



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

4th Session

10th Assembly

HANSARD
Official Report
DAY 11

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1985
Pages 360 to 398

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

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1985

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Angottitauruq, Mr. Appaqaq, 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, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Richard, Hon. Nick Sibbeston, Hon. Don Stewart, Mr. T'Seleie, Mr. Wah-Shee, Hon. Gordon Wray

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): Orders of the day for Wednesday, February the 20th. Item 2, Members' replies. Mr. Butters.

Point Of Privilege

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to rise on a point of privilege and make a correction in the Yellowknifer of this date. The correction relates to an inaccurate statement contained in this issue and I am quite sure that the publisher and the editor do not want to unnecessarily agitate and alarm their readers and advertisers. The paragraph in question falls in a news story entitled "Number of Disenfranchised Contractors Unknown". The paragraph is the last one that says "Businesses that do not meet the requirements, as determined by the Department of Government Services, will not be considered eligible to tender on government jobs." That is an inaccurate statement and anybody is able to tender on government jobs. I would ask that the editor correct that in the next issue.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister.

Item 2, Members' replies. Item 3, Ministers' statements. Mr. McLaughlin.

ITEM 3: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement On Preliminary Report On Ambulance Services

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make a statement on the preliminary report of the air and ground ambulance policy advisory committee which will be tabled later today. It is a fact that currently no formal comprehensive policy is in place in the Northwest Territories respecting ambulance services. This fact was brought to the attention of the Assembly on March 2nd, 1984, by the Member for Yellowknife North. Furthermore, concerns respecting ambulance services have been expressed to me, and to officials of the Department of Health on a number of occasions by various individuals and organizations, including the Northwest Territories Association of Municipalities, St. John Ambulance, and individual municipalities.

On April of 1984 I appointed the air and ground ambulance policy advisory committee. The committee is composed of representatives of the Department of Health, the Department of Local Government, Health and Welfare Canada, the RCMP, St. John Ambulance and the Northwest Territories Association of Municipalities. I instructed the members to examine the major aspects of current ambulance services in the Northwest Territories, to identify the weaknesses that exist and to make recommendations for the establishment of comprehensive ambulance policy.

Mr. Speaker, the preliminary report of the committee to be tabled today summarizes their findings and recommendations to date. I would like to congratulate the members of the committee at this time for their excellent work. They have produced a set of recommendations which could potentially bring about major improvements in the delivery of emergency health care to the people of the NWT.

Essentially the committee is advising this government to take a leadership role in the development of an ambulance policy and program for the Territories. The recommendations touch on all the major aspects of ambulance services including the development of legislation and standards, educational programs for ambulance personnel, funding mechanisms and ongoing emergency health care planning. I should emphasize that this document is a preliminary report. I am inviting the Members of this Assembly as well as other interested individuals and organizations in the NWT to review the report and to submit their comments and suggestions in writing to the Department of Health by May 15th. All submissions will be considered by the committee in the preparation of their final report. I believe this process will provide an excellent opportunity for the input of a wider spectrum of viewpoints into the planning process.

Mr. Speaker, the Executive summary of the preliminary report has been translated into Inuktitut and copies are available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Ministers' statements. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Paniloo.

ITEM 4: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 99-85(1): Search And Rescue Team, Pangnirtung

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am going to be asking questions on the document I tabled on February 18. It is Tabled Document 16-85(1), about the search and rescue team in the communities. It was implemented in December, 1983. However, the population in Pangnirtung is increasing. I am going to direct my question to the Government Leader. The community has been requesting these -- I was wondering if this can be dealt with because there are some problems in Pangnirtung when there are a lot of policies to be followed for the search and rescue teams. The Pangnirtung fiord has a lot of wind and when there are people who are lost out in the country, their relatives who are unemployed cannot even go ahead and search for their family members. The requests are documented on paper after this -- I was wondering if we can delete that part of the policy. Delete that part of the policy where the family cannot go to do the first searching. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I would like to take that question as notice and provide a response to the honourable gentleman.

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

Question 100-85(1): Transfer Of Fort Smith Senior Citizen To Hay River

MR. MCCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have a question to the Minister of Social Services. On what authority was a resident of the Fort Smith senior citizens home removed from the home and transferred to Hay River? The person in question is and has been a lifelong resident of Fort Smith, that is, up to this particular date. I wonder if the Minister can indicate to me on whose authority the local housing authority, or was it his department, took the senior citizen in question and removed her from the community?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin.

Return To Question 100-85(1): Transfer Of Fort Smith Senior Citizen To Hay River

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the Member, Mr. McCallum, for bringing this to my attention yesterday. The lady in question has had problems taking care of herself in the senior citizens facility. She needs more attention than the staff of the facility are able to provide because, as Members are aware, senior citizens facilities do not have round-the-clock people in them to take care of residents like a personal care facility has. We

currently do not have a personal care facility in Fort Smith, so the local housing authority was forced into the situation of being unable to keep her as a tenant due to some problems she had which the housing authority felt were beyond their mandate as a local housing authority, and also they were afraid that she could cause difficulties or possibly harm to other people in the facility, due to the incidents which occurred, which was not something of her making. It was a situation where, I believe, a window was left open and I think that the heating in the room, the hot water heating system, froze up and then opened up again and flooded the room. So, because she was unable to stay there, my department arranged to have her provided with personal care on a temporary basis in H.H. Williams hospital in Hay River where we have a facility specifically to deal with this type of need.

Also, the Member for Slave River should be aware that in Fort Smith we are going to be providing a temporary personal care facility in a building which you resided in, Mr. Speaker, during the Fort Smith session this spring, which is called the pink house, but it is painted green. I am sure the Member is aware of that building and we are hoping within a couple of months, April or May at the latest, to be able to have that facility in operation and the lady in question will be returned from Hay River to Fort Smith.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. McCallum, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question 100-85(1): Transfer Of Fort Smith Senior Citizen To Hay River

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, just a supplementary to the Minister. Can he give me an indication why the senior citizen in question could not be accommodated in the Fort Smith medical centre? There are other people there who are senior citizens and it is my recollection that that particular medical facility is not taxed to its limits now with the patients. Why would she not be placed in the Fort Smith medical centre rather than transferred to Hay River, where she has no family? The family is in Fort Smith.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 100-85(1): Transfer Of Fort Smith Senior Citizen To Hay River

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I inquired into that and I have been informed by the officials in my department that at the time when a bed was required there was not one available, so the lady in question had to be sent to Hay River. She is receiving medical treatment in Hay River for some other medical difficulties she has and the department advises that she best be maintained where she is until her other medical condition becomes stabilized. I will take the Minister's suggestion and once the lady is able to be moved from Hay River, if we can move her into Fort Smith residence, I will do that.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Do not let it go to your head.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. He is bad enough as an MLA, without being a Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: I apologize.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McCallum, do you have another supplementary?

