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

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 1991

MEMBERS PRESENT

Hon. Titus Allooloo, Mr. Arlooktoo, Hon. Tom Butters, Hon. Nellie Cournoyea, Mr. Crow, Mr. Ernerk, Mr. Gargan, 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. Sibbeston, Mr. Whitford, Hon. Gordon Wray, Mr. Zoe

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Richard Nerysoo): Prior to proceeding with the orders of the day, I wish to inform the honourable Members of a communication from the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories: "Dear Mr. Speaker, Please be advised that I wish to recommend to the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories the passage of Bill 36, Borrowing Authorization Act, 1991-92, during the eighth session of the Legislative Assembly. Yours truly, D.L. Norris, Commissioner."

Orders of the day for Wednesday, June 26, 1991. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements. The honourable Member for Nahendeh.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Housing Needs In Fort Simpson

MR. SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I met in Fort Simpson on June 18 with approximately 25 or so people who do not have their own homes. The president of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation was in attendance; so was Miss Mary Louise Norwegian, the community health worker, who has been involved with these people without homes. The meeting dealt with the fact that presently in Fort Simpson there are over 130 adults who do not have their own homes. These are people who live with relatives or friends or in old abandoned shacks on the edge of town. Some of these people are single; others are married with children.

At the meeting, these people spoke very emotionally, indicating their frustration in trying to get their own houses for themselves or their families and they say that they are often told that they do not fit the criteria that our government has for the various housing programs. The outcome of the meeting was that the Housing Corporation officials were to look into the possibility of providing some special project houses for Fort Simpson and some money to fix up a number of public houses that were being written off by the housing authority.

The other thing that was decided was that all organizations in Simpson, the band council, the housing association, the local Housing Corporation office, would work together to put together a proposal and plan to build 20 units next summer. Of course, we do not know where the money would come from, whether it was from our corporation or from the federal CMHC, but we were told to do something about it. So I undertook and have agreed to co-operate with the various housing agencies in town to indeed work on putting together a proposal and plan for next summer so that at least 20 houses can be built. Since then I have written to the Housing Corporation and I have written to CMHC to see if there are programs and have promised to help these people. Mahsi.

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

Member's Statement On Inuit Circumpolar Conference In Copenhagen

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I would like to make a brief report about my trip to Copenhagen, Denmark. I attended the Inuit Circumpolar Conference as an observer from this government. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleagues, the Hon. Dennis Patterson and the Hon. Titus Allooloo, for making this trip possible; and my friends and colleagues, Peter Ernerk and Ludy Pudluk, for their support and friendship while I was in Copenhagen.

My own observations were as follows: Environment is the main concern of the circumpolar people. Environment contains the life giving elements -- elements such as air, water and land. We, the people of the circumpolar region, depend very much on these elements. We also depend on the new technology up to a certain degree. The advanced technology sometimes destroys the surrounding environment which we depend upon. The activities of man to satisfy his hunger will ignore the cry of nature for peace and tranquillity. In the past we have depended upon scientific findings to tell us that the environment is degrading, and subsequently the government passed legislation to take measures to regulate the level of pollution in the environment.

Mr. Speaker, we no longer can depend on the scientific findings and legislation. Now we want to show the world what we know and how we can deal with the issue. We want to be a master of our own environment, an environment that gives us quality of life. Thank you.

---Applause

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

Member's Statement On Weaving Shop, Pangnirtung

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand today to report on the progress that Economic Development and Tourism has been able to assist us in, and also the federal Minister of the same department has assisted us. They came to my community on May 30 and have helped us greatly in regard to the weaving shop enterprise that we have in our community. They came there to open the building.

The people of Pangnirtung thank the government and the federal Department of Economic Development and Tourism. Thank you very much. We had a meal for them and they were able to take advantage of having some native food. Now the people of that weaving shop are continuing to do their project. I am sure that the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism is aware of what the weaving shop staff is doing at the present time. We would thank you very much from the people of Pangnirtung for being able to help us with the project of the weaving shop. We would encourage the department to try to find some market for the product of our endeavours. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Members' statements. The honourable Member for Amittuq.

Member's Statement On Passing Of Ipeelee Merkosark

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to announce, with great sadness, the passing of one of Pond Inlet's most respected elders, Mr. Ipeelee Merkosark. In my culture, Mr. Speaker, we are to respect the elders of our community and to learn from them what is important to our culture.

Mr. Merkosark was one of the first Inuk to be employed by the Hudson's Bay Company in the early years of the Hudson's Bay in Pond Inlet. He was also one of the founders that started to live in the community of Pond Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, although there is a sadness in my heart today, I am thankful for having had the privilege of knowing Ipeelee Merkosark. Not only was he a teacher of our language, of our culture, he was also the keeper of our language and culture. He was a hunter and fed his people through his hunting, and he taught us how to treat one another and about ourselves. He always insisted that one of the most important rules of life was to respect one another.

I recall, Mr. Speaker, when I was growing up, after my Dad passed away, numerous times Mr. Merkosark would come into our house and give us country food. And also when I started learning how to go out on the land, he taught me the importance of survival and also to respect the environment and to respect those things that kept us alive, the animals.

Mr. Speaker, I will always have a place in my heart for Mr. Merkosark, and I ask all Members of the Legislative Assembly to join me in recognizing the contributions he has made to the community and to the people of Pond Inlet and to pass on our condolences to Mr. Merkosark's wife, Leah, his children, and his numerous grandchildren, in the community of Pond Inlet.

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

Member's Statement On Absence Of Politicians To Meet With Northern Workers

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like the Assembly to note that ordinary Members were well represented when various interest groups within the city marched on the Legislative Assembly yesterday. I would like to note that among ordinary Members, Sam Gargan, Mr. Whitford and myself were the only people who were prepared to talk and listen to northern workers when they marched on this Assembly yesterday.

It was embarrassing to me, Mr. Speaker, to watch Ministers attempting to find their way out to the caucus room, through the Yellowknife Inn kitchen, through fire exits, or any other door that they could find, so that they did not have to listen to the grievances of northern workers.

AN HON. MEMBER: Shame, shame!

MR. LEWIS: I can remember from my early years in a mining town that that, Mr. Speaker, is what politics is all about -- meeting people, listening to people, and representing their interests and their needs. Why would elected people run away from workmen and workwomen who have a complaint about the way their government is being run? This government is not the property of a few professional politicians who believe they own it because God gave it to them. This, I hear, is the people's government, and I have always been led to believe that that is what we mean by democracy.

If you recall the final words of John Parker, Mr. Speaker, before he left the NWT, he used these words: "We will only get better government if we listen to the people." The people have no say in the kind of government they get, and that is why, Mr. Speaker, I believe that the demonstration you saw yesterday could very well be just the beginning of a new era in politics in the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement On Appreciation To Snowshoe Inn On Ferry Operation

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my appreciation to Snowshoe Inn Limited for the operating of the ferry services in Fort Providence from 1981 to 1990. Mr. Speaker, during those nine years the staff of the Snowshoe Inn operated the ferry with courtesy and consideration. Further, Mr. Speaker the operation of the ferry was continuous, with very little interruption, except during the spring break-ups when the ice conditions are worse.

The Snowshoe Inn met all its contractual obligations, Mr. Speaker, a fact which is currently demonstrated by the lack of complaints from the public during my eight years as the MLA for Deh Cho. Mr. Speaker, I have never been approached by anyone expressing dissatisfaction with the Snowshoe Inn's operation of the ferry. So once again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my appreciation to the current Minister of Transportation and his predecessors.

As most Members are aware, the tender of the ferry operation in Fort Providence was awarded this spring. Unfortunately, two bidders from my constituency, the Snowshoe Inn and DIGAA Enterprises, were unsuccessful in their bids. Mr. Speaker, I am not thoroughly familiar with the tendering process but I would like to suggest that when awarding contracts the government take into consideration not only the amount of local involvement by contractors, but also the physical location of the contractor's base of operation. In other words, who is located closest to the site of the service being provided.

Mr. Speaker, as you may well understand, I am disappointed that neither of the contractors from my constituency received this contract. However, I believe that these changes I have suggested would ensure greater opportunities at the local level. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And no, Mr. Speaker, I was never given preferential treatment by the Snowshoe Inn staff, either. Thank you.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Members' statements. Prior to proceeding to the next item of business I just want to inform honourable Members of a special day for Mr. Arlooktoo. I do not want to indicate what it might be but I believe that it is an occasion when he is celebrating one extra year in his life.

---Laughter

---Applause

AN HON. MEMBER: How old?

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot divulge the age.

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

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question O518-91(1): Information On Military Air Base, Yellowknife

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to Mr. Patterson, the Government Leader. Mr. Patterson, on April 22, 1991, Kevin O'Reilly filed an application under the Environmental Rights Act to examine all memorandums and reports on a Yellowknife military air base. He also wrote to you on June 3, 1991, and sent another letter to remind you at that time of his application. Mr. Patterson, why have you not forwarded the information to this gentleman? Thank you.

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

Return To Question O518-91(1): Information On Military Air Base, Yellowknife

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to tell the Member that the answer to the rather complicated request of Mr. O'Reilly, is in preparation and will be forthcoming shortly. Thank you.

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

Question O519-91(1): Response To Requests From Jean Marie River

MR. SIBBESTON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, a question to the Government Leader. Mr. Patterson will recall the excellent meeting and tour we had in my constituency, particularly Jean Marie River, and while we were there the Members of the community raised with him a number of issues; one of them being that of a fireguard around the community and another one being the possibility of setting up a project there to deal with waste management. I am just wondering when the Government Leader is going to respond to the community. I have been recently urged to get responses from our government. Can the Government Leader indicate when he will respond?

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

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take that question on notice and get back to the Member during this session. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member is taking the question as notice. Oral questions. The honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre.

Question O520-91(1): Decentralization Of District Housing Office From Yellowknife To Rae-Edzo

MR. ZOE: Mahsi cho, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister responsible for the NWT Housing Corporation. Mr. Speaker, on March 18, 1991, a motion was passed by this House strongly recommending to the government that the Housing Corporation immediately initiate the necessary plans to decentralize the complete operation of the Yellowknife district office from Yellowknife to Rae-Edzo. My question to the Minister is, what is the status of this particular motion?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Inuvik.

Return To Question O520-91(1): Decentralization Of District Housing Office From Yellowknife To Rae-Edzo

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, the motion by the

honourable Member was made in committee of the whole when the NWT Housing Corporation's budget was up for review. I informed him at that time that it was not my intention to decentralize all the positions to Rae-Edzo. I made it quite clear on that occasion that I would not be doing so; as a result of his initiative to have some decentralization occur, he and I did discuss what positions might be decentralized, and I think I talked in terms of three and one-half or four. That is still the intention, and that matter is proceeding, but there was never any intention of the decentralization of the total unit and therefore no plan has ever been developed for such a decentralization.

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

Supplementary To Question O520-91(1): Decentralization Of District Housing Office From Yellowknife To Rae-Edzo

MR. ZOE: Mr. Speaker, it is obvious that the government is hesitant to move in the area of decentralizing. That is the reason I passed this particular motion. When this motion was passed, it gave direction to this government to initiate the overall plans. Without a plan the government cannot do anything. The Minister just indicated that they are moving in that direction, but I did not see anything yet...

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The honourable Member, as a supplementary, I reminded honourable Members yesterday that the preamble should be short and that you should proceed quickly with the question. Honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre.

