



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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10th Assembly

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Speaker: The Honourable Donald M. Stewart, M.L.A.

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1984

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Ballantyne, Hon. Tom Butters, Hon. Nellie Cournoyea, Hon. Tagak Curley, Mr. Erkloo, Mr. Gargan, Mrs. Lawrence, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. McCallum, Hon. Bruce McLaughlin, Hon. Richard Nerysoo, Mr. Paniloo, Hon. Dennis Patterson, Mr. Pedersen, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Richard, Hon. Nick Sibbeston, Hon. Don Stewart, Mr. T'Seleie, Mr. Wah-Shee, Hon. Gordon Wray

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): Rev. Short, would you lead us in prayer, please?

ITEM 1: PRAYER

REV. PETER SHORT: Almighty God, from Whom cometh all wisdom and power, we the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories, in session assembled, humbly beseech Thy blessing on our deliberations to the end that, inspired by Thy divine wisdom and setting aside all prejudices, private interests and partial affections, we may work to the benefit, welfare and happiness of the people and to Thy glory. Amen.

MR. SPEAKER: Please be seated. Mr. Clerk, would you see if the Commissioner is ready to open the Legislature?

ITEM 2: COMMISSIONER'S ADDRESS

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Please be seated. Mr. Speaker, Members of the Legislative Assembly: It is my pleasure to welcome you to the third session of the 10th Legislative Assembly. While Members have been well and hospitably served in the past several years by the management and staff of the Explorer Hotel during sessions held in their facilities, I am certain that you are pleased with this new chamber and the support facilities designed for the specific use of the Legislative Assembly. The Speaker is to be commended for the wise and practical judgment that he showed in directing the design and tendering for this space. I also wish to commend the Legislative Assembly staff who have worked hard to effect the transfer to these new quarters. I know that you will be comfortable here over the years to come but, with all of you, I look forward to the day when this House is able to convene in its own Legislative building.

Visit Of Pope John Paul II

In my last address, I had the pleasure of announcing the appointment of Mrs. Agnes Semmler as Deputy Commissioner. Since then, the Deputy Commissioner has been formally sworn in, and as one of her first functions Mrs. Semmler travelled to Fort Simpson to serve as the official representative of this government on the occasion of the visit of His Holiness Pope John Paul II. As we are all aware, unfortunate weather conditions forced the rerouting of the papal aircraft to Yellowknife where the Pope's unplanned visit was welcomed by a substantial crowd of people which quickly assembled. The overriding feeling which prevailed however, was one of sympathy and sadness for the disappointed people who were gathered in Fort Simpson. Regardless of the disappointment that she shared with the people of Fort Simpson, Deputy Commissioner Semmler took advantage of the occasion, using the opportunity to meet with native leaders and native people from across the North and across the nation.

In spite of the forced cancellation of the Pope's visit, the events surrounding September 18th will be remembered by the people of Fort Simpson as positive and meaningful experiences. Never in the history of the North has a village played host to such a crowd of people, and seldom before have people from all segments of a community pulled together with such devotion and good will. For their sense of community, their fine manner of organizing and their hard work, the people of Fort Simpson deserve our highest accolades.

His Holiness Pope John Paul expressed to me his sadness at not being able to meet native and northern people in Fort Simpson as scheduled. Subsequently we have learned of his hope and desire to make the visit on another occasion.

Passing Of Distinguished Northern Elders

At this time I would ask the House to note with regret, the passing of some distinguished northern elders. Stanley Isaiah of Fort Simpson was a devoted biblical scholar, an accomplished linguist and a devout Christian. He died earlier this month in his home community at the age of 75. Mr. Isaiah will be remembered for his work on the South Slavey translation of the New Testament. We are also saddened to recall the passing on May 21st of former Chief John Lamalice of the Hay River Reserve at the age of 86. Mr. Lamalice was one of the last hereditary chiefs of the Hay River Band and will be remembered for the wise leadership he provided to that band for 16 years extending from 1949 to 1965.

We join with the people of Pelly Bay in their sorrow over the passing of their oldest and one of their most respected residents, Jacob Qirngnuq who died last July at the age of 78. Mr. Qirngnuq was a renowned carver and was also noted for his exceptional skills as a hunter and trapper.

Friends, family and colleagues from Aklavik and across the North were deeply saddened by the death of Simon Bennett at the age of 71 last August. Mr. Bennett, born Simon Negasak, suffered a fatal heart attack while working on his boat during a summer storm. Mr. Bennett was one of the original Mackenzie Delta Drummers.