Question 101-85(1): Temporary Personal Care Facility, Fort Smith

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, as much as I would enjoy the so-called promotion, I guess old habits take a long time to die. I have a further question. The Minister refers to a temporary facility being done over to accommodate, on a temporary basis, people like that. Could he indicate to me, are renovations to be made to that particular building and how are those renovations to be done? Is it to be on a local tender or in-house by local DPW?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, I am not sure of the details on that so I will take that as notice and get back to the Member with that information as soon as I can.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, you are taking the question as notice. Mr. Erkloo.

Question 102-85(1): Use Of Old RCMP Building, Pond Inlet

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question is directed to the Government Leader with regard to the ladies group in Pond Inlet. They are asking for a museum in Pond Inlet and I think they have come to a consensus with the RCMP on the old RCMP building which had been there for a long time. Also the employees are busy. They were wondering if they can obtain the old RCMP building. They would like to get some more update on this. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 102-85(1): Use Of Old RCMP Building, Pond Inlet

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, just to the honourable gentleman, I have not received a formal request from the women and as soon as I receive that request I will deal with it, with the RCMP and with the staff of the Department of Justice and Public Services.

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

Question 103-85(1): Canadian Championship Dog Derby, Funding

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Local Government. I just wanted to correct Mr. McLaughlin, I do not think Mr. McLaughlin meant "Minister", he meant "Minister-in-waiting". If I could ask a question of Mr. Sibbeston. A number of weeks ago I brought to the Minister's attention a request from the dog mushers for some assistance in the Canadian Championship Dog Derby, which is to be held in Yellowknife. I was at one meeting with the Minister and representatives from the organization. I know the Minister has been working on trying to comply with the request. Just to prove the excellence of dog mushers in the Northwest Territories, Richard Beck from Yellowknife won the world championship dog musher race in The Pas, so I think we do have world-class dog mushers in the Territories that we should be proud of. I wonder, does the Minister have a reply then to the request from the dog mushers association?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 103-85(1): Canadian Championship Dog Derby, Funding

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: I am pleased to announce that the Executive Council has approved a contribution of \$5000 to the Yellowknife Dog Trotters Association for the annual Canadian Championship Dog Derby.

MR. SPEAKER: Yellowknife goes to the dogs again, Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: No comment, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions.

MR. MacQUARRIE: You are barking up the wrong tree.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Paniloo.

Question 104-85(1): Proposed Tannery, Broughton Island

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is directed to the Minister of Economic Development. He has answered this question before. However, in my constituency in Broughton Island, they have been requesting some funding to start a tannery in Broughton Island. I was wondering if you can give me some update as to this. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 104-85(1): Proposed Tannery, Broughton Island

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just would like to inform the MLA, when we are doing the 1985-86 main estimates we will be dealing with that in the future. As I stated before, last winter in Baffin Region, the sealskin economy has to develop in the Baffin

Region so we were going to try and find some source of funding to develop the economic rate for sealskin. However, our officials in Frobisher Bay have been surveying the feasibility of this and yesterday I was talking to Steve Audlakiak and I am going to be going up there in March so I will be giving you more information. We are going to have to find out what the feasibility is. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Is that satisfactory, Mr. Paniloo? Oral questions. Mrs. Lawrence.

Question 105-85(1): Accommodation For Out-Of-Town Patients

MRS. LAWRENCE: (Translation) Last week I had some people staying with me from Snowdrift. They had no place to stay and she had two children. One was placed in the hospital and she had to take the other one to see the doctor. Last Friday she had to leave to go back to Snowdrift and then she was later told she could not leave. Some people do not have very large houses and they cannot really put up a person with two children.

I would like to direct this question to the Minister of Health. There are two different governments here, the federal and the territorial. They are working here to try and help the people as much as they can. We would like to get a transient centre for patients. As soon as we can, to get one of these transient centres, not the next two years but as soon as we can possibly get this. I would like to know if the Minister could let us know if this is possible. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 105-85(1): Accommodation For Out-Of-Town Patients

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, yes, it is possible. The GNWT and Health and Welfare Canada recognize that language and cultural differences are problems that have to be dealt with when dealing with the medical needs of people when they are travelling. These differences in culture and language are not being taken care of adequately right now. The former Executive Council of the government established a boarding home in Winnipeg for Keewatin people travelling for medical purposes. This was done because there is no hospital in the Keewatin and so that area was identified as the first area needing help.

This Executive Council is in the process right now of purchasing a piece of property in Montreal and renovating the building to accommodate the residents of the Baffin who have to travel to Montreal for medical purposes. This was chosen as our second area to do the work because of the large number of people in the Baffin who have to travel to Montreal. If those people are lucky enough to be bilingual it is usually Inuktitut and English so contending with the French language is very difficult for them.

Our government is looking at the possibility in conjunction with Health and Welfare Canada of providing a transient centre in Yellowknife for the people of the Kitikmeot. There is no hospital in that region for those people at the moment, so there is a priority there. In the rest of the district of Mackenzie, Health and Welfare Canada has hospitals which serve the Dene and Metis people as well as the other people who live in this area within their regions or within their area and they come to Yellowknife after that hospital refers them. But we do appreciate that there is a need because there are a large number of Dene people of several languages who come here and, I believe, the local Tree of Peace is taking some initiatives in this area with Health and Welfare Canada. So, Mr. Speaker, the Department of Health is active with the Department of Health and Welfare Canada in trying to resolve this situation and I hope that we can come to some agreement with Health and Welfare Canada to fund transient centres in Yellowknife. But I have no firm response yet from Health and Welfare Canada. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mrs. Lawrence.