MR. ZOE: Mr. Speaker, although my preamble may be long, I think it is warranted in this case.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I do not have to remind the honourable Member of the rules that have been adopted by the Members of this House. The honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre, supplementary.

MR. ZOE: I will make it short and precise. Would the Minister reconsider the position that the government has taken and seriously consider the motion that was passed by this House?

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Inuvik.

Further Return To Question O520-91(1): Decentralization Of District Housing Office From Yellowknife To Rae-Edzo

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, a minor correction, the government did not take the position. It was a position that I took relative to the efficiency of decentralizing certain positions. I would be happy to look at the positions we have decentralized to see whether we are now getting an effective service from that move.

I would also like to remind the Member that I carried out a decentralization process in Fort Simpson and we are looking at a minor one in Fort Smith. But all this deals with providing better service to the people that we serve. I will look at the Member's request, but I do not want him to hold his breath to have a total decentralization occur to that unit.

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Baffin South.

Question O521-91(1): Economic Development Agreement Funding In The Baffin Region

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I have a question to the Minister of Economic Development. I want to find out what has been done regarding EDA, Economic Development Agreement, funding in the Baffin Region. Has it progressed, or what have they done?

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

Return To Question O521-91(1): Economic Development Agreement Funding In The Baffin Region

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have not yet completed negotiations with the federal government. As you know, we had an extensive round of consultations in every region; however, I can advise that we are very, very close to signing an agreement. In fact, I expect to sign the agreement, hopefully, within the next 10 days when federal Minister, Mr. Hockin comes north for the tourism conference. I believe that he is now seeking authority to sign on behalf of, or witness, the Minister of Indian Affairs' signature. Hopefully within the next 10 days or so I will be able to sign the final agreement and then we can get on with the work.

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

Question O522-91(1): Monitoring Licensed Premises Re Underage Teenagers

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Government Services, the Member for Inuvik. I would like to ask him, since several of my constituents -- and I assume this has happened throughout the Northwest Territories -- have brought to my attention that there are many teenagers on our streets who are so drunk they have to be taken into the local jail to spend a few hours, why is it that our licensing agents are not closing bars down that continue to sell liquor to underage people in the Northwest Territories?

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

Return To Question O522-91(1): Monitoring Licensed Premises Re Underage Teenagers

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I think the Member will agree it is a very difficult problem to police all of our licensed premises all of the time. We are aware that this is an ongoing problem, and the officials responsible for such monitoring did recently invite and involve officials from other jurisdictions to examine certain licensed premises without any warning that this is occurring. We are attempting to monitor and examine the licensed premises to ensure that they are meeting the requirements under which they obtained their licences. It is not an easy task, and I will continue to encourage my staff, with the resources that are available to us, to monitor licensed premises and to ensure that we are dispensing this drug as we should be, with competence.

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

Supplementary To Question O522-91(1): Monitoring Licensed Premises Re Underage Teenagers

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You recall that the Minister for Slave River, myself, and Mr. Ernerk were in fact slated to talk on CBC on this whole business of dependency on alcohol and the tremendous problems we have with it in our society, and that took place last April. I would like to ask the Minister then, in this connection, with the obvious abuse of alcohol that takes place in our system, when was the last place closed down in the Northwest Territories? I would not

want the precise date, but could the Minister indicate whether there have been establishments closed down because they have abused their licences?

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

Further Return To Question O522-91(1): Monitoring Licensed Premises Re Underage Teenagers

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, I can recall one in Inuvik and one in Iqaluit in fairly recent memory. I just cannot give you the dates. I will provide the Member with that information at another time.

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

Supplementary To Question O522-91(1): Monitoring Licensed Premises Re Underage Teenagers

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, would the Minister, then, undertake to this House, since we may not be here more than the next few days and this is summer, drinking season -- an awful lot of people seem to drink a lot in the summer -- would he undertake between now and the end of this 11th Assembly, to monitor this whole problem of young people who have obviously easy access, not to every establishment, but to some establishments, to make sure that this abuse does not continue?

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

Further Return To Question O522-91(1): Monitoring Licensed Premises Re Underage Teenagers

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I would assume that such monitoring is going on on a regular basis and that I will not have to request that it suddenly begin. I will pass along to my officials the Member's concern that we give special attention to attempt to identify underage people who are being served in such premises, in the inspections that are carried on in the summer.

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

Question O523-91(1): Efforts To Acquire Northern Funding For NWT Power Corporation Project

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, responsible for the NWT Power Corporation. There have been examples recently, and yourself and the Government Leader are to be commended for the efforts which you made in the committee you were overseeing to make sure that for the new Assembly building five million dollars in bonds were placed through a northern financial institution and placed entirely with Northerners. This proves that funds can be raised in the North for northern projects. My question to the Minister is: It has come to my attention that \$15 million is required by the Power Corporation for a project and is being borrowed from southern institutions through southern brokers, and I would like to ask her what efforts were made to acquire that money in the North?

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Nunakput.

Return To Question O523-91(1): Efforts To Acquire Northern Funding For NWT Power Corporation Project

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, the Power

Corporation did take extensive steps to attempt to borrow the \$15 million from northern institutions, including quite extensive discussions with the Workers' Compensation Board. However, we did have a time frame in securing the funding so that we could go ahead with our long-range planning. And despite the offers and the work that was done by the chairman of the board with these lending institutions, neither the individual agencies nor the Workers' Compensation Board felt that they could approve funding to meet that expenditure. So I feel that I can say that all efforts were made to acquire funding through northern lending institutions. However, the offers were not taken. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Pine Point, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O523-91(1): Efforts To Acquire Northern Funding For NWT Power Corporation Project

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, it is my understanding that the interest that would have been paid in this would have been probably less and also without the hundred thousand-odd dollar brokerage fee which is probably going to be paid to a southern institution as an overhead. So I would like to ask the Minister for further details to be given to us as to what the exact offer was and what negotiations on these details -- the percentage of interest, et cetera -- took place between the corporation she is responsible for and the Workers' Compensation Board fund. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Nunakput.

Further Return To Question O523-91(1): Efforts To Acquire Northern Funding For NWT Power Corporation Project

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, in December of 1990 the Power Corporation did submit a borrowing proposal to the Workers' Compensation Board and there was considerable discussion between the Power Corporation and WCB. This was followed up in February of 1991, but no progress had been made toward acceptance of the proposal, so negotiations were basically stopped.

Between February and April there were further discussions attempting to reactivate the discussions by the chairman of the board, Mr. Robertson, and Grant Hinchey. As a result there was a new proposal sent to WCB with the revised terms and conditions, and the discussions between the corporation and WCB and the board's investment counsellor, Bolton, Tremblay Investment Managers Inc., resumed. The revised proposal called for a \$15 million debenture with a rate of return of 120 basis points over comparative long-term 20-year Canada bonds. But the debenture was to be retired at a rate of five million dollar after 10 years and five million dollars after 15 years and the final five million dollars after 20 years. However, the Power Corporation did have to have a return by April 5th and the deadline was set, so the Workers' Compensation Board did not take advantage of that particular proposal.

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

Question O524-91(1): Territorial Government Involvement Regarding Move Of Inuit To High Arctic

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct this question to the Government Leader. (Translation) I will also ask him in Inuktitut. This concerns all of Canada. Mr. Speaker, the Inuit were moved from Quebec to High

Arctic. We have been hearing this through the media. I would like to help the Inuit, our people. I would like to ask the Government Leader, Mr. Speaker, if he could ask the Prime Minister, Brian Mulroney, if the Inuit that were moved in the 1950s could get an apology from him.

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

Return To Question O524-91(1): Territorial Government Involvement Regarding Move Of Inuit To High Arctic

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I am aware of the new information that has been uncovered by Professor Grant of Trent University. The Member wants our government to intervene. I guess I have to observe, Mr. Speaker, that the matter is between the federal government and the Inuit. It occurred before the territorial government was even established. It is being investigated by a committee of the House of Commons. The spokesman for the Department of Indian Affairs has indicated today publicly that the Minister will review the new information. Does the Member want our government involved in a matter between the Government of Canada and the Inuit? I would think that Mr. Anawak, the MP for Nunatsiag, will be pursuing this matter with vigour, as he has in the past.

Our government is aware of the situation, and we sympathize with the plight of the so-called exiles, but I really wonder, Mr. Speaker, if this is a matter within our authority that should be dealt with in this House. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O524-91(1): Territorial Government Involvement Regarding Move Of Inuit To High Arctic

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is the Government Leader scared to assist the people of High Arctic? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

Further Return To Question O524-91(1): Territorial Government Involvement Regarding Move Of Inuit To High Arctic

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, they have never asked for our help. They have very capably pursued avenues available to them through their Member of Parliament and through access to the Government of Canada. I am not afraid to get myself involved. I guess we have many problems of our own making that we are fully occupied in dealing with, and I have to ask the Member, or ask the House, if it is appropriate that this issue be dealt with by our government. If it is an issue that cannot be resolved by the federal government, then of course we would intervene, but I guess what I am saying, Mr. Speaker, is that the issue has been raised by Professor Grant and the department has promised to look into the matter, from what I know, so why do we not give the Government of Canada a chance to do the right thing and respond to this new information and acknowledge that the situation does require redress? I sympathize with the exiles and their case, but I am wondering if it is appropriate that we intervene now while the matter is under investigation by the Government of Canada. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O524-91(1): Territorial Government Involvement Regarding Move Of Inuit To High Arctic

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Government Leader will recall that not too long ago we passed a motion in this House, supporting the people of High Arctic, to which he spoke and said that he fully supported the people of High Arctic. Mr. Speaker, all I am asking the Government Leader is to help the people of High Arctic and ask the Prime Minister of Canada to apologize to the people of High Arctic. That is all I am asking him to do, Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much.

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

Further Return To Question O524-91(1): Territorial Government Involvement Regarding Move Of Inuit To High Arctic

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Well, Mr. Speaker, as I say, I am willing to do the research necessary to get myself informed, if the Member insists, and ask the Government of Canada to do the right thing. I will say that I heard the reports but I would like to see the information before getting involved, and I will attempt to get myself informed so that we can get involved. But I do believe that if the evidence is clear that Canadian sovereignty was the reason for the Inuit being moved, then there is no question that the government took the wrong conclusion, earlier, when it said there was no evidence. And there is no question, as well, that an apology is warranted. So I do support the concern. I will look into it, Mr. Speaker, and ask the Government of Canada what action it proposes to take. Thank you.

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

Question O525-91(1): Funding For Repairs To Church In Fort Providence

MR. GARGAN: Mahsi cho, Mr. Speaker. (Translation) There are times when I want to speak in my own language. For the past two years the people of Fort Providence have been very concerned about the Roman Catholic church that is there. It is ruined. Various leaders know about this, and I want to know why whoever is in charge of this has not said anything on this and whether there is going to be money allocated to have this church repaired.

If the money is allocated for repairs, I am sure we can get people from Fort Providence to do the repairs. I have talked to the Government Leader and I have been wanting to ask the Minister, Titus Allooloo, whether he knows what they are going to do about that church in Fort Providence.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Amittuq.

Return To Question O525-91(1): Funding For Repairs To Church In Fort Providence

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: (Translation) Thank You, Mr. Speaker. The Member is quite aware of the situation that has taken place including government and our Leader's visit to the church. And also that I have requested my department to cost out the project, which they have.

The architectural assessment report out of this indicated that it would cost \$145,000 to do structural and renovation work and indicated that if the work is going to be done, that it should be done soon.