Ida Aleekuk of Inuvik, another original member of the Delta Drummers, passed away in August. Mrs. Aleekuk was a well-respected member of the Inuvialuit community who raised a large family, and was a well-known seamstress who passed along her parka-making skills through night courses in Inuvik.

The Western Arctic people also grieve the loss of Angus Elias who died in August, and his wife Mary who died just a few days ago. This couple were original settlers of Sachs Harbour, and Angus was the last owner of the well-known schooner, The Fox. The Eliases had returned to Tuk in 1981, where Mary played a major role in work with the Inuvialuktun language, and was a member of the Inuvialuktun Language Commission.

An educator who served faithfully in many communities in the North as a teacher, principal and superintendent since 1963, William Buell, died just 10 days ago in Hay River.

Finally, our hearts go out to the people of Coral Harbour who lost two of their most respected community elders last spring. Simon Kalogilik, who died at the age of 76, was a distinguished by-law officer for many years. Mrs. Mary Ningeogan was an important member of the Coral Harbour Ladies Auxiliary and a driving force behind the community radio society.

Territorial And Federal Political Changes

The summer and autumn of this year has been a time of political activity and change on both the territorial and federal stages. A territorial by-election took place in Yellowknife South at midmonth to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Lynda Sorensen, whose good service to this House for five years is recognized. Congratulations are extended to Ted Richard who won the election to this Legislature, and I am sure Members join me in wishing him well.

---Applause

On the federal scene we have seen the going of two Prime Ministers and the election of a new federal government under the able leadership of the Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney. I know you all join with me in wishing our new Prime Minister the very best as he leads this nation into the second half of this decade, and I know he can be assured of the support of this House in the months to come.

We also have a new Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development with the appointment of the Hon. David Crombie. Rest assured that your government looks forward to working co-operatively and constructively with the new Minister for the welfare of all northerners. Your Executive Council's first meeting with Mr. Crombie in early October was cordial and promising of good future relations. Your Ministers are encouraged by Mr. Crombie's comments regarding further devolution of powers to the territorial government. Greater control over additional provincial-type functions is an objective your Ministers will pursue with the new federal government in the coming months.

Affirmative Action In Employment Policies

One of the long held objectives of the government has been to increase the number of native persons in the public service to more closely match our overall population distribution, and to advance them into more senior positions. While some success has been achieved in each of these endeavours, your Ministers believe that a program of affirmative action for native people within our government is necessary in order that their objectives may be reached more quickly. As the first steps in the affirmative action plan, a native employment policy is being developed and action plans for each department will be prepared and implemented within the next few months. As well, a review of the role and function of the Office of Native Employment is being carried out.

Your government recognizes the need for affirmative action for other disadvantaged or underrepresented groups such as women and disabled people, and special attention will be given to these groups in the preparation of revised employment policies.

Status Of Women In The North

To further illustrate your Executive Council's commitment to improving the status of women in the North, a permanent women's secretariat headed by an executive director has been formed, reporting directly to the Executive Council through the Minister responsible for the Status of Women. Also, a five member task force on spousal assault has been funded and is now actively compiling data and gathering public input to help your Ministers to better understand the scope of this problem and to determine what corrective action may be taken.

In the Northwest Territories an increasing population and a shortage of capital and operating funds have combined with other factors to cause a serious housing situation. In recognition of this problem, you convened a special Legislative committee on housing. That committee is to be commended for its hard work over the past several months, and this House looks forward to receiving its interim report and recommendations. The Executive Council recognizes that special emphasis must be placed on solutions to the housing problem. As a consequence, additional measures are being taken and extra resources will be mobilized to deal with housing. It must be realized, however, that due to the federal restraint program, your government's resources are limited. During this session, the Minister responsible for Housing will outline certain initial steps proposed to deal with this important issue.

Government Appointments

Your Ministers have taken the first steps required to implement the language bill passed at the last session. A language commission, whose members will be appointed shortly, will function as the primary focus for the development of a language policy in the NWT and as the main vehicle for public input into this process. It will advise the Government Leader on strategies for implementing the provisions of the language legislation, on language programs and language development. Its special focus will be on the development of native languages.

Mr. Brian Lewis has been appointed executive director of the language commission with responsibility to carry out the essential organizational and administrative tasks necessary to establish and operate the program. Mr. Lewis brings to this position many years of experience as an educator in the NWT, and latterly as deputy minister of Education. As well, he is a linguist of note and is committed to the development of aboriginal languages.