Supplementary To Question 105-85(1): Accommodation For Out-Of-Town Patients

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am talking about a smaller transient centre, even a staff house that is available. I am not talking about a big transient centre, but some place where there is a phone. Many of these boarding homes do not have a phone and it is very hard for these people to get around or even to make their doctor's appointment and some elders even miss their sched to go home and end up on my doorstep. I think if we have a smaller place for them and someone

looking after just that, I think it would be more suitable. I am speaking only for my constituency and I am sure the same could apply for the other constituencies as well and I would really need your support, Mr. Minister. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mrs. Lawrence, that basically is not a question. You are in a matter of debate. Although your position is well taken, possibly it is not the proper place to make it. Have you any further comments, Mr. McLaughlin?

Further Return To Question 105-85(1): Accommodation For Out-Of-Town Patients

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe there was a question there hidden between the lines and I will try to answer it. My department is well aware that there are these difficulties...

AN HON. MEMBER: ...between the lines.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Very perceptive.

AN HON. MEMBER: Very.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: What the Member described in her question about a small staff house is something to be considered but the difficulty is that Health and Welfare Canada does not have the funds to staff a small residence where only a few people could stay at a time because then their cost per day per patient would be too high so the idea would be to build a facility or rent a facility that would accommodate the approximate, minimum daily number of people in Yellowknife each day. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Gargan.

Question 106-85(1): Vehicle For Senior Citizens Home, Fort Providence

MR. GARGAN: Thank you. (Translation) The question is directed to the Minister of Social Services. I asked him to find a vehicle for the senior citizens home. In November he wrote back to me and said there is a possibility of looking at three options. The first is on who is going to supply the vehicles, Department of Public Works, Housing Corporation or Social Services. Another one is, if there is a vehicle available in Fort Providence, we would be able to share it with the government departments. The third is the possibility of providing funding to service groups to provide and operate such a program. These three items he mentioned back in November and I am just wondering if there is any further news on this.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 106-85(1): Vehicle For Senior Citizens Home, Fort Providence

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: The Executive Council was informed by the Department of Social Services what the probable costs of providing a vehicle would be and Social Services was asked to come up with different options in this area. The provision of vehicles would involve the Department of Public Works which maintains vehicles and the NWT Housing Corporation which operates the facilities and this caused the difficulty we had in determining exactly what the Executive Council wanted us to do with this situation. They gave myself and my department officials clear instructions on how they wanted the options described and this occurred last week and hopefully my department will have the detailed information at the Executive Council -- in other words, Mr. Speaker, the Executive Council has requested more detail in this area and gave more instructions on what they wanted me to do in this area before they make a decision and hopefully my officials will have that information to the Executive Council within the month, at the latest.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, then you are taking the question as notice. Oral questions. Mr. Wah-Shee.

Question 107-85(1): Dene And Metis Medical Transient Centre, Yellowknife

MR. WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed at the Minister of Health and Social Services following up the concern raised by Mrs. Lawrence. As the Minister is probably aware the Dene people who have to come for medical treatment in Yellowknife do not have a centre

similar to the ones that exist in Winnipeg and Montreal. I think that these centres are necessary and I do support the initiative that the government is taking to provide these facilities. However, I have to remind the Minister that in our area there is also a need and I wonder if the Minister can indicate to the House whether there are any plans to provide a similar centre in Yellowknife for those Dene and Metis people who have to come to Yellowknife. Because we do not have a \$38 million complex...

MR. BALLANTYNE: You have a nice arena though.

MR. WAH-SHEE: ...complex for medical treatment in some of the other regions, shall we say. So I wonder if the Minister can indicate whether there are any plans to have a centre in Yellowknife for the Dene and Metis people particularly. You do have one that is coming on stream I believe for the Kitikmeot and I fully support that initiative. However, I would like to have a similar consideration being given to the Dene and Metis patients and there is also a question of problems with translation. I am not totally satisfied with the initiative of Stanton Yellowknife Hospital at this point.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 107-85(1): Dene And Metis Medical Transient Centre, Yellowknife

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not sure if the Member was in the House when I answered Mrs. Lawrence's question. But the department is supportive of having transient centres built in Yellowknife both to serve the Kitikmeot and the Dene and Metis people of the Mackenzie area. We have been talking to Health and Welfare Canada about this. There is a question of who should provide the capital and put up the building and who will cover the O and M and how much. In each case in Winnipeg and Montreal, we negotiated and I have to say, in support of Health and Welfare Canada, they have been very flexible and supportive in these negotiations. In Winnipeg, we negotiated for a per diem basis and in Montreal we negotiated a total O and M package for the year in order to get Health and Welfare Canada funding. The officials in Yellowknife from Health and Welfare Canada are receptive of this idea and I hope that they can accommodate that. So, Mr. Speaker, my department and myself are supportive of this idea and what has to be ironed out is how much is Health and Welfare Canada able to provide in this area and then if more funds are required, the problem is how our government comes up with our share. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 108-85(1): IBM Typewriters For Hamlets And Adult Education Centres

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Government Services, Tom Butters. In Baffin, communities, hamlets and adult education centres are still using the IBM typewriters, but in bigger areas for quite some time now they have not been using the IBM typewriters and they are being replaced with Macintosh computers, and it is getting harder to get parts for IBM typewriters. In the settlements the hamlet people need the typewriters, as well as the adult education people. It is getting harder to find IBM typewriters because when we first got the typewriters we used to order them from Ottawa. Also they used to order these syllabic elements from Ottawa. I wonder if you can inform me or help me to find more of the IBM elements or typewriters for the smaller communities in the NWT.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I appreciate the intent of the Member's question and I will request my department officials to look into the availability of such equipment and report back to him as soon as possible. If such surplus equipment can be identified, the Member's suggestion will be followed but I will be reporting back to the House no matter what assistance we can provide.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Wah-Shee.

Question 109-85(1): Responsibility For Medical Transient Centres

MR. WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, supplementary to a question to the Minister of Health and Social Services. I wonder if the Minister can indicate to this House the role that the CMHC may have to play in regard to building a centre for the people who have to come to Yellowknife from outlying areas. What is the relationship or the co-operation that would be required?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin.