The diocese of the Arctic also indicated that they can contribute to the cost and therefore I have asked my department to put together a proposal so that I can ask my colleagues for necessary funding to do the renovations. My department does not have funding set aside for this. I have asked FMB for necessary funding to reovate the building.

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

Question O526-91(1): Compensation For Mr. Wilfred Giroux, Fort Resolution

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be to the Minister responsible for Workers' Compensation. Madam Minister, last fall this Legislative Assembly passed a motion requesting the Government of the Northwest Territories to do whatever possible for Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Giroux of Fort Resolution so they could get a settlement for the injury he obtained back in 1959.

They have been waiting 31 years now for a settlement, and they still wait. I guess their hopes were up, because Members of this Assembly fully supported them, that this government may find in its heart to help this couple. So Madam Minister, can you please give me an update on this case, please?

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

Return To Question O526-91(1): Compensation For Mr. Wilfred Giroux, Fort Resolution

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In respect to that particular issue, Mr. Speaker, I want to advise the Member that current legislation regarding WCB does not allow us to go back prior to, I believe, earlier than 1970 -- this incident happened back in the 50s -- to retroactively try to compensate this individual.

We have looked at different types of options. I have met on numerous occasions with my colleague, the Minister of Justice, to see if there was some way the government could address this issue. However, every time we appear to be coming to some type of conclusion, we are prevented by legislation. So it appears that the alternative is to try to address this issue by possibly looking at legislation and determining how we can address the needs of Mr. Giroux's case. Thank you.

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

Question O527-91(1): Fort Liard Concerns

MR. SIBBESTON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (Translation) I have listened to Mr. Gargan. I like his statement, so I am going to do the same. Last spring there were three people from Fort Liard, Steve Kotchea, Fred Behrens and this other fellow, who were here in Yellowknife. They met with Gordon Wray's officials, and they discussed this two months ago when they had talks with Gordon Wray's officials. He said he would get an answer back to them in the near future, but up to now they have heard nothing. I would like to know what has come of the conversation. Thank you.

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

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will have to ask the department to provide me with an update. I do not have it yet, but I will undertake to get it to the Member before the end of this week.

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

Question O528-91(1): Administrative Line In Memorandum Of Understanding With Yukon Re Beaufort Sea Oil And Gas

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources. In a memorandum of agreement signed on May 15, 1991 in Whitehorse, the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Government of the Yukon agreed to an administrative boundary in the Beaufort Sea, to work out an oil and gas legislative regime, to devise a resource revenue sharing package with each other and the federal government, to agree on overlapping resources, to develop policies to ensure that the North benefits from the development, and to respect land claims and to co-operate and to share information with each other. Under this agreement, Mr. Speaker, the regulatory legislation, that is, the Oil and Gas Production and Conservation Act, will be overseen by a single offshore board consisting of the Government of the Northwest Territories, the Yukon territorial government, and federal representatives. Why, then, is the administration line necessary for regulatory purposes?

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

Return To Question O528-91(1): Administrative Line In Memorandum Of Understanding With Yukon Re Beaufort Sea Oil And Gas

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, as you know, in the enabling agreement that was signed, one of the conditions of the agreement is that the Yukon government and the Northwest Territories government would come to some agreement on how the offshore would be managed in terms of their particular jurisdictions. It was a criterion that every effort should be made so that we could come to some conclusions as to where we would be able to draw the line for our interests in a jurisdictional area. We did use the principles of the Canadian Laws Offshore Application Act, which was agreed to by the Yukon government, in order to expedite our own discussions with the federal government on the Northern Accord. The Yukon government, thus, will proceed with the accord negotiations with the federal government in the areas which are assigned as their jurisdiction, and we will do so in our area as well. The administrative line was drawn to clearly define which areas we would be talking to the federal government about. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O528-91(1): Administrative Line In Memorandum Of Understanding With Yukon Re Beaufort Sea Oil And Gas

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It seems, though, that what both governments have done is to agree on a boundary, and boundaries are established in acts, so I would like to know what the response has been from the federal government to the drawing of this so-called administrative boundary between the two jurisdictions.

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

Further Return To Question O528-91(1): Administrative Line In Memorandum Of Understanding With Yukon Re Beaufort Sea Oil And Gas

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, certainly when we recently met with the federal government and apprised them that the Yukon and the Northwest Territories governments had come to an agreement -- and given the general issues around drawing any line, whether it is administrative or any jurisdictional line, how difficult it was -- they were somewhat surprised that we were able to come to any conclusion at all. Therefore, I think that the understanding that was attained between the Yukon and the Northwest Territories governments was well received by the federal government, and certainly it allows us the ability to proceed now in working with the federal government in the types of regimes that the federal government understands. There were certainly a number of areas and all kinds of discussions that ensued, and certainly the federal government's response was that they were pleased that it was a line; that is, a normal line that applies to any drawing of jurisdictional boundaries, whether it is in the Atlantic offshore or the Pacific offshore, or any other jurisdiction. Under the Canadian Laws Offshore Application Act, it is the general rules of application that apply. It is a line and a decision that they could easily understand.

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

Supplementary To Question O528-91(1): Administrative Line In Memorandum Of Understanding With Yukon Re Beaufort Sea Oil And Gas

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, the Minister has indicated that the response that she got from the federal government was first of all one of surprise. The second thing that she said was that it was also something that they could understand. I would like to ask the Minister whether, in fact, on the basis of this agreement on an administrative boundary, the federal government is prepared to negotiate agreements with both jurisdictions. Have they agreed to negotiate? That is my question.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Nunakput.

Further Return To Question O528-91(1): Administrative Line In Memorandum Of Understanding With Yukon Re Beaufort Sea Oil And Gas

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, the enabling agreement did state that on the basis that we, the Yukon and the Northwest Territories governments, could agree on a process on where and how we would negotiate, they would take that as the process they would accept. I have not received a letter back from them in terms of the proposal that we put forward at this time. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O528-91(1): Administrative Line In Memorandum Of Understanding With Yukon Re Beaufort Sea Oil And Gas

MR. LEWIS: Thank you. My final, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister, since this was a boundary issue -- and although we are very pleased to see her making progress on an accord -- did she ever bring this issue on dealing with boundaries, because we have been obsessed with boundaries for almost as long as I can remember -- did she ever bring up in this House that she was going to negotiate with another territory where a boundary should be between the two

jurisdictions? Thank you.

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

Further Return To Question O528-91(1): Administrative Line In Memorandum Of Understanding With Yukon Re Beaufort Sea Oil And Gas

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, there have been several briefing sessions to the caucus giving a report and an update. I believe we did table a document that referred to it. As well, the Legislative Assembly was aware of the enabling agreement which directly specified that we would have to deal with this. However, I will bring further details on exactly what dates and what times and which documents this included. Thank you.

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

Question O529-91(1): Implementation Of Increased Senior Supplementary Benefit Rates

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Social Services. Mr. Speaker, on April 12 this year, the Minister of Finance made a statement in the House, and item five of that statement indicated that senior supplementary benefit rates will rise in the Northwest Territories. I think they were supposed to go up to \$125 per month, Mr. Speaker. To date, I am not aware of any of the seniors receiving that amount, and I wonder if the Minister of Social Services could tell us why not, Mr. Speaker.

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

Return To Question O529-91(1): Implementation Of Increased Senior Supplementary Benefit Rates

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The rates have not yet gone through the process of being presented to the Financial Management Board. As soon as they are put forward, I will advise the House of the results. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O529-91(1): Implementation Of Increased Senior Supplementary Benefit Rates

MR. POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if the Minister could tell us if those increases are going to be retroactive to April 1 this year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Further Return To Question O529-91(1): Implementation Of Increased Senior Supplementary Benefit Rates

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the past it has been our practice to retroactively increase the payments effective the year we have placed it. I recall quite vividly that when we increased from \$100 to \$107, the implementation of the increase had not come into effect right away, but it was retroactive at the beginning of that fiscal year. So I would imagine the same approach would be taken with this issue. Thank you.

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

Member for Deh Cho.

Question O530-91(1): Funding For Fort Providence Church Repairs

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Government Leader. On June 5 of this year, I talked with Bishop Croteau. The Bishop indicated that in talking with you, Mr. Government Leader, he indicated to you that if the government was willing to come up with half of the cost to repair the church in Fort Providence that the Mackenzie Diocese would be willing to contribute the other half. I would like to ask the Government Leader whether or not in fact that was the agreement. I would also like to ask the Government Leader whether or not he has identified that money.

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to remind the honourable Members that Members should pose only one question. The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

Return To Question O530-91(1): Funding For Fort Providence Church Repairs

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I did discuss this matter with Bishop Croteau. My recollection of the discussion was that if the church could contribute to the project, it would make it easier to identify money within the government. I do not recall discussing a portion in that telephone conversation. Mr. Speaker, to answer the second part of the Member's question, as the Minister of Culture and Communications has indicated, we now have a firm estimate of the cost, which unfortunately is a lot larger than I had expected or hoped it would have to be. We have had an offer of financial assistance from the church, which is appreciated, although it will not cover half the cost. The matter will be considered and will be brought forward by the Minister to the Financial Management Board soon. I am sure that the Member will be the first to know if we can find a solution to this problem. Thank you.

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

Question O531-91(1): Decision Of WCB Re Loan Request By NWT Power Corporation

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister responsible for Workers' Compensation Board. Since members of the Workers' Compensation Board are appointed by this House it should be of concern to all of us as to what happened regarding the \$15 million loan request made by the NWT Power Corporation. The Minister for Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources has indicated that Mr. Robertson, the chairman of the Power Corporation, and Mr. Hinchey, the chairman of the Workers' Compensation Board, both worked expeditiously to allow this to happen. I would like to ask the Minister, was the decision or lack of decision regarding the \$15 million, the result of the action or inaction of the full board, or the finance committee of the board? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Return To Question O531-91(1): Decision Of WCB Re Loan Request By NWT Power Corporation

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, I did not request of the chairman the full details of the board happenings to determine whether or not the action or inaction to approve the funding for the Power Corporation was taken by the finance committee or members of the full board. I

believe this is the purpose of having government appoint these board members, so that they can be sure to conduct themselves accordingly and do the business that is put forth in front of them. However, Mr. Speaker, if the Member is curious, I guess I can certainly check with the chairman of the board and get a detailed analysis of those particular board meetings, which determine the denial of the \$15 million debenture request from the NWTPC to the Workers' Compensation Board. Thank you.

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

Question O532-91(1): Contract Bid For Co-op

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question directed to the Minister of Personnel. I have been told by my community that the community co-ops are interested in setting up a centre that would contain some office space also. They are interested in bidding for a contract and to date they have not received any word to that effect. Our sealift season is approaching very rapidly. I wonder if the Minister might have information as to whether the co-op will be awarded a contract? Can the Minister provide me with further details if he does have that information? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

HON. GORDON WRAY: The translation came over as Minister of Personnel, but I am not exactly sure what the question is about.

MR. SPEAKER: If the honourable Member could pose the question again, please. The honourable Member for Baffin Central.

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am sorry I did not make myself clear. Perhaps the Minister of Public Works and Highways is aware of the granting of contracts. Let me make myself more clear. The question that I was asked to ask is directed to Nellie Cournoyea, who I believe is the person knowledgeable in this. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: I apologize to the honourable Member, but the fact was that the question that was being posed was whether or not co-ops could be considered for receiving contracts. That was the question that was posed by the honourable Member and that is why I went to the honourable Member for Kivallivik. The honourable Member for Nunakput.