At this time, I wish to formally announce two other senior territorial government appointments, those of Mr. Dan Norris to the position of regional director of the Inuvik Region, and Mr. Larry Gilberg to the position of deputy minister of Education. Both of these men bring years of northern experience to their new postings, and I am sure that I speak for all of you in wishing them well as they take on their new duties.

Western Arctic Land Claims Settlement

To the 2500 Inuvialuit who live in the Beaufort Sea coastal region, this past summer will hold a very special significance for it was on July 25 that the Western Arctic Settlement Act was proclaimed by the Governor-in-Council, giving them the first comprehensive land claims settlement in the NWT. Now that the Western Arctic settlement has been completed, it is interesting to note that, with the exception of the federal government, the Inuvialuit are the single largest land holders in the Territories. Among its provisions, the agreement allows for a new wildlife management regime in the settlement area, as well as a package of harvesting rights for beneficiaries, compensation funds, economic enhancement provisions, and guaranteed Inuvialuit involvement in such matters as land use planning. The Minister responsible for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development is now actively involved in the process of implementing the agreement.

Highlights From Recent Months

I now wish to draw your attention to a few other highlights from recent months. This summer, final approval was received for construction of a new regional hospital in Yellowknife. Work is scheduled to commence early in the new year and, when completed in 1987, the new hospital will be capable of accommodating almost twice as many patients as the present one. The new modern facilities and the expanded medical staff that are planned mean that a stronger base will be available from which specialists will travel out to the surrounding communities, thus providing a wider spectrum of health care in the Territories than ever before. This should result in fewer medical referrals to southern Canada and, as a consequence, less family disruption.

Recently, your Executive Council decided to consolidate formal responsibility for youth-related programs and policies under one Minister. This move was taken because of the unusually high proportion of young people in our northern population and the special problems that confront this group. Because the Executive Council believes that our young people are our most precious resource, it was felt that a more co-ordinated approach had to be taken and cross-departmental responses developed. The Minister of Health and Social Services has taken on this added responsibility and is now preparing to consider options for helping our young people to deal more effectively with the critical and pressing issues that currently face them today.

In July, the Minister of Education recommended, and the Executive Council approved, a more flexible policy for the admission of students to high schools outside their home regions. This decision was made particularly in response to concerns expressed by people living in the Keewatin. Furthermore, the Minister of Education has indicated that the whole question of providing high school programs to our widely scattered student population is currently the subject of an extensive and thorough review.

Based on recommendations of the Thebacha College board of governors, the Executive Council has also developed a strategic plan for the development of enhanced college programs. The plan will aim to meet growing demands for greater post-secondary education opportunities in the NWT.

In line with the recommendations of the special committee on education, work was carried out this year on legislation to create divisional school boards. When these boards come into existence in the very near future, they will represent the first major step toward publicly elected boards with full operating authority for those schools that are currently under the direct administration of the Department of Education.

The long negotiations to introduce new fiscal arrangements between the Territories and Canada were resolved in August when the federal Treasury Board approved a new funding mechanism for the Territories. The new concept approved at that time is called formula-based financing and will replace the current annual negotiation method by which federal assistance is determined. Discussions related to finalizing the details of a three year agreement are currently taking place between territorial and federal officials. The Minister of Finance will be providing a statement on the current situation before this session adjourns.

During the past year, the Executive Council has given particular attention to the government's participation at Expo '86. Our presence at the special category world exposition to be held in Vancouver from May to October 1986, represents without a doubt the biggest promotional event in the

history of the NWT. Under the sponsorship of the Minister of Economic Development, and with the assistance of NWT pavilion commissioner, George Braden, the NWT government will be constructing its own pavilion which is expected to attract two million visitors. The pavilion will reflect in part the fair's theme of transportation and related communications; however, it will also provide the NWT with an opportunity to demonstrate to the world the richness of our land, the diversity of our cultures, and the challenging course we are charting along with major corporations active in the North.

Proposed Legislation

During this session a legislative program comprising five new bills will be presented for your consideration. A new Business Loans and Guarantees Ordinance will enable the government to respond more quickly to the financing needs of small businesses and will improve the administration of the Business Loan Fund. Additional expenditures for two fiscal years are contained in Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 5, for the fiscal year 1983-84, and Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 2, for the fiscal year 1984-85. A Central Trust Company Ordinance will be introduced, and a Miscellaneous Amendments Ordinance, 1984, will correct minor errors in various ordinances.