Return To Question 109-85(1): Responsibility For Medical Transient Centres

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The two facilities that we have already were purchased by the GNWT and we recover the operation and maintenance money from Health and Welfare Canada on a contractual basis annually in the case of Montreal, and per patient in the case of Winnipeg. In Yellowknife I am aware that a group in the Kitikmeot has made a proposal that they would put up a building and lease it to Health and Welfare Canada. Also, they or another group, would operate the transient centre and bill Health and Welfare Canada on a per diem basis. Health and Welfare Canada may not wish to get in the position of leasing a building or offsetting the capital costs of that building so that is the role our government may have to play. But as far as I know, CMHC does not have funds for a medical services type of facility. I know they do not for nursing homes or hospitals, so I believe that they would not have that but I will have my department check with the Housing Corporation to see if in their knowledge there are any type of funds like that available. But I do not believe there is, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Wah-Shee.

Supplementary To Question 109-85(1): Responsibility For Medical Transient Centres

MR. WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, supplementary to the Minister of Health and Social Services. I wonder if the Minister can indicate whether it is possible to have some sort of planning done with the Dene and Metis in this area who have to come to Yellowknife for medical services to inquire as to how they feel they would like to be looked after in terms of identifying their particular needs and, also, listening to their experiences in terms of the kinds of treatment that they have had thus far in Yellowknife, and the kinds of ideas that might come out to advise your department as to the kind of facility that may be required and the kind of changes that may be required in terms of involving more of the Dene and Metis people in looking after the patients once they come here.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin.

Further Return To Question 109-85(1): Responsibility For Medical Transient Centres

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think Members have to understand that our department, you know, only operates the hospitals in four communities right now. The nursing stations and the movement of patients from communities into Yellowknife and Frobisher Bay and other hospital areas is something Health and Welfare Canada handles. They actually have the financial and administrative responsibilities in this area. Our government and through questions like this in the House, we play a role as an advocate for our constituents and our residents in the Northwest Territories to Health and Welfare Canada to try and persuade them to do things but the program is presently theirs. We are in the act of trying to transfer the Health and Welfare Canada program for nursing stations in the Baffin, but in this area initiatives by our government have met with some difficulty from the native organizations, so we have not made an effort to become involved in this area other than trying to persuade Health and Welfare Canada what to do. Until we get an indication that the residents in the Mackenzie want our government to become further involved, financially, administratively in the area of health, we won't be doing that but we will continue to play an advocate role for Members and I will use my office however possible to persuade Health and Welfare Canada to resolve problems that we have.

If there are problems in the Yellowknife hospital itself, I would like to hear those specific incidents and if they are a territorial responsibility I can deal with them. If they are a Health and Welfare Canada responsibility within the hospital, I will do my best to advise Health and Welfare Canada of the problems. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wah-Shee.

Supplementary To Question 109-85(1): Responsibility For Medical Transient Centres

MR. WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, for the information of the Minister, Yellowknife Stanton Hospital is a territorial responsibility. I would like to ask the Minister whether he can provide statistics on an annual basis of how many Dene and Metis patients come for treatment to Yellowknife hospital which may, in the end, justify the need for a centre for the Dene and Metis patients.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 109-85(1): Responsibility For Medical Transient Centres

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. The figures, I believe, average around 18 a day from the Kitikmeot and about 14 a day from Mackenzie Valley communities, requiring board and lodging in Yellowknife. I have details on that which I have read before and I will send the Member a copy of those exact statistics. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 110-85(1): Minister's Misplaced Question Sheet

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday, during a discussion on the Housing Corporation, certain questions were asked of the Minister and he asked if they could be put together on paper. He subsequently misplaced that and I just wonder if the Minister has found it or has anybody turned in those papers yet.

MR. BALLANTYNE: There is a reward.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you wish to reply to that, Mr. Minister?

MR. McCALLUM: You had better, they are important questions.

Return To Question 110-85(1): Minister's Misplaced Question Sheet

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, they were not found. However I did obtain a copy from the standing committee on finance. I still have not found the originals.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I wanted to make sure that the Minister did have those comments, I think they are important questions.

Question 111-85(1): Reappointment Of Justices Of The Peace

I would like to move to another question, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday during the debate on the Department of Justice and Public Services, I asked the Minister if it was his opinion that presently appointed JPs, public servants or otherwise, held the office for life, to which he replied "yes". In light of that, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister, will he now issue new instructions to those officials where he will not deal with the reappointment of public servants but he may want to do something about the appointment of new JPs? According to a particular communique that the standing committee on finance received from the Minister -- there is no date on it, but it was in relation to a couple of questions on the Department of Justice and Public Services -- in one of the paragraphs on page two the Minister said, and I quote, "Accordingly, I have issued instructions to my officials not to appoint or renew the appointment of any public servant or municipal or settlement councillors as justices of the peace." I ask the Minister now, will he now correct that instruction and directive and deal only with the appointment of public servants or the possible appointment, but delete the business of renewing the appointments?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 111-85(1): Reappointment Of Justices Of The Peace

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just to indicate to the honourable Member that we would be dealing with the reappointments through new legislation. I suggest to you, again, there is some very serious concern with regard to the independence of the judiciary and the legislation will deal with the independence of the judiciary in a manner that it ought to be dealt with and that it may include the non-appointment or the question of reappointment of all justices of the peace, which may mean that those that are justices of the peace at this particular time or until such legislation is introduced, that their appointments may become not valid.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to remind the Minister that I am not concerned about the introduction of legislation that will effect it. That will depend upon whether the legislation receives the support of this House and he may want to do those things but simply introducing legislation is not going to be enough. It is going to have to be passed by the House. I am not concerned about the aspects of the court case, I am concerned about the reappointment and his direction or instruction to his officials not to renew the appointments now. He has no basis for not doing that at the present time. He may, if this legislation passes.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not sure if I have picked up a question out of that. Mr. Nerysoo, did you pick out a question out of there?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I will not change the instructions I have given.