Return To Question O532-91(1): Contract Bid For Co-op

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, in response to the question posed to yourself, in any bidding procedure, the co-op bids on a tender that has been put out, they qualify along with any other contractor to be considered. Now that is a generic answer and if there is a subsequent one that is more specific, if I understand it, I will be prepared to answer. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Baffin Central, supplementary.

MR. KILABUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe we can discuss this between ourselves in detail, so I can ask her more properly at that time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. SPEAKER: Just to remind the honourable Member that this is question period, not a dialogue that should be established between Members and Ministers. You do have

the opportunity to meet.

---Laughter

The honourable Member for Aivilik.

Question O533-91(1): Environmental Investigation Agency Announcements Re Beluga And Narwhal

MR. ERNERK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I will ask my question to the Minister of Renewable Resources in Inuktitut. (Translation) Some time ago, in May, actually around May 22 or 23, 1991, the environmental investigation agency indicated that the Inuit are depleting the number of belugas and narwhals. This was an international announcement. I would like to indicate to the Minister that this is a mistake. They also indicated that Inuit are disregarding the quotas. For the record, Mr. Speaker, this is a mistake. Therefore, my question to the Minister is, first of all, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans indicated that it was a mistake by the environmental investigation agency. After they publicly announced this, what did your department do concerning this public announcement? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member for Amittuq.

Return To Question O533-91(1): Environmental Investigation Agency Announcements Re Beluga and Narwhal

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When I heard about his environmental investigation agency's statement concerning their lobby to start attacking the subsistence lifestyles that exist throughout the NWT, I was very disturbed. As you know, we could understand very well in the small communities what kind of impact those kinds of groups would have in the northern communities, especially in the small communities where unemployment is very high and the wildlife harvesting is needed for the people to sustain themselves, because the food from the stores is too expensive, even for the well-paid government employees; they have to get special orders through annual sealift.

I was disturbed by the remarks that the small whales, the beluga and narwhal population, were being depleted by subsistence harvesting. Responding to the allegations by the environmental investigation agency, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans said the Canadian Inuit do not even meet half of their quota of narwhals the the government allows each year.

Also, Mr. Speaker, in Europe last week I made a statement to express my concern to the Arctic leaders, that these new groups, that consist of a consortium of other environmental or animal rights activists that are based in London, are making statements that are not true and have a potential to harm the lifestyles of northern people. I requested all the leaders from the countries of the polar region to see if we could form a strategy and develop plans collectively to combat these sorts of initiatives that are being taken by animal rights activists that have no knowledge of the lifestyle that exists in circumpolar countries...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

---Applause

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: ...and a need to harvest natural resources that are so abundant, especially in Northern Canada.

Mr. Speaker, the Canadian delegation to attend the

environmental ministerial meeting that took place in Finland was also concerned about these types of groups and have made a plan to start working together as a northern government to make these people understand. Thank you.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Time for oral question period has expired. Prior to proceeding to the next item of business, I wish to draw the attention of honourable Members to guests in the Speaker's gallery. These are participants in the 1991 Heads of Diplomatic Missions on their northern orientation tour. I wish to indicate the Ambassador of the Republic of South Africa, along with the Ambassador of the Republic of Benin, Ambassador of Ireland, Ambassador of France, Ambassador of the Philippines, Ambassador of Austria, Ambassador of the United States of America, Ambassador of the Republic of Senegal, Ambassador of Switzerland, High Commissioner for the Republic of Zambia, Ambassador of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, High Commissioner for the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Ambassador of the Republic of Bulgaria, Ambassador of the Republic of Italy, Ambassador of Costa Rica, Ambassador of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, and the High Commissioner for Trinidad and Tobago, in the Speaker's gallery.

--Applause

Item 6, written questions. The honourable Member for Pine Point.

ITEM 6: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question W13-91(1): Workers' Compensation Board Investments

MR. McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a written question for the Minister responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board.

- 1) What is the Workers' Compensation Board's investment policy regarding northern versus southern investment opportunities?
- 2) Is there a limit on northern investment? Are there other restrictions or limitations? Is this a loose understanding or are there formal rules and procedures in place to deal with all investment opportunities in an equitable manner? Could these rules be made available to this Assembly?
- 3) Why was the Workers' Compensation Board unable to provide a response to the NWT Power Corporation's debenture proposal?
- 4) If the responsibility for this decision was made by a sub-committee of the board, who are the voting members of the committee and who was in attendance when the matter was dealt with?
- 5) And finally, who is the investment broker used by the board? Were they involved in the decision, and what percentage of the fund does the investment broker currently manage for the board in southern Canada? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Written questions. Item 7, returns to written questions. Item 8, replies to Opening Address. The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

ITEM 8: REPLIES TO OPENING ADDRESS

Mr. Patterson's Reply

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to take this opportunity afforded to me as Member of this Assembly to make what might well be my last reply to the Commissioner's Opening Address of the 11th

Assembly. And I am pleased that I have such a distinguished, international audience today, as well as my honourable colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to represent the constituency of Iqaluit on south Baffin Island, and in keeping with the issue just raised in question period concerning narwhals, I would like to report to this Assembly the happy resolution of a very difficult issue in my constituency over the past year, involving the hunting of beluga whales in southeast Baffin. I want to say, Mr. Speaker, as my colleague from Baffin South acknowledged yesterday in the Assembly, how pleased I am that the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans for Canada, the Hon. John Crosbie, announced just last Thursday his agreement to revise harvest levels, now totalling 90 for the three south Baffin communities, including my own constituency of Iqaluit. This is significant departure from the previous regime of last year totalling only 15, five for each community, which had caused such problems both in the announcement and also in the manner in which the consultation and public relations were conducted prior to that decision.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister's announcement also stressed a co-management approach. This announcement has defused what was a very volatile situation, which involved not only a concern of my Inuit constituents about food and the economic impact in the reduction in quota, but also involved their aboriginal rights and their traditional practices.

Hunters' And Scientists' Viewpoints Brought Together

The decision made last week, Mr. Speaker, was the result of a great deal of hard work. Most of the work was done by a committee which was set up under the auspices of the Science Institute of the NWT. That committee -- which I am pleased I had some role in suggesting be formed to try and defuse the issue, to try to marry the traditional knowledge of the Inuit hunters and the modern knowledge of the scientist -- worked, I understand, over 200 hours on the matter since they first began meeting in February of last year.

The committee was chaired by Douglas Heyland, the executive director of the Science Institute. The hard-working members were Meeka Kilabuk, executive director of the Baffin Regional Council, Joanne Ikkidluak, President of the Baffin Region hunters and trappers committee, and community representatives Mr. Levi Evic of Pangnirtung, Mr. Josie Papatsie of Iqaluit, Mr. Mikijuk Koloa of Lake Harbour, and Mr. Gordon Koshinsky representing the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

Mr. Speaker, this committee worked hard. They wrestled with the problem of bringing the scientist's viewpoint and the hunter's viewpoint together. They succeeded in reaching agreement on how they should proceed to manage the beluga stock from here on in. They produced an excellent report. It outlined communication problems from the past, outlined poor relations between hunters and the department in the past, acknowledged the need for harvest levels, solicited and received community support for ongoing studies of the beluga, this time with full Inuit participation, and suggested that in partnership these studies could move from here on and could then result in an agreed upon long-term management plan in two years. The present levels of harvest agreed to will only exist for two years and then they will be reviewed.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to say that I am delighted that the Hon. John Crosbie, his deputy minister, Mr. Bruce Rawson, and the director general of Pacific and Freshwater Fisheries, Dr. Karl Laubstein, became personally involved, took this report seriously, and acted on its recommendations; and Dr. Laubstein, representing the Minister, took the trouble to come to Iqaluit last week to discuss and then later announce their

response and, in the process, seek and receive agreement from the community representatives and the hunters to this new approach. He specifically acknowledged that this stock exists for the Inuit and, further, that without Inuit support and participation the beluga whale population in the South Baffin cannot be effectively managed.

I am very pleased, Mr. Speaker, that Inuit community representatives, my colleagues in the Legislature representing those communities, have accepted the results of this committee report and the agreement reached, have agreed to work together on a management plan, and have agreed to review the harvest levels in two seasons, once we have more information.

I would like to particularly thank Mr. John Parker, chairman of the board of the Science Institute, Mr. Heyland for his hard work along with that of Bob Longworth, who runs the science centre in Iqaluit, and the hard-working members of the committee. It was a very sensitive issue, Mr. Speaker, but I think the troubles are now behind us. The era of confrontation is now behind us and in that connection, Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the special role played by the members of Qaluqiaq, a group that established themselves in Iqaluit, about which I spoke in this House, for dramatizing the issue of aboriginal rights and expressing their strong concerns about how the issue had been mishandled in the past, and I think we even have their support for the new regime.

I do believe that with better information on the beluga stock, which will be obtained with the co-operation of Inuit from here on in, who know most about beluga whales, with the good working relationship that has now been established between the Inuit and the Government of Canada, I am sure that we can show the world that this stock is being well managed, is being carefully managed, by the very people who have the most stake in its preservation and enhancement.

Cocktail Lounge Licences in Iqaluit

Mr. Speaker, another very difficult issue in my constituency concerned applications for cocktail lounge licences in Iqaluit. There were two applications that were considered by the Liquor Licensing Board last month at public hearings in Iqaluit. I must say, Mr. Speaker, that the subject of alcohol, like hunting issues and maybe like housing and maybe like education, arouses people's passions and emotions like few other subjects do.

I could have, and maybe should have, gone hunting on the days of the hearings, Mr. Speaker, but I chose to appear and basically recommended to the Liquor Licensing Board that they look at the whole history of the alcohol situation in Iqaluit, that they note that the liquor store was closed by community action in 1976, something I myself was involved in, because of concern about the terrible evils that surrounded drinking in private homes in completely uncontrolled situations. I believe that when the community took that wise decision to close the liquor store to over-the-counter sales, which I still support, they also took into account that licensed premises, licensed by this government with limited hours, being public places, if properly controlled and inspected, need not be the cause of alcohol problems.

I noted to the board, Mr. Speaker, that there have been no new public licences issued since approximately 1970 in Iqaluit and that, as a result, with our rapidly growing population, which is now well over 3000 people -- really the second largest community in the NWT now -- there are pressures on the existing establishments. If those pressures are not relieved in some way by new licensed spaces being made available, I suggested to the board that the problems of these pressures

will not go away and, in fact, these pressures may drive the problem underground, which may result in more imported liquor being drunk in dangerous situations in private homes, which may result in more bootlegging, which may result in problems of drug and other abuses.

Mr. Speaker, I spoke in favour of the application of the Navigator Inn for a relatively small cocktail lounge licence which exists primarily for hotel guests. It will have limited hours. It will be a first class premises and will be run by a manager who has a very good reputation in the community for corporate citizenship and responsible management of a licensed dining lounge which has been in operation for a number of years.

I also spoke against the application of the Kamotiq Inn, saying that in my view the proprietors, based on how they had managed their existing dining lounge licence, clearly did not have the confidence of the community that they would handle this serious responsibility with proper regard to the social responsibilities associated with such a licence.

Mr. Speaker, the board listened carefully and paid close attention to all submissions. They held two separate hearings. They met late into the night, stayed as long as was necessary to hear everyone who spoke, and I must say that I was very impressed with the way the board members conducted themselves. I think they are very capable people who take their difficult job very seriously, beginning with their chairman, Mr. Henry, and I think as well that the Baffin and Inuit communities are very well represented by the people who were present at that hearing and particularly by Mr. Gordon Rennie, who happens to be from Iqaluit and is a long-term resident of Iqaluit and is therefore very well qualified to take into account community concerns.