Existing legislation that you will be asked to consider for amendment includes ordinances pertaining to the transportation of dangerous goods, labour standards, regional and tribal councils, interpretation, territorial income tax, public health and consumer protection. I recommend to you each of these ordinances and amendments.

Change Relating To Commissioner's Attendance In House

Before I close, I wish to advise Members of a change which I propose to make related to my attendance in this House. Throughout my time as Commissioner, you have extended to me the privilege of attending and entering debate during committee of the whole deliberations. In the earlier years when both the Deputy Commissioner and I held extensive departmental responsibilities, my presence in committee of the whole was perhaps essential. With the further devolution of portfolios to elected Ministers of the Executive Council, the need for my presence has diminished.

As one further step toward full responsible government, and in recognition of normal Canadian parliamentary practice, whereby non-elected persons do not sit within the formal confines of the House, I no longer propose to sit with Members of the Legislature in committee of the whole. I am prepared, of course, to appear before the committee of the whole if there is information which Members feel I can supply regarding any aspect of my work with the territorial government. I thank you for the courtesies which you have extended to me in the past, and I look forward to a continuing close working relationship.

I now commend for your earnest and wise judgment the business of this House as I officially declare open the third session of the 10th Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Before I proceed with the orders of the day for Wednesday, October 31st, I would like to make a few remarks. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all Members to this our first session in our new part-time -- and we underline part-time -- facility, for we do hope in the not-too-distant future that the Legislative Assembly will have its own building in the Northwest Territories. It is not our permanent home yet but I hope that all Members will find their new surroundings satisfactory.

Members and visitors to the gallery will have noted that the Commissioner's table has been removed. I am sure Members appreciate the significance as the Commissioner outlined in his Address. The result, as Mr. Parker indicated, is that this Legislature is now truly a fully-elected body operating in accordance with the general rules accepted in all of the assemblies in the commonwealth.

---Applause

I am sure that Members will join me in expressing the Assembly's grateful and heartfelt appreciation to Mr. John Parker for his dedicated service to the Legislative Assembly and to the Northwest Territories.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: We still look forward to a continuing close relationship with him in a format more aligned with the normal Canadian parliamentary practice. It is rather difficult in one way to say, "John, we are glad you are gone", and at the same time to say how much we really appreciated having him here. But it is an instance of becoming of age and the Legislature taking one more step toward full and proper democratic procedures. You will note that we have a table for Mr. Parker; he is not going to be too far away. It is on the other side of the ropes. I am sure at times we will be requiring his advice as a witness at our table.

Recognition Of Distinguished Visitors

I would like at this time to recognize in the gallery, our MPs, Mr. Dave Nickerson and Mr. Tom Suluk.

---Applause

And Mr. Keith Penner, a wanderer, from Cochrane-Superior.

---Applause

Orders of the day. Item 3, Members' replies.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' REPLIES

Mr. Ted Richard, welcome to this House and to your first address.

---Applause

Mr. Richard's Reply And Motion Of Appreciation

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is indeed my privilege as the newest Member of this Assembly, to move that this Assembly express to the Commissioner its appreciation for his Address today. I am, Mr. Speaker, very proud to be able to give my reply to the Commissioner's Address on behalf of my constituents on this special occasion, the first day of the sitting of this Assembly in these beautiful and very comfortable surroundings.

I am also very proud, Mr. Speaker, of the fact that I do represent the constituents of Yellowknife South. The residents of that riding have, over the last number of years, been very ably represented by David Searle, David Nickerson and Lynda Sorensen. It is my hope, Mr. Speaker, that I can continue to provide those constituents with able representation in the next three years.

Although a newcomer to this Assembly, Mr. Speaker, I have had the privilege of knowing quite a few of the MLAs, including the Members of the Executive Council and I sincerely look forward to working with all the Members of this House for the good of all of the people of the Northwest Territories. I have had the opportunity over the years in my work to travel throughout the Territories and I know most of the communities and I am aware of their concerns. I look forward to working with all Members to meet the challenge of the many, many issues that will confront this 10th Assembly.