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

Supplementary To Question 111-85(1): Reappointment Of Justices Of The Peace

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I beg your pardon, but yesterday, when we were dealing with this particular matter, the Minister said that it was his understanding that presently appointed JPs hold their office for life. How then can he instruct the officials of his department not to reappoint them? If they hold their jobs, their appointments are for life; how can he talk about reappointing present JPs? He may want to talk about the appointment of new JPs but if he indicates and he admits that in fact the present JPs, public servants or otherwise, are JPs for life until such time as there is cause, how can he now instruct his people in his department not to renew appointments? It does not make sense.

AN HON. MEMBER: If they die, he will not renew the appointments.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Do not worry about it.

MR. McCALLUM: I have to.

AN HON. MEMBER: Why?

MR. McCALLUM: Nobody else is.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 111-85(1): Reappointment Of Justices Of The Peace

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to indicate that at present and the comments made yesterday were that justices of the peace were appointed for life. However, the appointments all have to be periodically signed, that is, every three years they must be signed and my instructions with regard to those appointments are that they not be signed.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions.

Item 5, written questions. Are there any written questions, today? Item 6, returns. Are there any returns? Mr. Wray.

ITEM 6: RETURNS

Further Return To Question 28-85(1): User-Pay Policy, Public Housing

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to oral Question 28-85(1) asked by Mr. Gargan on user-pay policy for public housing.

Yellowknife district: Yellowknife, January 1982, tenant pays 100 per cent and claims back 25 per cent from authority; Latham/Detah, September 1983, tenant pays six cents/KWH; Rae/Edzo, October 1983, tenant pays six cents/KWH; Snowdrift, October 1983, tenant pays six cents/KWH.

Inuvik district: Inuvik, October 1983, 500 KWH free, tenant pays five cents/KWH thereafter.

Cambridge Bay district: Cambridge Bay, January 1982, tenant pays one cent/KWH.

Frobisher Bay district: Frobisher Bay, September 1983, 500 KWH free, tenant pays 501-1500 one cent/KWH, over 1500, three cents/KWH; Resolute Bay, September 1983, 500 KWH free, tenant pays 501-1500 one cent/KWH, over 1500 three cents/KWH.

Hay River district: Fort Resolution, July 1983, 500 KWH free, tenant pays remainder; Fort Simpson, October 1982, 3.5 cents on the first 1000 KWH and the balance of the bill over this figure; Fort Providence, early 1980, tenant pays full bill; Fort Smith, early 1980, tenant pays full bill; Hay River, early 1980, tenant pays full bill with credit \$27/month if paid on time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Wray. Are there any further returns? Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 32-85(1): Reimbursement Of Air Fares For Court Appearance

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, this is a return to oral Question 32-85(1) asked by Mr. Erkloo on February 11th, 1985.

With reference to the question raised by the honourable Elijah Erkloo, I have been advised that the reason why five persons were asked to travel to Igloolik to attend court was because the court had not planned to sit in Hall Beach during the court circuit on February 7th, 1985. The individuals who were asked to travel to Igloolik to attend court have now been reimbursed for the expenses incurred by them to travel from Hall Beach to Igloolik.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Returns, Mr. Wray.

Return To Question 26-85(1): Housing For Snowdrift

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Return to oral Question 26-85(1) asked by Mrs. Lawrence on the subject of Snowdrift housing.

The last northern rental units were constructed at Snowdrift in 1973-74. Since the introduction of rental housing a responsible local management body has not emerged, due in part to the small number -- 12 -- of units and limited funding. Public housing -- as different from housing under the northern rental housing program -- has not been introduced into Snowdrift due to the community's reluctance to accept more rental units and the lack of a responsible local management body. Maintenance and management of these units continues to be a problem and the following extraordinary maintenance projects have been necessitated since 1979: nine new furnaces were installed; six sets of kitchen cupboards and floor covering were installed; 11 new roofs were installed; and 12 units were re-sided. The district is currently working with the band to establish a local management body.

Over the next two years the corporation also plans to upgrade electrical systems, windows and doors. While no rental housing has been provided in Snowdrift since 1974, the community has benefited from home-ownership programs. Since 1979, 13 home-ownership applications have been approved; four in 1979, four in 1982, five in 1983. The community and applicants experienced considerable problems in completing the 1982 and 1983 units. These units are now all completed to the occupancy stage except for one unit which remains unoccupied due to the client's personal problems. When 1985 HAP units were allocated late in 1984, Snowdrift was low on the priority list because both the 1982 and 1983 units were still under construction. However, now that these units are finally completed the community will be high on the 1986 HAP priority list.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Returns. Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 95-85(1): Pay For Part-Time Liquor Inspectors

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to oral Question 95-85(1) asked by Mr. McCallum on February 18th, 1985, regarding liquor inspectors.

The Department of Justice and Public Services currently employs three part-time liquor inspectors; one in Yellowknife, one in Inuvik, and one in Fort Smith. The position of part-time liquor inspector is generally advertised locally and applications are directed to the chief liquor inspector in Yellowknife. A condition of employment is that the applicant must obtain the approval of his or her employer in order to be considered for the position. This applies to government and non-government employees alike. The duties of a part-time liquor inspector are carried out in the evenings and would not normally conflict with his full-time hours of employment. His terms of employment and remuneration are contained in a service contract which is renewed annually.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Returns. Are there any further returns? Mr. McLaughlin.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to oral Question 67-85(1) asked by Mr. Arlooktoo. Mr. Arlooktoo is not in the House, I will give the return -- oh, there he is, sorry, there he is. I was looking at the wrong chair, sorry, Mr. Speaker.

HON. GORDON WRAY: You all look the same, Joe, don't worry.

Further Return To Question 67-85(1): Day Care Centre, Cape Dorset

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: I did not recognize him when he was not stopping pucks. This was asked by Mr. Arlooktoo on February 13th, Mr. Speaker, regarding a day care centre in Cape Dorset.

The Department of Social Services supports day care through the provision of a subsidy to parents who would otherwise be unable to afford day care or babysitting services. We are, however, unable at present to provide funds directly to centres. Child care was a major issue during the recent federal election. The new government in Ottawa has announced that a parliamentary task force will deal with this issue and hopefully they will identify funding mechanisms which will help in this area.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Are there any further returns?

Item 7, petitions.

Item 8, reports of standing and special committees. Item 9, tabling of documents. Mr. Nerysoo.