New Cocktail Lounge Licence Protested

Mr. Speaker, the board, after deliberating at length, chose to grant the licence for a cocktail lounge to the Navigator Inn and reject the Kamotiq Inn licence application. I must say that I was impressed with the storm of protest that greeted that decision. Mr. Speaker, 27 speakers had spoken against the application for the Navigator Inn licence and 10 had spoken in favour. The 27 who spoke against were mostly Inuit elders and church leaders. Many of those people felt that the issuance of such a licence would inevitably lead to more alcohol problems. There were some very hard feelings about the decision. Some people felt afterward that they had not been listened to, that their views had not been properly respected. Some of them felt betrayed. Some of them felt a bit confused about the process, when it was pointed out to them that even though they might have spoken against the licence, by praising the applicant and his being a good man, running a good dining lounge, being a good community citizen, they may have actually helped persuade the board that he would be a suitable applicant for a licence. So there was a feeling afterward of anger, hurt, frustration.

My own feeling, Mr. Speaker, and time will tell how this thing works out, is that a well-run licensed premises, carefully controlled, with reasonable hours, properly inspected, well run, may actually help to diminish the liquor problems in our community. However, what came clearly home to me from this rather difficult time for our community and for myself, is that there is still a very profound concern in Iqaluit about liquor and alcohol problems and related social problems.

I am pleased to report that out of all this has come what is called "The Iqaluit Social Action Committee". It formed immediately after this decision. The committee actually organized a protest march and I have attended several meetings with them to discuss their concerns about this

decision and about the alcohol problem in Iqaluit.

Out of all this I hope some good will come. Mr. Speaker, I hope to work with the committee to make the situation better in our community with respect to alcohol problems. I think that they are realizing that the board's decision has been taken, that is done and nothing can be done about that now, and that perhaps we can work together to make the climate for responsible alcohol use and diminishing the problems better in our community.

I am going to be working with the committee on a number of issues. We will be examining the issue of inspection, determining the adequacy of inspection in Iqaluit, and whether or not there can be better and perhaps more full-time inspectors. We are going to be looking at issues like the need for alcohol and drug counselling, the need for an alcohol and drug treatment centre, about which I have spoken in this House before. I also think that the committee is anxious to review the Liquor Act procedures surrounding licensing to determine whether or not the public understands the process, and whether or not the provisions in the act are appropriate for the kind of public hearing that was held in my community.

Mr. Speaker, I think that there are many sources of alcohol problems. They include issues like housing, overcrowded housing, unemployment, low self-esteem, family violence, sexual abuse and homelessness. I look forward to working with the committee and with appropriate Ministers of our government to try to tackle these problems and address what is obviously still a very profound concern in my community respecting alcohol.

Iqaluit Emergency Shelter

Mr. Speaker, I mentioned the issue of homelessness and I would now turn to the issue of the Iqaluit emergency shelter. I was pleased, in the last Assembly, to have acknowledged the enormous efforts of the Hon. Tom Butters, Minister of Housing, and his staff to have made a facility available to the Iqaluit Emergency Shelter Society to make it possible for an emergency shelter to open last Christmas to deal with the problem of homelessness in my constituency. I am pleased that there was a good number of people who have taken advantage of this facility. There has been excellent community support from businesses, from private individuals; even the Baffin Correctional Centre inmates donated two hundred dollars from their welfare fund toward the operation of the centre. The Town of Iqaluit has provided significant support in many ways through providing services like garbage collection and also by, in the last two months when the centre was facing financial problems, actually providing financial assistance to keep the centre open until the end of this month.

Mr. Speaker, I regret to inform the House that on Monday of this past week the board of the Iqaluit Emergency Shelter Society met, examined their financial situation, and determined that the shelter must close effective July 1. I am hopeful, Mr. Speaker, that this unfortunate setback only needs to be a temporary problem and I am pleased that the Minister of Social Services has authorized senior officials of her department to visit Iqaluit to try and deal with the issue as soon as possible. I am pleased that this can happen, Mr. Speaker, because I do not believe officials from the department headquarters have had a chance to actually see the shelter and to look at the types of people who are getting help on a nightly basis from that shelter. When they do come, they will see that many of the people who are in that homeless shelter, and whose lives have greatly improved by having a regular place to sleep every night instead of having to look for it from house to house, from situation to situation, are people who would otherwise be in jail, who would

otherwise be in hospital, who would otherwise be in an expensive mental institution or in a foster home.

I am hoping, Mr. Speaker, that when the Minister's staff sees the kinds of people they are helping they will realize that by the relatively small expenditure needed to run this shelter, the department is probably saving itself sizable amounts of money that would otherwise be paid out to support those same people in expensive institutions such as the correctional centre -- I am hoping that a way can be found with creative use of existing programs to keep this very important service open. I want to mention here today that this is a big concern in my community, and I will be pursuing this issue in the hope that the shelter can be saved and that perhaps once a funding formula is in place it might provide a model which might be useful to other communities where this problem, unhappily, is emerging.

Major Motion Picture Filmed In Constituency

Mr. Speaker, there are always a lot of things happening in the exciting community I represent. I only want to mention one thing in particular that has been a source of great excitement in my constituency in the last couple of months, and that is the filming of a major motion picture called "The Map of the Human Heart". Among other things, Mr. Speaker, the filming of this movie left some eight million dollars in my constituency. Money has been spent very lavishly on local stars, one of whom is a former Member of this Assembly, Mr. Bryan Pearson, who plays a navigator in a plane that unfortunately crash lands on Baffin Island...

HON. GORDON WRAY: That makes sense.

---Laughter

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: He plays the role very well, I understand, Mr. Speaker. Many local Inuit were hired as actors, including many of the elders. Many of them were hired to provide assistance to the film crew. A komatik driver was paid, I understand, \$225 a day for being available to transport actors, cameramen and producers on location. There were vehicles rented; there were villages constructed and deconstructed on the ice and in other locations; and generally it has been a very important experience for many people and a great boom to our economy.

I have mentioned other film productions in Iqaluit in this house before, Mr. Speaker, and I think it is fair to say that we are the movie capital of the North. This is an industry that is developing in my constituency, and I hope it can develop in the North. I am now working to try to support the filming of a pilot television series this winter. The pilot, we hope, might lead to a series. It is called "North to Nowhere", and it could lead to a 34-part television series if the pilot succeeds. This is a great industry that has my full support.

There was some controversy surrounding another movie that was shot in Iqaluit, Mr. Speaker, called Aggakuk, which featured some scenes very typical of Inuit but even that production left some money in town. At least for that, people are grateful.

Mr. Speaker, this is the last session of the 11th Assembly and it is the last chance I will have to have the freedom that this address provides me. There are a few things I would like to get off my chest, Mr. Speaker, since this is my last chance. The first thing has to do with an unfair criticism of a member of my staff. A few years ago during a presentation of the Department of the Executive budget, an honourable Member who certainly needs not be named, launched a somewhat surprising and unwarranted attack on the abilities of my deputy minister of intergovernmental affairs, Mr. George

Braden. At the time, I let the remarks pass, but I did feel bad about this afterward since we politicians can expect to get criticized -- I guess that goes with the job -- but we have a forum to reply. Civil servants, however, do not.

Civil Servants Praised

I felt that before this 11th Legislative Assembly ends, I would take this opportunity to put on the record simply my opinion and in my experience the observation that Mr. Braden exemplifies the finest standards of devotion to duty, loyalty and professionalism. He has worked extremely hard in his job representing our government in Ottawa. If I have had any problems with Mr. Braden it is getting him to take holidays! I just wanted to put that on the record and let the matter rest from there, Mr. Speaker.

Another cheap shot at a public servant really annoys me. It was just taken by the president of the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association, who I will name since he named a public servant in his newsletter, Mr. John Rouble. This was what I considered to be a savage, personal attack by name on the superintendent of Personnel for Baffin. I am not going to repeat the charges in the latest issue of the NWTTA newsletter, "Communique".

I want to say, Mr. Speaker, that I am well aware that at any given moment the Teachers' Association has many unresolved grievances and concerns with the Department of Personnel. This is not surprising. It is the responsibility of that department to deal with these concerns and complaints, and I would say there will probably never be a time when all of the complaints are resolved, especially, I might say, when teachers and housing are involved. Therefore, I want to make it clear. I am not complaining about the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association president using his column in the NWTTA newsletter to discuss those problems. What I do strongly object to, however, is his using that public forum as a vehicle to viciously and personally attack one of our superintendents.

Mr. Speaker, the job is not easy. I happen to know the incumbent personally. She happens to be a woman and an Inuk who has worked her way up through the system and has gone to great trouble to obtain the educational requirements to obtain her present position. Anyone who knows her, knows that she is doing her job to the best of her ability and in good faith and with the resources that are available to her. I just want, on record, to say, on her behalf, that that kind of unfair personal attack and cheap shot is inappropriate, in my opinion, for someone holding the office of president of the NWTTA. I believe it undermines all the good things that are contained in the goals and objectives of the teachers' association that are stated toward affirmative action and letting native people take their proper place in our system. Since that public servant, who happens to be a constituent of mine, does not have a forum to reply to such a cheap shot as that, I am going to take this opportunity here to say that it is a cheap shot and it is not fair and is unprofessional.

Reflections On Last Four Years Of Service

Mr. Speaker, in concluding this address I want to note again, since this is the last session of the 11th Assembly, it is a time when all Members reflect on the last four years and have to think ahead to the future, which for us, I guess, is in the hands of the people. I have had the privilege of being a Member of this Assembly for almost 12 years, and during that time I have been privileged to have been active in committees of the Assembly and also, for much of the time, a Member of the Executive Council. Government and the issues we have to deal with are getting more and more complex. When I think of the changes in the past 12 years, the complexity of

the issues we are now dealing with, I am amazed. Our government, four years ago, and our Assembly, set a very ambitious agenda. I think we have had some considerable successes and also some notable failures to achieve the goals we set for ourselves. Some of them may be reached even in the next few months of the life of this government.

It has been difficult over the last four years, especially, with the job I have had. I have not had the time to spend in my constituency I would have liked. I have not had the time I would have liked with my family. I have had some rough times on the job and even in this Assembly. However, I do want to say, now that it is all coming to a close, and being in a bit of a retrospective frame of mind, that first of all being the MLA for Iqaluit has been a privilege. I have enjoyed representing a community of such decent people. I have appreciated the support I have been given by them over the years, and it has also been a privilege serving in this Assembly, particularly with my hard-working and demanding colleagues on cabinet.

I understand, Mr. Speaker, that there may be a motion later on in this Assembly to set the date for an election this fall. I have been asked about my intentions in my constituency. In fact, there is at least one person in Iqaluit who has declared there should be a change -- at least one person. Mr. Speaker, I want to announce today that I intend to run again. I like my job. I have seen a lot accomplished. There are many things still to be done, projects to complete, but if the people choose me again I will be pleased to have the privilege of serving them again. I am pleased that I have the support of my family and that they will support me in running again. I am pleased that I have good support in my constituency, and I have been testing the wind over the last couple of months. I am pleased that Fred Coman has offered to manage my campaign. It does look like this time I will have some competition, which I welcome. I recommend acclamation to you all...