Constituency Concerns

I will try, Mr. Speaker, to be very brief in my reply today, but I do wish to say a few things to the Assembly about my constituency and the people of Yellowknife South. As you know, there are in excess of 5000 people resident, and more than 3300 of them are eligible to vote. It is therefore, I believe, Mr. Speaker, by far the most populous riding in the Territories. For the most part, these voters were not born in the Northwest Territories, but chose to make Yellowknife their home. Almost without exception they are taxpayers, they are knowledgeable people who are concerned about things like the cost of living, the services they are getting or not getting from government in return for their tax dollars. They are concerned about the housing crisis in this community, and I do look forward, Mr. Speaker, to the report of this Assembly's special committee on housing, and I trust that it will address the critical shortage of housing accommodation in Yellowknife. These

constituents are also concerned about day care facilities, about shelters for battered women. In Yellowknife South reside a large number of businessmen and businesswomen, who continue to be concerned about the issue of taxation of northern allowances, about the northern preference policy and about this government's policy on resource development.

On the issue of taxation of northern allowances, Mr. Speaker, I trust that this government will continue its fight with the new government in Ottawa for a quick resolution of this much-studied issue. The Bird-Stack Report is there and I believe we must press the federal government to live up to its campaign promises and bring in amendments to the Income Tax Act. I note, Mr. Speaker, that the NWT Chamber of Mines has very recently called on the Conservative government to move to adopt many of the recommendations of the Bird Report.

The people in my constituency, Mr. Speaker, are very practical people. They are in favour of development and in particular, the development of our resources. The mining industry and the other sectors of the resource industry are the lifeblood of what little northern economy we have and I submit, Mr. Speaker, the only hope for our economic future. The people in my constituency believe that the North should eventually pay its own way and to do that we must develop our resources, but at the same time have due regard to our very delicate environment and to the traditional uses of our land, of the water, its resources, by northern residents.

Although I am new to this 10th Assembly, I have observed your deliberations during the last two sessions, and I am of the impression that this Assembly has made economic development of the North the major priority. With that I am in agreement. The initiative of the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism earlier this year, in bringing the bankers north for a look-see, I understand is already paying dividends in that the Bank of Commerce has just announced or will shortly be announcing a major upgrading of its branch in Yellowknife.

The people in Yellowknife South, Mr. Speaker, have many, many problems, not unlike the problems of the people of Deh Cho Gah, Aivilik, Nunakput or Iqaluit. We need a new school in Yellowknife South, and we need it now, not five years from now. We need personal care accommodation for our senior citizens.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Hear, hear!

MR. RICHARD: We need additional recreational facilities. Perhaps more importantly, Mr. Speaker, we need a new water and sewer system.

---Applause

A very expensive item. And work must start on this early in the new year. Our city government did, this past summer, at the request of the Department of Local Government, provide to that department a detailed submission to be forwarded to the federal Treasury Board, with the request for special funding. I understand, sir, that the Department of Local Government has not acted on that urgent matter since receiving the documentation and has not included this item in its capital budget. I do hope, Mr. Speaker, that I will have an opportunity in the coming days to question the Minister on this urgent matter.

The people of Yellowknife, Mr. Speaker, are underrepresented in this Assembly. It has been said before, admittedly, but it must be stated again that 25 per cent of the population lives in this city, yet of the 24 seats in this Assembly, only three are allocated to Yellowknife residents. In my respectful opinion, Mr. Speaker, this is wrong. It is an injustice and it cannot and must not be ignored. I do hope that my many friends in this Assembly will agree with me that this is an injustice which must be rectified. I will, Mr. Speaker, at an appropriate time during this 10th Assembly ask the Members of this House to remedy this injustice.

I believe very strongly, Mr. Speaker, in the goal of responsible government for the Northwest Territories and I am pleased that I will now have an opportunity to join with other MLAs as we continue with this struggle. Those Members of this 10th Assembly who were also Members of the Ninth Assembly are to be congratulated for their accomplishments in this area. As the Commissioner indicated in his Address, the recent approval by the federal government of the concept of formula-based financing is one important step in the move to responsible government and the Minister of Finance and his colleagues are to be commended for their hard work in that regard.

All in all, Mr. Speaker, the people of my constituency are very concerned people and they are all very nice people. Yellowknife South is a nice place to visit. In fact as the Commissioner mentioned, His Holiness the Pope dropped in for a visit just last month.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Yellowknife North.

---Laughter

MR. RICHARD: The concerns, Mr. Speaker, of the citizens of Yellowknife that I have referred to have, of course, been raised in this Assembly by my very able colleagues, Mr. MacQuarrie and Mr. Ballantyne and I look forward to working with them in particular in the years ahead.

Mr. Speaker, I will close my reply now by saying again, how pleased I am to be here with the other MLAs from all areas of the Territories. I am honoured to give this initial reply to the Commissioner's Address today, to make this motion, and I with all sincerity look forward to getting to know the other MLAs better and to working with them in the years ahead. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mahsi cho.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Richard. Members' replies. Mr. Patterson.