ITEM 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, in accordance with section 39 of the Interpretation Ordinance, I wish to report to the House on the orders, rules and regulations made pursuant to the ordinances of the Northwest Territories. I am therefore tabling the following document: Tabled Document 17-85(1): numbers 8 and 9 of volume V of Part I of the Northwest Territories Gazette; numbers 3, 4, 5 and an extraordinary edition of volume V of Part II of the Northwest Territories Gazette; and indices of all regulations, statutory instruments and appointments made pursuant to the ordinances of the Northwest Territories for the period from the 1st of November, 1984, to 31st January, 1985. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Tabling of documents. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I had made the commitment to the Members of this House that I would be tabling in this House the speech and the documentation that related to the First Ministers' Conference on the economy, I would like to table Tabled Document 18-85(1): GNWT Statement at the First Ministers' Conference on the Economy, the summary of the speech and the detail and also we will be having the document totally translated into Inuktitut.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. McLaughlin.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 19-85(1): Ambulance Services in the Northwest Territories, Preliminary Report of the Air and Ground Ambulance Policy Advisory Committee, and a summary in Inuktitut. Thank you.

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

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Tabled Document 20-85(1): Airstrip for Arctic Bay, which is brought in by BRC. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Tabling of documents. Item 10, notices of motion. Mr. Wah-Shee.

ITEM 10: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 5-85(1): Federal Government's Arctic Air Facilities Policy

MR. WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, on Friday, February 22nd, I shall move the following motion: That this House recommend to the Executive Council that it communicate, on behalf of the GNWT, the urgent need for a renewal of the arctic air facilities policy to the Minister of Transport and to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Notices of motion.

Item 11, notices of motion for first reading of bills.

Item 12, motions.

Item 13, first reading of bills.

Item 14, second reading of bills. Item 15, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Bill 7-85(1), Appropriation Act 1985-86 and Bill 3-85(1), Workers' Compensation Act, with Mr. Wah-Shee in the chair.

ITEM 15: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS AND OTHER MATTERS

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 7-85(1), APPROPRIATION ACT, 1985-86

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): The committee will now come to order. We will have a 15 minute coffee break.

---SHORT RECESS

Department Of Justice And Public Services

The House will come to order please. I understand we are on page 8.8 under the Department of Justice and Public Services, legal. Mr. Minister, would you like to bring your witnesses before the committee?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, yes, I would like to have the approval of the House to bring in the witness.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Does the committee concur?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister, for the record would you introduce your witness?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The witness that has joined me is Mr. Stien Lal, who is the deputy minister of Justice and Public Services.

Legal, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): We are under legal division, total O and M, \$1,193,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, just before we broke yesterday the Minister had indicated that his department is going to undertake a complete review of the Landlord and Tenant Ordinance and he anticipates that a report will be available within six months, as a result of that review. Mr. Minister, can you indicate whether that review will include within its mandate any possibility of establishing a rental review agency which has been lobbied for by some members of the public in recent months?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have not yet had the review done and certainly one of the recommendations would be a rental review process and until such time as we receive the report we could not really indicate whether or not such a review process would be recommended.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I perhaps could only indicate to the Minister that notwithstanding that some have cried for the establishment of a rental review agency in some of the larger communities, strict rental control has been experimented with in southern jurisdictions for many, many years and I believe in the province of Ontario at the moment they are re-looking at that whole concept. I would simply recommend to the Minister that he have his review consultant perhaps look at the inquiry, or the results of the inquiry in the province of Ontario before making any recommendations in this regard. That simply is a recommendation to the Minister, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to indicate that certainly we will ensure that that review of the rental review agency could be and will be part of the terms of reference of the contractor.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Legal division. Total O and M, \$1,193,000. Mr. McCallum.

Regulations Accompanying Legislation

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I just want to make a comment in terms of legislation and the attendant regulations. I think the Minister and his people will recall the report of the Auditor General on "any other matter" about the importance of having regulations accompany legislation so that regulations are known to this House and therefore known to the public when legislation has been enacted. It is the business of the coming into force date. But the Auditor General did make comments specific to particular legislation.

I applaud the work of the Minister tabling today what he did table as regards regulations and the Gazette. I would hope that his department will in fact take to heart the comments of the Auditor General wherein he says in effect that regulations must be up to date and they accompany the legislation before the coming into effect of legislation because if not, it leaves too much responsibility for interpretation of legislation to the bureaucracy and the interpretation dependent upon where the bureaucracy is, is not consistent. I think that is one of the things that the Auditor General was commenting upon. The delegation of responsibility for carrying out legislation via regulations and or whatever form that may take, be it directives, memos, word of mouth, whatever, leads to some confusion amongst people who should derive the good of our legislation. If our legislation is enacted so that it is specific to providing a service for government to the people then people have a right to know how to go about things. I would just like to get a comment from the Minister in that whole area of the importance of making sure that regulations are at least tabled in this House so that Members can be made aware of what is involved with those regulations before the coming into force of particular legislation.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to indicate to the Member that it is our responsibility to ensure that all appropriate legislation, whether it is the ordinance or acts in future, and the appropriate regulations will hopefully be made available prior to the coming into force of all legislation. We certainly will attempt on all to ensure that Members of this House are aware of the particular legislation, and certainly the tabling of legislation today in the House. That has been the practice in the past of ensuring that Members here are aware of such actions that have been taken with regard to legislation prior to the House sitting or the session being called.

I do also want to indicate to the Member that his comments are very valid and certainly we will ensure that whatever direction we take and as I already indicated we have taken the direction to ensure that we will have the appropriate regulations available prior to coming into force of all legislation, and hopefully in some instances being introduced as part of the legislation itself.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. At this time I would like to recognize the grade nine class from William McDonald Junior High School and their teacher Alex Demello. Welcome to our House.