--Laughter

...but twice in a row may be asking too much. So I am ready for the campaign. I am looking forward to it. I hope to be back here this fall and it has been a privilege and a pleasure working with you all.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to sincerely thank my very capable personal staff, Mr. Ernie Commerford, Annie Quirke, Kiki Rusth-Makinnon Sam Otorcheak, who has been working with me the last number of months, Mr. Sorensen, Carmen, his secretary, and Bob Overvold, my principal secretary, and Shirley. I also want to say it has been a pleasure working with such hard-working deputy ministers in Ms. Louis Vertes and her staff and Mr. George Braden. I hope to see you all again this fall. Thank you very much. Qujannamiik.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Members' statements. The honourable Member for Kivallivik. Order please. Replies to Opening Address. The honourable Member for Kivallivik.

Mr. Wray's Reply

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not as well prepared as my colleague. This is my speech here, but I will try and elaborate a little bit. I have not made a reply in some time, in fact since I set the record a few years ago I sort of retired. I do not intend to break that record today, just so you know. I felt, though, it was time to say some things that I wanted to say for awhile. I have felt that things that should have been said were left unsaid and I think it is time to say them.

I must admit there was speculation in the press in the fall that I was not going to run again. Part of that was that I was frustrated; I was angry; I was disappointed that it seemed at times I was fighting the same battles continuously that I have been fighting for nine years within this system. Even though we seemed to have solved some of the problems and decisions were made, I find that we had to keep coming back and making the same decisions over and over again. I really questioned if the sacrifices that I have had to make personally, if the sacrifices that my family has had to make, were really all worth it because there were times when I really thought we were not getting ahead. Maybe it was just the time, or whatever, but I did seriously consider not running again or at least if running again, not running for cabinet because I felt that perhaps it was time I was on the other side of the House for a little while and able to give vent to some of the anger and frustration that was boiling up inside of me.

I have reconsidered that, though. I have had time to think about it, and once it became known in my constituency that I was seriously considering that option, there was considerable pressure brought to bear on me by the elders and by a significant number of people to really rethink that option. As such, I sat back and reflected and said maybe I have been a little bit too pessimistic. Maybe I am forgetting the fact that we have won some major battles; that we have made, over the last eight years, some very significant changes in the way things are going; that we have made some pretty major decisions like the introduction of the home-ownership program into the Eastern Arctic which I think was a major initiative that I was glad to be a part of; the construction of the recreation facilities in the communities, which has been another major initiative that I had a personal commitment towards.

When I looked at the results of the economic strategy and the transportation strategy, I realized that, yes, we have made some advances. When I looked at the issues that were causing the frustration, I realized that they were not big issues. They were the small kinds of issues that you think should be taken care of and you assume that they are taken care of and you find they have not been taken care of.

If I still have frustrations, I think it is frustration with the system of government that we have. I am still not satisfied and not convinced that we have the best system of government that we could have in the North. I think that we inherited a colonial government that was created as a mirror image of the British Raj system in India and rather than making fundamental changes to that system of government, we have tinkered with it on the outside and have added to it, but we have never really asked ourselves a fundamental question as to whether or not this system of government and what we do and the way we do it, is the best way to do things in the North. I have come to the conclusion that it is not and that if this jurisdiction and this territory and our people are to move forward, then, Mr. Speaker, I seriously think we have to look at fundamental changes to the ways we govern the Northwest Territories.

Legislative And Bureaucratic Blockages To Action

I have sat around and I have listened to all the political speeches and I listened to the politicians. I know what I feel and I know what I think and I know the principles are important to me and I know the principles are important to other Members. For some reason, what we want to do politically, we cannot seem to translate into bureaucratic and legislative action. The message does not seem to get through the system. I do not know what the blockages are. I do not know why it is not working, but I do know that when we stand up here in Yellowknife and make fancy speeches and prepare fancy plans based on what the communities are telling us,

when I go to the communities, it is a whole different world and a whole different message, and that is, "We believe you, Gordon, and we know you mean what you say, but why is it that what you say and what the government says does not seem to be getting translated into action at the community level?"

There is a flaw in our system somewhere that is blocking the desires of people to move ahead. I do not pretend to know all of the answers. I think I know what some of the problems are, but certainly I believe that it is a little bit overdue, but I think we have to take a serious look at our system of government.

Over the nine years that I have been in government, and eight of those in cabinet, our budget have tripled and so have our civil servants. We now have well over 6000 civil servants and our budget is \$1.2 billion. When I was first on this side, the budget was just slightly over \$400 million and we had 2000 civil servants and things seemed so much easier to control then. It was so much easier to get the message across. I think the growth of our government and the increase in growth in our budget and the complexities we have introduced into the system have meant that, quite frankly, there is now this huge bureaucracy between us and the people we serve, and quite frankly, there is a problem here. I do not know if it means down-sizing the bureaucracy. I believe fundamentally that we are over-governed. We have put far too many institutions, boards, agencies, whatever you want to call them, in place. So now in the North, the problem is becoming increasingly more and more difficult to find out who is responsible for what. Who has the power to make what decisions and when? Who is responsible for something not getting done when a simple request is asked by a member of the public and a Member of this Legislature? Why does it take two or three or four or five months to get things done?

I think we have to seriously reexamine the way we are doing things. I think when I look at our legislative agenda, to me that again points to a problem. When I look at most of the legislation that goes through this House, I try to put myself in a position of, "What does this mean to the people at the community level? Is it going to change their lives? Is it going to affect their lives? Is it going to make their lives easier?" Quite frankly, the vast majority of legislation that goes through here fails that test. It is legislation that is bureaucratically driven, but we cannot, as politicians, blame it all on the bureaucrats. The fact is that we accept that legislation, we tinker with it, we deal with it and we spend our time on it. When the legislation passes, it is our legislation. We are the ones that have done it, and it would be too easy to say, "It is the bureaucrats who are driving it." But it is they that are driving it, and we are accepting it, and I think that we have to take a look at what we are doing as much as what we are looking at what the bureaucrats are doing, because I have come to believe that we are falling into the trap of trying to mirror a southern provincial legislature or jurisdiction without really thinking about whether or not that is what we want to do up here.

Moving Toward Party Politics

More and more I sense that we are moving toward party politics and there may be ways in which it is going to be done that people do not realize it, but I think that we are moving toward party politics. I have been a staunch opponent of party politics, and I am still not exactly in favour of party politics because I think it is not well understood at the community level, and I do not think the type of system that party politics brings with it is one that we necessarily have to duplicate, because when I watch the South, they are moving away from, in many respects, party politics. There are indications that they are trying to free the system up to be

more like us. I do think that we are moving toward it, and I worry about it because, again, I do not think we are moving toward it consciously, or that we are doing it as a result of something that has been well thought out. I think we are falling into it. We seem to be falling into a lot of patterns. We seem to be falling into a lot of ways of doing things, and I think it is causing us problems.

I do not believe that in the eight or nine years that I have been an MLA I have sensed the kind of frustration among the people at the community level as I have over the last 12 to 18 months. People out there are very frustrated. They are angry; they are frustrated; they do not seem to be getting ahead in many respects; they seem to be going back a way. The decisions that are being made are sometimes stupid decisions by the government, and they do not seem to bear any resemblance to the reality that we seem to talk about in here.

I am becoming increasingly tired over the way we award contracts. I am tired of seeing our contracts being awarded to southern companies. I am tired of seeing southern people coming in here and making money from our budget and our own people sitting on welfare. I am tired of being told that there are rules and we have to follow them. My attitude is that it is our money, we make the rules, we spend it the way we want to spend it. I do not think that we should allow people to tell us that we have to be fair. Why is it that no other jurisdiction in the country allows it? As far as I know, we are the only jurisdiction in the country that is wide open in terms of who can bid on our contracts. I chuckled the other night when I was watching the national news. I know that, officially, the Government of Newfoundland and the Government of the Northwest Territories are the only two governments in this country that have actually published a preference policy. I know in the nine years in talking to other Ministers, and in talking to business people and contractors, to be a contractor from one region and get a job in another region was virtually impossible, but it was never published and it was never up front. It was all done behind closed doors.

I was watching The National last week or the week before, and there was a meeting of the Maritime premiers -- or at least three of them -- and one of the items on the agenda was that the Maritime premiers had reached an agreement to allow contractors from each other's jurisdiction to bid on government contracts. For the first time people are publicly acknowledging that, in fact, what goes on in this country is that jurisdictions jealously guard the money that they have as a government and they ensure, in almost all cases, that contracts go to companies from within their own jurisdiction. Yet we keep getting told that is not true, and I know that it is true, and yet I sit in a jurisdiction that probably needs the work more than anywhere else in the country, and it needs the business infrastructure more than anywhere else in the country. I see contract after contract after contract being awarded to southern companies, and I keep getting told as a Minister that it is because we have no choice. I am saying here now that if I am back, then my promise is that, yes, we do have a choice and it is up to us to make that choice. I think we have to move on it.

Education System Major Issue

The issues -- and again this is where my frustration comes from -- that I am dealing with in 1991, and the issues that I will talk about today, are the main ones, are the same issues that I talked about here in 1983. Economic development, housing, and education. They are the same problems; we have made some progress, but I do not think the progress has been fast enough or quick enough. The education system continues to be a major problem for us. In my region this year I attended the graduation in Arviat of seven kids out

of grade 12 with their diploma certificate. There was one kid who graduated out of Rankin Inlet, and there were another two, I think, who graduated here in Yellowknife. From a region of 5000 people, that means that we have a total of 10 graduates. Not one of them -- or perhaps the two from here -- was academic. The other seven were diploma. I say to myself, "What are we doing wrong?" We are pouring millions and millions and millions of dollars into an education system and it is not producing. It is not producing the people that we need for this society. It is not producing the people that we need to work for our government.

I remember giving a speech last year in the Explorer Hotel and one of the facts that I was given -- it astounded me -- was that last year we filled something like 1500 positions in this government and the vast majority of them we had to fill from the South; not because we wanted to, but our own people were just not applying. We did not have enough graduates coming out of our school system to take even some of the more basic jobs. For all the good intentions, in 1983 I caused major controversy in my first speech and upset the education establishment because I took on the Department of Education and I said, "You are not doing your job," and I blamed the Department of Education. Over the nine years I have come to appreciate a lot more of the problems that are associated with education and, most certainly, the Department of Education is by no means the whole problem. They are part of the problem, but I do not think that we really take education as seriously as we talk about it. We always talk about education; we always talk about the problems; we always talk about how it is not working; but we do not really seem to do anything about it. We just talk about it. That is all we ever do. We just talk about it. Yet it is not working and we all know it is not working, and the statistics are there to show us that it is not working.

If we cannot produce the people out of our education system that are going to take our jobs, that are going to be the managers in our businesses, that are going to be the managers in our municipalities, the managers in our housing associations, then we are obviously doing something wrong. Any change in our society, any movement forward in our society, any society, has always depended on the education of its people. We cannot move forward unless we improve that. Anything I do in economic development, for every step forward I take, we take two steps back, because we do not have people out there who can even run some of these businesses that we are creating. We create businesses, and the first thing they do is turn around and hire people from the South to come in and run them for them.

When I look at some of the boards and agencies and bodies that are even being controlled by native people -- because I get tired of the government always being lambasted about, "You do not hire enough local people, you do not hire enough local people" -- and yet when I look at some of the very agencies that are controlled by local people, they are doing the exact same thing as we are. They are hiring from the South. Go and look at who the secretary-managers of the hamlets are; go and look at who the secretary-managers of the housing associations are; go and look at who the executive directors and the senior administrators and staff of native organizations are, and tell me how many local people are working for them as well. It is not just a government problem. It is a problem that is spread throughout our entire society, and we have got to deal with it, because it is the biggest singular problem that we have in our society today.