Motion Of Appreciation Seconded

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my pleasure to second the motion of appreciation for the Commissioner's Address. With your permission, I will give my reply on Monday, November 5. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. It is agreed by the House that you will give your reply on Monday but the motion has been seconded. We will recess for 15 minutes for coffee. I would invite the gallery to come and have coffee and tea with us.

---SHORT RECESS

Call the House back to order. Order please. The orders of the day, Item 3, Members' replies. There do not appear to be any further Members' replies for today.

Regarding the artifacts that are present in the chambers, I was wondering if the Minister, the Hon. Nick Sibbeston, would give us a run-down on the chair that is being displayed in the House.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I am very glad to rise just for a few moments. As Members may have noticed, we have a beautiful chair here in our midst today. This is the chair that the Pope was supposed to have sat on when he came to Simpson this past fall. But unfortunately he did not come. Instead he chose to come to Yellowknife as Mr. Richard mentioned. The chair was made by Mr. Sonny MacDonald of Fort Smith and I would just like him to stand and be recognized.

---Applause

As Members may have noticed, the chair is made of moose antlers or horns and it has diamond willow as part of it and beaver fur for cushions and also some moosehide backing. I want to point out that all of these things are from the North and it is obviously a very uniquely made chair from the North.

Members know that I have raised the matter of creating an Assembly, a House here that is uniquely northern, and I am not going to suggest that we give this chair to the Speaker today for that to be his chair. The people in Simpson are hoping that someday the Pope will come back to Fort Simpson and indeed will sit on it and we are retaining it. But I think it can give us some idea of the sort of thing that can be done by people of the North in creating chairs, themes, decor and things of that nature so that we eventually, when we put all our minds and skills together, create a uniquely northern Assembly. Mahsi cho.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 4, Ministers' statements. Mr. Patterson.

ITEM 4: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement On Amendment To Teacher Certification Regulations

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As promised in this House, I want to advise you of a recent amendment to our education regulations that will be of benefit to teachers in the Northwest Territories. As you will recall, Mr. Speaker, in May of last year we introduced teacher certification in the NWT. Every qualified teacher who was then employed by this government or by a school board in the Territories was granted a teaching certificate. However, there was a group of experienced and qualified teachers, including two distinguished members of that profession from this House...

---Applause

...by coincidence, who were not included in this process. I am referring to teachers who had previously taught in the Territories but who were not teaching at the time certification was introduced. This recent amendment to the education regulations will permit these teachers to apply for permanent teaching certificates. We are even waiving the fee! To qualify, the teacher must have been ordinarily resident in the Territories on May 2, 1983, when the original certification regulations went into effect. He or she must also have successfully completed two consecutive years of teaching at a school in the Territories between June 1, 1969 and May 2, 1983. Teachers with two years of non-consecutive experience may be granted certificates at the discretion of the registrar. Substitute teaching and employment under a letter of authority will not be considered in determining a teacher's eligibility for certification. This is a transitional measure that will be in effect for one year from the date of registry, that is to say until October 19, 1985. Mr. Speaker, the exclusion of qualified teachers in the original certification provisions was an oversight and I am satisfied that this amendment will set the situation right. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. That seems to have pleased certain other people in the chamber. Are there any further Ministers' statements? Item 5, notices of motion for first reading of bills. Mr. Curley.

ITEM 5: NOTICES OF MOTION FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 1-84(3): Business Loans And Guarantees Ordinance

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Friday, November 2, 1984, I shall move that Bill 1-84(3), An Ordinance to Authorize Loans and Guarantees to Business Enterprises, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Notices of motion for first reading of bills. Mr. Butters.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 2-84(3): Income Tax Ordinance

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, November 2, 1984, I shall move that Bill 2-84(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Income Tax Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Notices of motion for first reading of bills. Mr. Nerysoo.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 3-84(3): Interpretation Ordinance

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, November 2, 1984, I shall move that Bill 3-84(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Interpretation Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Do you have another? Proceed then please.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 4-84(3): Labour Standards Ordinance

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I give notice that on November 2, 1984, I shall move that Bill 4-84(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Labour Standards Ordinance, be read for the first time.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 5-84(3): Miscellaneous Amendments Ordinance, 1984

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, November 2, 1984, I shall move that Bill 5-84(3), Miscellaneous Amendments Ordinance, 1984, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Are there any further notices of motion for first reading of bills? Mr. McLaughlin.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 6-84(3): Public Health Ordinance