---Applause

Legal, Total O And M, Agreed

Legal division. Total O and M, \$1,193,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Police Services Agreement, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Police Services Agreement. Total O and M, \$15,421,000. Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am going to make a brief comment concerning the police services. I guess you know as Minister of Justice, usually we have two RCMP workers in my community and alcohol is prohibited in my community. The council in Sanikiluaq were wondering if the RCMP had enough work to do. We were wondering if the other RCMP would be able to work on night shifts. We were wondering as to whom we were going to consult with. Will it be the federal government or the territorial government? I am just trying to get the other RCMP on shift work, one on nights and one on days. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Certainly to indicate to the honourable Member that we have a responsibility and we give direction and work with the commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. We have an agreement with the RCM Police and we also have, I must say, ongoing discussions with the Solicitor General of Canada who is responsible in the House of Commons for the RCM Police. Certainly raise the question with us so that we can raise it with the people in Ottawa so that we can find some kind of arrangement.

I do say that presently there is an agreement between the union representing the RCMP and the federal government which affects our agreement with the federal government, that there are normal working hours which are eight hours a day and any extra hours mean overtime which would, of course, mean additional costs. The point that the Member raised, certainly we can look into the issue and see if we can find an appropriate solution. It may be that what he wants may not be possible but certainly we will be prepared to look and find a solution.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to elaborate to you, Mr. Minister. We have two RCMP workers in Sanikiluaq and we are able to give them a call 24 hours a day when there is something happening. However, off working hours sometimes we can only see them during the weekdays. We tend to get frustrated when we cannot see the RCMP when we request it. We do not have a by-law worker in my community but we have been wanting to get a by-law officer for a while now. I would like to get a reply to this as soon as possible before I get back to my community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, certainly we will respond as quickly as we can to the concern that the Member has raised.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Ballantyne.

Development Of Specific Policing Agency

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder, in the objectives outlined in the Police Services Agreement in this activity, one of the objectives is to "pursue discussions with the federal Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development at a senior level to develop a policing agency specific to the Northwest Territories". I wonder if the Minister could give us an explanation as to what we are attempting to achieve in this area.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, to indicate to the honourable Member that our attempts are to get out of the present arrangement that we have with the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs as it relates to the 3B program. The 3B program is very specific in its terms of reference. It usually associates the whole question of special constables with that of reserves. Our situation in the Northwest Territories is very, very much different and in our discussions we are trying to develop a program that allows us to participate in the arrangements under the 3B program, recruiting special constables for the RCM Police or to play a role with the RCM Police that takes into consideration the circumstances under which we are living here in the Northwest Territories and not necessarily to be put into the same category as the reserves in all the other areas across the country. In fact what we are doing is we are now, I guess, trying to obtain finances and financial resources from a pot that applies to all of Canada, as opposed to applying only to the Northwest Territories, and ensuring that we have the necessary funds that would be required to either increase the numbers of native constables or developing a training program with the RCM Police here for the Northwest Territories. So, that is the problem we have encountered, as we are trying to get out of that particular program.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I wonder if the Minister can explain how our arrangement with the RCM Police differs from the arrangement of provinces that use it as a provincial police force. Are there significant differences between our arrangement and other provincial arrangements with the RCM Police?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, there are no real differences between our arrangements with the RCM Police and those of the provinces. What our problem is with regard to the 3B program is, because of our numbers being so small as well, that we have to compete with Ontario and we have to compete with Quebec for the particular funding that is associated with native special constables and in that sense we have no opportunity really to address some of the problems we have in the North with regard to that one particular program. But with the regular force, because they are a regular force, the RCM Police, that is a different situation. We have an arrangement similar to that which the other jurisdictions in this country have, with the RCM Police. We do not have a provincial or a territorial police force. That makes it somewhat more difficult for us, I guess, to relate to other provinces in this country that have provincial police forces. I believe that most provincial forces are paid wholly by the provincial governments. In some cases where they are providing a service to the federal government, in those particular instances they have an agreement that allows them to provide a service on a cost-recovery basis.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: So, I take it the major thrust of the discussions will be to give the territorial government more flexibility in providing special constables and special constable programs. That would be the major thrust of these discussions, is that correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, yes, that is correct.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Police Services Agreement, total O and M, \$15,421,000. Mr. McCallum.

Assessment Of Adequacy Of Personnel And Service

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I just have one question of the Minister in regard to this particular activity. How does the department or the Minister or the government attempt to assess any kind of adequacy of personnel in a particular community and, therefore, I guess, the level of service provided by the RCMP throughout the Territories? Is there a mechanism established other than requests from communities for additional personnel, whereby the department or the Minister is able to consult with the superintendent for this kind of service? Is there any kind of mechanism in place?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, there is a process that allows us to have discussions with the chief superintendent. Maybe I could ask Mr. Lal to elaborate further with regard to criteria and also to respond further to the issue that the honourable Member has raised.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Lal, could you put on your microphone please?

MR. LAL: Thank you. In determining whether additional personnel should be added to a particular detachment, several factors are taken into account. The principal factor, Mr. Chairman, is the size of the population. In addition to that, the case load of the particular detachment is taken into account, the fact of how many times a year the court circuit visits that community and any other relevant factors. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police maintains a very sophisticated set of statistics in respect of all these factors and a comparative study is done every year in determining whether a reallocation of police personnel is required or not. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Lal. Police Services Agreement. Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In this section it makes a reference to an agreement that the Northwest Territories government has with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development for a special native constables program to carry out certain policing functions. I wonder if the Minister could provide us with the details of that agreement.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, presently there is no formal agreement in existence relating to the special native constables program or the 3B program which we have with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. What occurs is that there is an exchange of letters indicating that the finances will be available for that program and the expenditures can be made. Currently, we have five special constables in place. We have requested that we provide an additional five. Presently, the special native constables are in Frobisher Bay, Pangnirtung, Eskimo Point, Hay River and Fort Simpson. If we are to expand -- and we have not yet any approval at all from the department -- if we are to expand, Aklavik, Gjoa Haven, Fort Resolution, Cape Dorset and Fort Rae are the communities that have been identified and these communities have been identified with the help of the RCM Police themselves. They have provided a report to us and we have requested from them advice on the areas that they feel require that additional support.

I must also say that while no formal agreement exists at the moment, we are working toward an agreement being put into place and as I indicated this agreement would be, hopefully, outside the 3B program so as to exclude us from, I guess, participating in a program that all other provinces presently participate in so that we can have ongoing funding available to us or the ability to negotiate additional funding without having to compete with the other provinces and the other territory for the particular pot that is now made available under the 3B program.