Housing A Major Problem

Housing continues to be a major problem. It is a problem that, from the point of view of government, that we just do not have enough money to build enough houses to keep up with

our population growth. But housing and the problems of housing are indicative of another problems within our society, and that is the inability of our people to sustain themselves.

The reason we have a housing problem is because we do not have enough people out there that are making enough money to be able to house themselves. So consequently government is required, particularly in our level II and III communities, to house 90 per cent of our population. The real problem with housing is that if people do not have jobs and they do not have an income and they do not have money and they cannot afford to buy their own houses, or they cannot afford to rent their own houses, then they have got to turn to government. But that is the real housing problem.

More and more, I get concerned when I sit in this body and I go out to meetings and meet with groups and it seems that the demand is constantly for money. "Money, money, money - we want this, we want this." We have become a "give me" society. "Give me this; give me that; give me this; give me the next thing." That is all you ever hear - give me, give me, give me.

More and more in the North we have moved away from people sitting down and trying to do things for themselves. They now automatically turn to government. They want the government to do everything for them. And that, again, is an indication that there is a problem within our society, and I think it is a combination of government action and inaction and community malaise, that people are becoming less and less able to do things for themselves. When you see that happening, then you know that your society is heading for major problems. I think the government has to share the blame for that because this has been a government of "yes". This government has been in the fortunate position, or unfortunate position, in many cases, of being able to say "yes" to most requests. And we very rarely say "no", and the problem that we are seeing now is that the government is running out of money and it is having to say "no". People in the North have not heard that word very often in the past. Now they are beginning to react, and to a certain extent what bothers me in the North is that people have lost the ability to look after themselves.

When you look at what government does and its pervasive influence in our society, then you can understand why people have lost the ability to look after themselves. Then you begin to understand why, among our young people, there is such a lack of self-respect and self-esteem, because it is through our entire society. If people do not have to battle for things, if people do not have to try and fight a bit to help themselves, then pretty soon they are not capable of doing anything. I think that we have got to seriously look at the way we do things. I am not saying that we should cut off support, but for me the biggest problem is, we are spending more and more of our money on the problem and we are not spending enough money on the solution.

Every time we have a problem the answer is build a building. Let us build a building. Because that is what people want, to build a building. But we never solve the problem. We just warehouse the problems that is all we do. I have spoken about this many times in this House, and I continue to speak about it because I think that sometimes we sort of throw our hands up and we say, "Well, there is nothing we can do."

Young People's Problems Escalating

As I travel around I am becoming increasingly concerned about the state of our young people. There have been problems there and we know them. The problems seem to be escalating. Alcohol abuse, solvent abuse, racism, drug abuse, the signs are all there. They are all there, and I said it before,

years ago. Five years ago I made the statement in this House, "If you think we have social problems now, come back here in 10 years." In fact, they have escalated even faster than I thought they would five years ago. But I am making the statement again that today, if you think we have problems now, let us take a look at it in two or three years because those time-lines are narrowing. We are heading for some major problems within our society.

I cannot blame those young people. If you are a young person today in a small community, when you look out in the world what hope do you have? What hope do you have? You cannot go on the land any more because either, a) you have lost the skill, or b) your fur prices are not worth it. There is no point going out on the land because you cannot make a living out of it any more.

To go on the land you need \$6000, \$7000 or \$8000. A skidoo nowadays is \$5000, komatik, gas, rifles, so you cannot go on the land. You have got no job because all the jobs have been taken by Southerners, because you dropped out of school. What have you got to look forward to? What have you got to look forward to for the rest of your life? You are 16 years of age and you are looking out on the world and you do not see a future for yourself. And then we ask why the young people have problems.

Necessity Of Dreams And Aspirations

I mean in this day and age, and for us when we were growing up, the one thing that keeps you going is you have dreams, you have hopes, you have aspirations. I mean that is what keeps people alive. It is their dreams. It is what they hope to do with their lives. And what do our young people have nowadays? What hopes do they have? What dreams do they have? They look at it and they see nothing but a life on welfare for themselves. And then we say, "Why do our young people have problems?"

There was a young person, I have never been able to find out who made the quote because, by God, it was the best quote I have heard in years up here, but he said, "Living in a small community is like living in a prison without bars." And for many of our young people, that is the way they feel. They are trapped. They are trapped by a system that they do not understand. They are trapped by circumstances that they cannot control. And that is why we are getting the frustration. I really cannot blame them.

When I asked some why they dropped out of school, they sort of shrugged their shoulders and they do not really know why. They do not see any reason to continue in school because there are no jobs anyway, so why go to school? Quite frankly, when I look at the schools and the way we run our schools, if I were a young person I would be tempted to drop out too. Going to school is not much fun. When I went to school, it was not my love of mathematics, or science, or English, or history that kept me in school. What kept me in school were sports, music, art, the fun stuff. Those are what kept me in school. Home economics, shop, you know, carpentry, those are what kept me in school. At least they made school livable. We do not even have those in our schools.

Here we are as a jurisdiction. We depend on arts and crafts as a major source of our income in our small communities. We do not teach our children anything about arts and crafts. And yet we stand here and complain about the fact that there are no young people coming into the system. There are no young people going into arts and crafts as a career. What do you expect when we do not teach them? We are a society that loves music, for example, and many of our young people,

in spite of the system, are making not a bad living for themselves in the performing arts, in the music. A young girl from my constituency, Susan Aglukark, just put out a very beautiful video that she made herself, but do we have a music curriculum in school? No.

We talk about the loss of culture. Well, what is culture? Culture is music, it is art, it is poetry, it is your language. I know, as Minister of sport for example, I have pushed and I was responsible, quite frankly, for getting the Dene games put into the Arctic Winter Games and for increasing the participation of the Inuit games. To me that was important because it was cultural and it was recreational and it was sporting. So you can meet all three objectives.

Do you think I can get the Department of Education to put a physical education system into the curriculum? Do you think I can get them to teach Inuit games and the Dene games as part of the physical education system? No, because for some reason it is not seen as important. Then they wonder why our young people are dropping out of school. Because school is not fun. School is a pain in the butt. Always was and always will be. For most people, they did not like school; they were happy when they left school. School is not fun. When you are a kid you have to go there seven hours a day, five days a week. You have to have fun in school; it has to have some meaning for you; it has to have some relevance to you and it has not.

Baker Lake's Leadership Shown In Dealing With Problems

I would like to deal with an issue now, Mr. Speaker, that is a very painful issue but it has to be dealt with. Over the last few years my home community of Baker Lake has been tarred with the unfortunate name as the sex crime capital of the North, and there have been many jokes. I know when I tell people I am from Baker Lake I kind of have to be the butt of many jokes about the problems that we have dealt with in that community. It has been a very frustrating time for the community. It has been a very painful time for the community because of the people involved. Many of our leaders and many of our religious leaders have been involved.

I think it is time that I say here and now on the record, Mr. Speaker, that I am not ashamed to tell people that I am from Baker Lake. I am not ashamed to tell people that it is my home community. In fact, Mr. Speaker, I have to say that I am proud of the people of Baker Lake. I am proud for what they did, because once again, as Baker Lake has done many times, they have become leaders. They have decided that enough is enough, and they exposed the corruption in our society and the corruption in our community. They said, "We are not going to take it any more." The young people said, "Enough is enough; we are going to speak out against it." I think Baker Lake, quite frankly, should be applauded for the courage that the people there have shown in dealing with this issue, and I honestly and earnestly hope that because the community has decided to take this action, that government will kick in and give them the assistance that they need to deal with the problem in an adequate manner.

Because, Mr. Speaker, quite frankly, if our government cannot help Baker Lake deal with the problem, given the type of in-depth analysis, the soul-searching, the revelations that have come out of Baker Lake, which are far more than any other community -- but if we cannot help that community deal with the problem, then quite frankly it does not speak well for the communities that are going to come along in the future. We have to deal with this problem and we have to learn to deal with it now, because it is the worst kind of problem that a community has to deal with.

I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, that I am proud of Baker

Lake, that as they did in the 60s with leading the fight to get the federal vote in the Eastern Arctic, as they did in the 70s with leading the fight to get their rights recognized as a people and taking the federal government to court, so now in the 80s and 90s they are leading the charge to expose the type of sexual abuse and corruption that exists within many of our communities. I think that the people there should be congratulated. They should not be mocked and they should not be made fun of, because they are having a very painful time. As a community, it has devastated our community. The community is reeling and continues to reel, and every time we think it is over and we can finally get on with dealing with it, there are more revelations, more things come out and we are back to where we started.

Slowly but surely the community is picking itself up. I know Baker Lake. It has been my home for 20 years. It will deal with this problem. It will beat this problem, there is no question in my mind, but it is going to take a long time and it is going to take assistance from this government. There is no question. They do not have the resources to deal with the problem by themselves. But as a community they have taken the first step. They themselves have exposed the problem and have exposed themselves to the world, because these things have been carried all across the world. In Europe and in southern Canada and in the United States, Baker Lake has hit the press. So they have taken that step, and now it is incumbent upon us to step in and help them.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Hear, hear!

--Applause

Unions No longer Represent The Poor

HON. GORDON WRAY: I cannot let my speech go by without talking about the demonstration yesterday and Mr. Lewis's comments today. I know it is election year and we all have to do a little bit of politicking, but what I would like to be understood, Mr. Speaker, is that I am not unsympathetic to unions or to their membership, but this points to the differences in the North. Here, as in my constituency, union members hold down jobs, in most cases very well-paying jobs. I was just reading in *The Globe and Mail* today that in Canada, the NWT has the highest level of income of any place in the country. Fort McMurray in Alberta is the only other place that has a level of income comparable to ours.

Now we all know who has the jobs up here. Where I come from in Scotland, unions represented the poor, the working people, the miners, the fishermen, the farmers. They were the poor in our society, and that is who the unions represented. In the North, Mr. Speaker, and I have to say it publicly, the unions represent the elite in our society. They represent the people that have jobs.

--Applause

When I think of these soapbox activists who stand up and talk about the poor worker, I say to myself, "Well gee, where does that put me?" Because the poor worker in my constituency makes an average of \$55,000 a year. The majority of my constituents make \$8000 a year. So who is poor? Whom do I represent? The 30 per cent who are making all the money or the 70 per cent who are making none of the money?

So my priority has to be in working with the majority of my constituents who have no money and who do not have jobs. I am sorry if that makes me anti-union, but they represent the upper class. They represent the people that have work. I have to devote my time to the people who do not have work. Now they will probably run somebody against me, but that is okay.

—Laughter

But I think that is something we have to keep in mind in the North and not get so carried away with these causes and union politics. There are a whole lot of people out there; in fact, the majority of our people in our small communities are in a lot worse shape than union employees. And dare say it, Mr. Speaker, but the majority of my constituents do not get two free paid trips out a year; they do not get benefits; they do not have money to order in food from the South. They have to live on an average income of about \$8500 a year. So I know where my priorities lie, Mr. Speaker.

Proposed Parker Boundary Line

Another issue that has been ongoing in my region, and in particular my constituency, is this whole issue of the boundary between the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut area and the Dene/Metis. I know that negotiations are still ongoing, but I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that I have received an indication from the hunters and trappers association in Arviat and in Baker Lake, and from the hamlet council in Baker Lake and Arviat, that if the proposed line, the Parker line, stays as it is, then they do not want me to support that line. They are unanimous in not supporting that boundary.