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Friday, November 2, 1984, I shall move that Bill 6-84(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Public Health Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Notices of motion for first reading of bills. Mr. Sibbeston.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 7-84(3): Regional And Tribal Councils Ordinance

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I wish to give notice that on Friday, November 2, 1984, I will move first reading of Bill 7-84(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Regional and Tribal Councils Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Notices of motion for first reading of bills. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I have to seek the indulgence of the House to remain standing for the next three bills.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 8-84(3): Transportation Of Dangerous Goods Ordinance

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, November 2, 1984, I shall move that Bill 8-84(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Ordinance, be read for the first time.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 9-84(3): Consumer Protection Ordinance

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, November 2, 1984, I shall move that Bill 9-84(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Consumer Protection Ordinance, be read for the first time.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 10-84(3): Central Trust Company Ordinance

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, November 2, 1984, I shall move that Bill 10-84(3), An Ordinance Respecting Central Trust Company and Crown Trust Company, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any further notices of motion for first reading of bills? Mr. Butters.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 11-84(3): Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 5, 1983-84

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, November 2, 1984, I shall move that Bill 11-84(3), An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the 1983-84 Financial Year, be read for the first time.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 12-84(3): Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, No. 2, 1984-85

And the final bill, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Friday, November 2, 1984, I shall move that Bill 12-84(3), An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the 1984-85 Financial Year, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. That seems to clear the notices of motion for first reading of bills. Item 6, tabling of documents. Mr. Wray.

ITEM 6: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 1-84(3), 1983 Seventh Annual Report, Workers' Compensation Board, Northwest Territories, for the year ended December 31, 1983.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Tabling of documents. Mr. Paniloo.

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I received a letter dated October 19, 1984, from the Clyde River Housing Association concerning housing. I wish to table this letter, Tabled Document 2-84(3).

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Is there any further tabling of documents? Mr. Sibbeston.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 3-84(3), Northwest Territories Team, 1984 Arctic Winter Games, Yellowknife, NWT.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Any further documents? Tabling of documents. That appears to conclude that section. Item 7, oral questions. Mr. MacQuarrie.

ITEM 7: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 1-84(3): Increased Staffing, Sir John Franklin Territorial High School

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Education. About a month ago, the Minister very kindly allowed me to accompany him on a tour of Sir John in order to have a look at the pressure on pupil/teacher ratios that had resulted both from an extended grade 10 preparation course and also from bringing students once again from the Keewatin to the high school here. The Minister was going to consider whether there would be further staffing at Sir John. So, could I ask the Minister whether he has made a decision in that regard?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question 1-84(3): Increased Staffing, Sir John Franklin Territorial High School

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to inform the Member that the Executive Council has just decided that because of the increased enrolment pressure on Sir John this year, especially at the grade 10 level, there will be an extra term position made available to Sir John immediately. It is my hope that next year as high school programs come on stream in the Keewatin that the enrolment may decline slightly for that reason. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Oral questions. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Question 2-84(3): Contracts, NWT Pavilion, Expo '86

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. I had an inquiry from a constituent in the labour union movement who is wondering about the pavilion that our government will build at the Expo site in British Columbia. And the question is essentially, has the contract been let? If so, is it going to a union or non-union company? And if it has not been let, is it going to be one single major contract or will it be broken into smaller contracts?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take the question as notice because of my plan to make a major announcement sometime next week on the matter and that particular issue would be included in the statement that I will be making to the House. I would like to assure him that I am not evading it but I have plans to include among other things a number of very substantial issues that relate to Expo '86 and I would like to assure you that I will be bringing that forward when I make the statement next week. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The Minister is taking it as advice and will give you an answer later. Are there any further oral questions? Are there any written questions for today? Mr. Arlooktoo.

ITEM 8: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question 3-84(3): Water Delivery And Sewage Pick-Up, Cape Dorset

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to make a short comment. My written question is to the Minister responsible for Housing and it is regarding the residents of Cape Dorset. Residents in Cape Dorset occupying public housing have not been given any more grants or assistance to pay for water delivery and sewage pick-up. The hamlet council made a request through me to pass this message regarding their concern. Included in this letter is a copy of the hamlet council's motion regarding the matter. They also inform me that water delivery will be cut off starting on November 5. Would the Minister responsible extend his assistance on this matter?

My question is in Inuktitut and it will be translated and I will pass it on to the Members. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Arlooktoo. That is in the form of a written question. Are there any further written questions?

Item 9, returns. There will not be any returns unless they are from the ghost of the past.

