in any way, Mr. Minister? Thank you very much.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** (Translation) Mr. Minister, are you going to respond to that?

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) I will make a response to that, Mr. Chairman. If the HTAs in the communities, or the hamlet council, who are the authorities in a community, wanted to close a lake to fishing, we would be able to assist them. In fact, we would be in strong support if they wanted to close a lake or a river because of reduced stock.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):** (Translation) Thank you. Mr. Arlooktoo.

**MR. ARLOOKTOO:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Minister, for your response. There is no legislation to do that. I think that if that decision was contested by an individual, without having the foundation, such as legislation, we would be under your power. That is why I was asking that question. Thank you very much for your answer. I think that we are going to take



an action like this in my constituency. Thank you very much for your response.

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

#### Trappers Incentive Grants

**MR. SIBBESTON:** Mr. Chairman, I was just going to speak in a general way again about the trappers incentive grants. Members will know that I raised this matter with the Minister in November of 1990 and on, rereading the transcripts, it just appears to me that the Minister is really not clear about this policy. It is clear from his answers that he did not clearly understand what the trappers incentive grants policy was about and whether it applied to people, although they have lived in the North and hunted and trapped outside of the jurisdiction. So I would just like to talk about that again.

I have had a chance to review the trappers incentive policy again and it says, "The Government of the NWT shall offer incentive grants to assist trappers who are serious about their profession and show good faith in honouring debt incurred under the trappers assistance program." In terms of the eligibility, it does provide that it applies to people who have general hunting licences or trapping licences and hunt and trap in the NWT.

That is the problem, Mr. Chairman. I feel the policy is too restrictive. The policy is fine for most of the hunters and trappers in the North, but for the communities which border or live next to another province or territory, it poses some difficulty. I can tell the Minister again that in Trout Lake this winter there were 68 trappers. Of these trappers, 45 hunt and trap in the NWT, but there are 22 of the trappers that hunt and trap in BC, although they live in Fort Liard, and there is one that traps in the Yukon. So underneath these policies, every fall trappers get a bit of money based on the percentage of the amount of furs they got the previous year. They get a percentage, and it is an incentive given to trappers in the fall that they can buy their cigarettes and tobacco and rice and food and maybe some supplies to go out hunting and trapping for that particular fall.

Well the poor, poor trappers in my area who happen to trap in BC and Yukon are just out of luck in this matter. And it is most unfair because they live in the NWT, they live in Fort Liard, but happen to be hunting and trapping in BC. As the chief in Fort Liard said on this matter, when I was dealing with him, he said they had been using those areas for hunting and trapping for hundreds and perhaps thousands of years and it is not our fault that lines have been drawn on a map making some parts BC and the Yukon. So because of the way Canada was divided, because they now are seen as trapping in BC, they simply are not eligible for our trappers incentive grants.

It is becoming more critical. The life of a trapper is getting more difficult and Harry Deneron, the chief, has pointed it out to me that it is those trappers who are the most serious and who travel the furthest from their community, in this case, who are not eligible for these grants. Because those trappers who have to go away into BC and the Yukon are the most serious and active and ambitious but are out of luck in terms of the incentive.

Of course the BC government does not recognize aboriginal rights; they do not recognize aboriginal people in terms of any rights or anything of that sort, so they do not even accept -- I am sure they do not even know that the Dene trappers from the NWT are trapping in BC. However, they are out there and there is no hope of the BC government ever helping those trappers.

Mr. Chairman, I raise this issue because the fate of the trappers is getting more and more difficult. I am advised by the game officer in Fort Liard that there are 20 per cent fewer people from Fort Liard that are trapping this year. It is becoming harder and harder for trappers to make a living and this past winter the price for fur has dropped, and also the price of gas in Fort Liard was 91 cents a litre. With that coming down on the poor trapper -- his fur not being very valuable and the price of gas -- these trappers that go the farthest and are the most serious are getting no help under this program. I just hope that the Minister sees the seriousness of the situation and finds it in his heart and soul to do something about these trappers. I wonder if the Minister could comment and give us a positive response.

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

#### Incentive Funding For Trappers Who Live In NWT

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Member is correct, under the current policy people who are trapping outside the NWT do not get fur incentive funding. That was put in because in talking with the other jurisdictions, it was considered to be paying incentives to trap in other jurisdictions. The Member's comments are very well taken and the department is looking to change the policy whereby if a person is living in the NWT, pays taxes and has health care in the NWT, there should be no reason why they should not be getting a fur incentive. We will try to pursue a policy change in this area. Thank you.

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

**MR. SIBBESTON:** Mr. Chairman, that is very heartening, and I appreciate the Minister's positive response. Did he say whether there could possibly be some policy changes in time for next fall? Usually that is when incentives are paid. If the policy was changed in time for next fall, then it would mean the trappers in the Fort Liard area would be able to benefit from the policy. Can the Minister provide me with that assurance, please?

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we will attempt to do that. Qujannamiik.

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

**MR. SIBBESTON:** Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased, and I kind of want to adopt all the things that Mr. Morin was saying to the Minister. I second that, too. One other little matter, now that we are on a roll here, Mr. Chairman, the Minister -- or certainly the deputy minister of Renewable Resources -- will know that a number of years ago I dealt with the issue of hunting zones, and those are the mountainous areas west of the Mackenzie River. In the 1970s the government divided that area and established hunting zones and, I believe, gave out all the licences to these hunting zones. Since then I think it has been impossible or practically very difficult for anyone else to make an impingement and also get a licence to operate a hunting lodge and obtain licences to do hunting activity on a commercial basis in those areas.