Now I say that because I know that there are negotiations continuing and there may be some changes to that line over the next few days that can be agreed on between the TFN and the Dene/Metis, that will make it academic. But if the line stays the same way, Mr. Speaker, I have clear instructions from my constituency to oppose the boundary.

The one thing that I would like to put forward is that one of the contentious areas in my constituency is the whole notion of the Thelon Game Sanctuary. The argument -- as well as being in the southern part of my constituency, around the Thelon -- is about where the line should be, because the line runs through the Thelon Game Sanctuary. I would like to put out for discussion -- in fact I have, and I want to say publicly what I did. I have indicated that perhaps a way out of deciding where this line should go would be -- with the support of the TFN who do support it, with the support of the federal government and the Dene/Metis -- to declare the Thelon Game Sanctuary to be a national park owned by the federal government. In other words, there would be an island in the middle where the line would not cut through. It would just be a national park that could be jointly managed by the Dene/Metis and TFN and the federal government. This would prevent a line having to be drawn through the Thelon Game Sanctuary. It would take away that argument and just as importantly, it would protect the Thelon Game Sanctuary from any encroachment whatsoever and keep it intact the way it is. I think perhaps if that option is looked at, it may be a way out of the impasse so that we do not have to fight over a line.

Economic Necessity Of Winter Road Connection To The South

An issue that is in my constituency, and I must admit to being somewhat responsible for creating the issue, is the whole idea of transportation infrastructure. More and more of the support and the necessity of, at least initially, a winter road connecting us to the South has become an issue. People are beginning to realize that as a jurisdiction, as a region, as an economic region, we cannot move ahead unless we lower the cost of living. It is the only thing we have available to us. We have got to lower the cost of doing business. We have got to lower the cost of food. We have got to lower the cost of materials. We have got to lower our costs. Fortunately, we are in the position of being relatively close to the South and as such, a road is viable. I think, Mr. Speaker, that over the next couple

of years we are going to have to seriously look at least at a winter road and see if, in fact, that can affect the economy of the region.

Economically, the Keewatin and the Kitikmeot are the two most depressed regions in the Northwest Territories. We have the highest levels of unemployment. We have the highest levels of welfare. We have large population growth and it is, I guess, not surprising that we are also two of the smaller regions. For many years we were unable to speak up. I know that one of the reasons I ran for politics in the first place was because the Keewatin and Kitikmeot tended to get overlooked. Every time there were goodies handed out or money handed out, it went to Yellowknife or Baffin or to Fort Smith. It went everywhere except to the Keewatin and Kitikmeot, and I kind of think it was because we were small regions. We were not, I guess, very active in lobbying government. We tended to try and do things by ourselves. We sort of accepted things and we were not very vocal. But I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that is all changed now and we are right in there along with everybody else. If I have my way, we will stay there. We are still the worst two regions when it comes to unemployment, and we do have our problems.

Airline Transportation Problems

Quite frankly, we do have some real transportation problems now particularly developing with our airline. I do not want to speak for the Kitikmeot, but I know in the Keewatin, the airline, and who is flying where and when and how, has become impossible. For my constituents, Mr. Speaker, the only way south now is a seven and a half hour flight out of our region by Hawker-Siddeley to Winnipeg that stops in seven communities. If you want to go out south from Baker Lake, you have to get on an HS-748 and go Baker Lake, Chesterfield Inlet, Rankin Inlet, Arviat, Churchill, Thompson, Gillam, Winnipeg and it takes you seven and a half hours. You leave at 3:00 in the afternoon and you get into Winnipeg at 11:30 p.m. at night. There are no meals on the plane. The Hawker-Siddeley is very small, very crowded, and I can tell you, for medical patients going out, the plane trip south is as much of a hassle as their illness. If people were not sick before they went to Winnipeg, they sure as hell are sick by the time they get there.

---Laughter

The only other way out is to go to Rankin Inlet and then Rankin Inlet over to Yellowknife and Yellowknife down to Edmonton, and it is just horrendous now to get out of our region and go anywhere. I believe the Kitikmeot is getting that way too. That is a real problem for us, and I do not know what we are going to do about it. With NWT Air, previously, we had a little bit of leverage because they were a northern company and we could get to Bob Engle or we could get to John Robertson. Well, now, they are owned by Air BC and we cannot get to anybody, and if we do get to them, they really do not care anyway. That is going to be an ongoing problem in our region, Mr. Speaker, transportation.

I will not say too much more because if I do, I will probably get in trouble with some of my colleagues. I would like to reiterate that I am not happy about some of the things that are going on. I am not happy about the way in which this government is going. I think we are headed for a fall and if we do not move to fix it, it could be a big fall. I believe that the political will is there to change it, and I would only ask that if I am not back, God forbid, but if I am not back, that the Members who are back heed my words and make a concerted attempt to try and change this system of government. I think it is overdue.

Just so I can put it on the record, because there is some doubt, I am running again. I have made that clear. I guess my frustrations have turned into anger and my attitude is, I am not going to let the system beat me. I am not going to let them beat me down. I have spent too much of my time and too much of my life trying to make certain things right, and I am not going to quit now because things are not all going the way I think they should go. I am not going to quit. I am going to run again. I intend to win again, and I intend to be even more hard-nosed than I have been over the last three years.

Appreciation Expressed To Staff And Members

I would like, however, in case I do not get the chance, Mr. Speaker, to thank my personal staff, Nancy Tupik, Terry Foster and Jacqui Lockett. They have to put up with me on a daily basis where some of you guys only have to deal with me six or seven weeks of the year. I do also want to express my gratitude particularly to Al Menard and Dwight Noseworthy and Hal Gerein, as well as Andy Gamble, Alan Vaughan, Peter Allen, and Gord Barber, who is leaving the senior staff of the departments that I have been lucky enough to be Minister of. The Economic Development staff, particularly, has been a major help to me.

I believe that a major job has been accomplished in Economic Development. The department finally has the tools. It has the money. It has the legislation. It has the policies it should have had 20 years ago. The job now will be to make it work. There are frustrations. People want these problems solved overnight. These problems will not be solved overnight. These problems in many cases will take years to solve. There has been significant change in Economic Development and Tourism. Eighteen out of 22 senior staff have either moved on or been replaced in the last three and a half years. There has been a lot of work put in.

The emphasis will now change and, I think, should change, Mr. Speaker, to the communities; and we must now get out and work with the business community, work with the people in the communities and help them avail themselves of the tools and the money and the policies that we have now put in place. That is the challenge for the 1990s, Mr. Speaker. I am confident that the people there have the ability to do it.

I have been lucky in my tenure in that I have had excellent deputy ministers. I have had people that I respect. I have had people who have been in the North a long time, people that do know the problems of the small communities even though sometimes many people think that people in Yellowknife do not. They have given me excellent service. They have not always agreed with me, which is good, because it has kept me out of trouble. They have been instrumental in helping me get those two very important and major strategies through the House. I would just like to thank them for the record, Mr. Speaker.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleagues, the Members around this House. You make my life interesting, if anything, some more than others. I would like to thank you and the staff of the Legislature, Mr. Speaker. I have always enjoyed a good relationship with the staff. They have always been there when I needed them. They have been helpful to me, Mr. Hamilton in particular. I would just like to thank you, Mr. Speaker, and the staff of the Legislature for the assistance that you give me. Hopefully, we will see you all back here next fall, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Item 9, petitions. Petitions.

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

ITEM 11: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Ms. Cournoyea, I wish to table Tabled Document 108-91(1), Memorandum of Agreement between the Government of the Yukon and the Government of the Northwest Territories on Principles for Oil and Gas Arrangements in the Beaufort Sea.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Tabling of documents. Item 12, notices of motions. The honourable Member for Tu Nede.

ITEM 12: NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Notice Of Motion 20-91(1): Appointment Of Languages Commissioner By The 12th Assembly

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Friday, June 28, 1991 I will move the following motion, seconded by the honourable Member for Amittuq: That this Legislative Assembly recommends to the 12th Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories that it consider the appointment of a languages commissioner as a priority item during its first session. Thank you.

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

Notice Of Motion 21-91(1): Dissolution Of The 11th Legislative Assembly

MR. MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Friday, June 28, 1991 I will move the following motion, seconded by the honourable Member for Aivilik: That this Legislative Assembly requests the Governor in Council to dissolve the 11th Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories by August 29, 1991 to permit a general election to be held on October 15, 1991. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Notices of motions. Item 13, notices of motions for first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Amittuq.

ITEM 13: NOTICES OF MOTIONS FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 45: Wildlife Conservation Act

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, June 28, 1991 I shall move that Bill 45, Wildlife Conservation Act, be read for the first time.

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

Item 14, motions. Motions. Item 15, first reading of bills. The honourable Member for Kivallivik.

ITEM 15: FIRST READING OF BILLS

HON. GORDON WRAY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to seek unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 41, An Act to Amend the Travel and Tourism Act.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Kivallivik is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 41. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed.

First Reading Of Bill 41: Travel And Tourism Act

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker; thank you, honourable colleagues. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Amittuq, that Bill 41, An Act to Amend the Travel and Tourism 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 41 has had first reading. First reading of bills. The honourable Member for Deh Cho.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to get unanimous consent to deal with first reading of Bill 44, Access to Information Act.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 44, Access to Information Act. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed.

First Reading Of Bill 44: Access To Information Act

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and honourable Members. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Pine Point, that Bill 44, Access to Information Act, be read for the first time. Thank you.

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 44 has had first reading. First reading of bills. The honourable Member for Slave River.

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to seek unanimous consent to give first reading to Bill 34, An Act to Amend the Labour Standards Act, No. 1.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member for Slave River is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 34. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed.

First Reading Of Bill 34: Labour Standards Act

HON. JEANNIE MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Iqaluit, that Bill 34, An Act to Amend the Labour Standards Act, No. 1, 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 34 has had first reading. First reading of bills. The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to give first reading to Bill 36, the Borrowing Authorization Act, 1991-92.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member for Iqaluit, notice has not been given for that bill. First reading of bills. The honourable Member for Amittuq.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to give first reading to Bill 45, Wildlife Conservation Act.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. I am sorry, I cannot proceed with authorizing unanimous consent at this particular time. The House has not received the bill at this particular time. First reading of bills. Item 16, second reading of bills. The honourable Member for Deh Cho.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I seek consent to give second reading to Bill 44, Access to Information Act.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The honourable Member is seeking consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 44. Are there any nays?

AN HON. MEMBER: Nay.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any nays? You have only one dissenting nay -- two. Consent has not been given. Second reading of bills. The honourable Member for Kivallivik.

HON. GORDON WRAY: I know I am wasting my time, but, Mr. Speaker, I would like to seek consent to proceed with second reading of the Travel and Tourism Act, which is a non-controversial piece of legislation.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member is seeking consent to proceed with Bill 41. Are there any nays?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Nay.

MR. SPEAKER: Consent has not been given. Second reading of bills. Second reading of bills.

Item 17, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters.

Item 18, report of the committee of the whole.

Item 19, third reading of bills. Third reading of bills. Mr. Clerk, Item 20, orders of the day.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Speaker, meetings for June 27, 1991: at 9:00 a.m., ajauqtit; at 10:00 a.m., the standing committee on legislation.

ITEM 20: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Thursday, June 27, 1991.

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
18. Report of Committee of the Whole
19. Third Reading of Bills
20. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until 1:30 p.m., Thursday, June 27, 1991.

---ADJOURNMENT

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