Item 10, petitions.

Item 11, reports of standing and special committees. Are there reports of standing and special committees for today?

Item 12, notices of motion.

Item 13, motions. Item 14, first reading of bills. Mr. McLaughlin.

ITEM 14: FIRST READING OF BILLS

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to request unanimous consent in order to proceed with first reading of Bill 6-84(3) today if I could.

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being requested. Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. McLaughlin.

First Reading Of Bill 6-84(3): Public Health Ordinance

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Iqaluit, that Bill 6-84(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Public Health Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Ready for the question. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Nerysoo.

First Reading Of Bill 4-84(3): Labour Standards Ordinance

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 4-84(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Labour Standards Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent for the first reading thereof. Agreed?

---Agreed

I will accept that as a first reading now. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 4-84(3) has had first reading. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I would like to seek unanimous consent to proceed with first reading of Bill 5-84(3).

First Reading Of Bill 5-84(3): Miscellaneous Amendments Ordinance, 1984

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any nays for first reading of Bill 5-84(3)? Proceed, Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Aivilik that Bill 5-84(3), Miscellaneous Amendments Ordinance, 1984, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. First reading of Bill 5-84(3). All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

First reading of bills. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I would like to seek unanimous consent to give first reading of Bill 9-84(3).

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 9-84(3). Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Nerysoo.

First Reading Of Bill 9-84(3): Consumer Protection Ordinance

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 9-84(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Consumer Protection Ordinance, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 9-84(3) has had first reading.

---Carried

First reading of bills. No further first reading of bills for today. Item 15, second reading of bills. Mr. Nerysoo.

ITEM 15: SECOND READING OF BILLS

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I would like to seek unanimous consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 4-84(3).

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being requested for second reading of Bill 4-84(3). Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Nerysoo.

Second Reading Of Bill 4-84(3): Labour Standards Ordinance

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 4-84(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Labour Standards Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend section 40 of the Labour Standards Ordinance to increase the maximum fine from \$1000 to \$10,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Ready for the question. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Second reading. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I would like to seek unanimous consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 5-84(3).

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being requested for the second reading of Bill 5-84(3). Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Nerysoo.

Second Reading Of Bill 5-84(3): Miscellaneous Amendments Ordinance, 1984

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Aivilik, that Bill 5-84(3), Miscellaneous Amendments Ordinance, 1984, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to correct technical errors in various ordinances.

MR. SPEAKER: Ready for the question. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 5-84(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Second reading of bills. Mr. McLaughlin.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to request unanimous consent of the House to proceed with second reading of Bill 6-84(3).

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent being requested for Bill 6-84(3). Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. McLaughlin.

Second Reading Of Bill 6-84(3): Public Health Ordinance

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Iqaluit, that Bill 6-84(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Public Health Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to allow the Commissioner to make regulations respecting the safety of bathers using public pools including safety equipment, lifeguards and safety procedures. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Principle of the bill or are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried. Bill 6-84(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Second reading of bills, Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I would like to seek unanimous consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 9-84(3).

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent for Bill 9-84(3). Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Nerysoo.

Second Reading Of Bill 9-84(3): Consumer Protection Ordinance

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 9-84(3), An Ordinance to Amend the Consumer Protection Ordinance, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Consumer Protection Ordinance in order to raise the exemption of sales from less than \$10 to less than \$50.

MR. SPEAKER: To the principle of the bill or are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 9-84(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Second reading of bills. Bills 4-84(3), 5-84(3), 6-84(3) and 9-84(3) have had second reading. Would the Clerk see that these are on the orders of the day for tomorrow for committee of the whole?

Item 16, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters. We have no other matters at the moment.

Item 17, report of committee of the whole. There are no reports of committee of the whole. Mr. Clerk, could you give us the orders of the day?

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Announcements, Mr. Speaker. There will be a meeting of the standing committee on finance tomorrow morning at 9:30 a.m. in the caucus room.

ITEM 18: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day, Thursday, November 1st.

1. Prayer
2. Members' Replies
3. Ministers' Statements
4. Oral Questions
5. Written Questions
6. Returns
7. Petitions
8. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
9. Tabling of Documents
10. Notices of Motion
11. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
12. Motions
13. First Reading of Bills
14. Second Reading of Bills
15. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters: Bills 4-84(3), 5-84(3), 6-84(3), 9-84(3)
16. Report of Committee of the Whole
17. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until 1:00 p.m., Thursday, November 1st.

---ADJOURNMENT

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