It is a matter that I have been raising for quite a number of years. I first did that four or five years ago when I was Government Leader and I remember having the deputy minister in my office, telling him about the concerns of Harry Deneron from Fort Liard who, on behalf of the band, was interested in getting involved in hunting on a commercial basis up in the Mackenzie Mountains. I do believe then that the deputy minister was going to check into it and do what he could.



I remember last fall in Norman Wells I raised the issue again, and I was advised that something was in the works. So can the Minister please tell us today if any progress has been made and if there is any definite statement that he can make in this regard?

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Member may know that I have been working with the Minister of Economic Development to come up with some solutions to the problem with respect to the Mackenzie Mountain hunting zones. We will be putting together a task force to look into possibly finding a solution to this problem, and that task force will be reporting to us by this fall.

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

**MR. ERNERK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I would like to tell the Minister that he is doing a perfect job for the western part of the NWT. The people in the East really have to struggle to ask your department anything. I just want you to know that.

The animal rights activists. I have questions on that. The territorial government's role and the different organizations like ITC, Inuit Taparizat of Canada, or the Dene organizations -- I support those organizations to try and be against the animal rights activists. When they are discussing seals or whales or other matters, ITC used to invite me and also Tungavik Federation of Nunavut. I would like to thank the people in my region. A convention on the international trade on endangered species -- during their meetings the territorial government was involved. When is the next conference and where is it going to be held? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Thank you. The next meeting is in March of 1992, and it will be held in Japan.

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

**MR. ERNERK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Will the territorial government be attending that meeting in 1992?

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:** (Translation) Yes, definitely.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Zoe):** Thank you. The hour being 6:30, I will rise now and report progress. I would like to thank the Minister and his witnesses for appearing before our committee.

#### ITEM 18: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

**MR. SPEAKER:** I would like to call the House back to order. Item 18, report of committee of the whole. The honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre.

**MR. ZOE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bills 27, 28 and 7, and CR 2-91(1), and wishes to report progress, with two motions being adopted. Bill 27 and Bill 28 are now ready for third reading.

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

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Agreed.

---Agreed

**MR. SPEAKER:** Item 19, third reading of bills. The

honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

#### ITEM 19: THIRD READING OF BILLS

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Speaker, I seek consent to move to third reading of Bill 27, An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act, No. 2.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member for Yellowknife North is seeking consent to proceed with third reading of Bill 27. Are there any nays? There are no nays, proceed.

#### Third Reading Of Bill 27: Revolving Funds Act, No. 2

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, colleagues. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kivallivik, that Bill 27, An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act, No. 2, be read for the third time.

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

---Carried

Bill 27 has had third reading. Third reading of bills. Honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Speaker, I seek consent to proceed to third reading of Bill 28, An Act Respecting Interim Appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1992.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member is seeking consent to proceed with third reading of Bill 28. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed.

#### Third Reading Of Bill 28: Interim Appropriation Act, 1991-92

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that Bill 28, An Act Respecting Interim Appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1992, be read for the third time.

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

---Carried

Bill 28 has had third reading. Third reading of bills. Honourable Member for Yellowknife North.

#### Third Reading Of Bill 1: The Adoption Of The French Version Of Statutes And Statutory Instruments Act

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:** Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Iqaluit, that Bill 1, The Adoption of the French Version of Statutes and Statutory Instruments Act, be read for the third time.

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

**MR. ERNERK:** Recorded vote, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. The honourable Member for Aivilik is seeking a recorded vote. All those in favour, please rise.

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

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. All those opposed, please rise.

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

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. All those abstaining, please rise.

**CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):** Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Kilabuk, Mr. Zoe, Mr. Morin, Mr. Ningark, Mr. Gargan.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Record of the recorded vote, 14 in the affirmative, two in opposition, six abstentions. The bill is carried.

---Carried

Bill 1 has had third reading. Third reading of bills. The honourable Member for Baffin Central.

**MR. KILABUK:** Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to go back to Item 3, Members' statements.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Member for Baffin Central is seeking unanimous consent to return to Item 3. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed.

#### REVERT TO ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

##### Member's Statement On Rescheduling Of Trial Competitions

**MR. KILABUK:** (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was communicating with my communities today and the trials have been delayed. The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs has delayed it until May. They were due to start today and tomorrow. They are quite unhappy with this decision to delay for the competitions like hockey and volleyball, different sports. I just wanted to advise the House that they are very unhappy with that decision. I fully support the idea of recreation and competition. They were very unhappy with the recreation division of Municipal and Community Affairs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Item 20, Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

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

#### ITEM 20: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Thursday, March 21st.

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 Motions
13. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
14. Motions
15. First Reading of Bills
16. Second Reading of Bills
17. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters: Bill 7; Committee Report 2-91(1); Bills 8, 9 and 10
18. Report of Committee of the Whole
19. Third Reading of Bills
20. Orders of the Day

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Clerk. By the authority given to me by this House, this House stands adjourned until 10:00 a.m., Thursday, March 21, 1991.

---ADJOURNMENT

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