Police Services Agreement, Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Police Services Agreement, total 0 and M, \$15,421,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Safety And Mining, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Safety and mining, total O and M, \$2,032,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: A question was brought up in the finance committee. I know that the Minister is looking at reorganization of his department and particular areas in his department -- I think they are looking at the idea that certain functions should go with similar areas, perhaps, in other departments. In the whole area of occupational health and mining safety one proposal that has been brought forward was the possibility of the occupational health and mining safety division going over to the Workers' Compensation Board. Since your last discussion, before Christmas, has any work been done on that proposal?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, this particular item is before the senior management group. We recognize the recommendation that was made. What we tried to do was look at the idea that has been proposed by the standing committee on finance in relation to what now exists in other jurisdictions in this country, as well as what would be the best way to provide the best service. Certainly the suggestion that has been made by the standing committee on finance will be taken into consideration when we make that appropriate change.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Safety and mining, total O and M, \$2,032,000. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, one of the issues, I think, that was raised in the standing committee on housing was a need for a possible public consultation under the fire safety legislation about the use, if you like, and the regulations thereof and a policy of smoke detectors. I wonder if the Minister could comment as to whether he, indeed, agrees that there is a need for this kind of consultation and if he does, what steps are being taken by the department to bring that about or participate in such a public consultation?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

Fire Safety Code

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have not made any decision as to whether or not we should be consulting with the Housing Corporation or other agencies in government. As the honourable Member knows, there is a fire safety code that we are presently utilizing and I also recognize a concern that he has expressed today and, certainly, without question we will be proceeding to give some directions as to how we might best carry out a consultation process with the Housing Corporation and, also, for that matter, the Department of Public Works.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think one of the concerns that was being expressed either by Members of the standing committee or what was indicated to individual MLAs would be the kind of regulations that are in effect that dictate as to the kind of smoke detectors and/or any other kind of equipment that would be there in public places, such as hotels, friendship centres and those places that people are in and sometimes there has been concern raised, the demand has been made to update, as it were, public places and I just wonder what kind of consultation is then taken by, for example, the NWT Hotel Association as to the requirements that are -- would have to be made to update premises to make them safer.

That, obviously, entails at times an increased expenditure as regulations change as to the kinds of detectors that should or must be used and when there is an increased amount of money spent by an individual to update his establishment to come into line with new regulations, is there a consultation process that is in place whereby people will know about it rather than having something laid on them?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, no, there is no consultation process that presently exists. It is a matter, I guess, of enforcing the legislation that this House passed in May 1982 and...

MR. McCALLUM: Change the regulations.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: We certainly, Mr. Chairman, can look at some public consultation process and try to see how we can make people aware of the standards that were passed through legislation so that we do not cause any additional problems because, without any question, when there are any changes at all to standards, financially they cause some problems for some entrepreneurs and some businesses but we are, in some instances, faced also with the application of the national building code. As I indicated I will certainly try to find some way of improving the consultation that we now have with the general public of the Northwest Territories.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Safety and mining. Mr. McCallum.

No Input From MLAs To Regulations

MR. McCALLUM: Well, Mr. Chairman, I recognize that the fire safety ordinance is a piece of legislation passed by this House. I fully accept that responsibility but to continue, the problem is that there are always changes to regulations as new, improved detectors and safety appliances come out and the problem has been that this House in the past has not known of the changes in the regulations until, as an MLA, you get somebody coming in from your constituency and saying, "Hey, I have a hotel or a motel and now there are new regulations out, what are you guys trying to do?" and because we do not see those regulations, and I understand you are going to change the procedure and I appreciate that, but if the regulations change because of the Canada building code, and we do not see those regulations until they come into effect, we cannot comment upon them or have any input. We, as a Legislature, have little input into regulations or have had in the past.

I think the Minister just touched on those things, for example, in the different regulations that are now in effect through the building code in regard to wood stoves. They have been changing for so many years, the different consumer-approved, whatever the organization is, that approves smoke detectors. Those that one would have in the past are not good enough now and it is those kinds of things that I am concerned about in a public process to make the public aware that these are going on. They may be publicized but not everybody -- there has to be a little bit more than that. There are organizations such as the Construction Association, there is the NWT Hotel Association, there are other organizations that are affected by these kinds of changes in regulations and all I am suggesting is if there are going to be changes in the regulations whereby new and updated equipment is necessary for the safety of the public in a public place then let us come together or establish some mechanism where these people can be made aware of them rather than having it simply laid on them. In that way I think that some of the difficulties we have had with regulations in the past can be overcome to the satisfaction of all people, both the people who own the public facilities as well as government.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): I believe that was a comment. Do you want to comment on his comment, Mr. Minister?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, I will certainly take his comment as advice.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you for that enlightenment. I would like at this time to recognize Chief Harry Deneron, the chief of Fort Liard band.

---Applause

Safety and mining, total O and M, \$2,032,000. Mr. Ballantyne.

Emergency Response Plan

MR. BALLANTYNE: I see in last years objectives, which were not carried forward this year, one was to ensure that disaster and emergency response plans were prepared in all regions of the Northwest Territories and I wonder now in every community of the Northwest Territories, is there an emergency response plan so that in each community everyone is aware of what are the responsibilities of the mayor or hamlet chairman or council and what the territorial government's responsibilities are?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to indicate that there is now a five year agreement with Emergency Planning Canada and under this agreement and the specific programs identified under the agreement the Government of the Northwest Territories will be able to provide greater assistance to the regions and communities in all aspects of emergency planning and emergency response planning. I do say further that we have had the opportunity to participate as a government to allow particular communities as well as federal agencies and the government to participate in mock emergency situations. I believe that we have been able to communicate with most communities in making them aware that we now have this particular situation in existence and hopefully we will have the opportunity to plan with the communities of the Northwest Territories various mock emergency situations so as to allow those parties involved in the communities to participate in an emergency exercise.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. McCallum.

MR. MCCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I do not want this particular section to go by since we are dealing with fire safety as well here, without making a comment about the high standard of the volunteer fire departments and brigades throughout the Territories. Just this past weekend, I had the opportunity and the pleasure to be with a group of firefighters all the way from Cambridge Bay, Rae-Edzo, this community and other communities at another function that they had. I know personally of the kind of work that the volunteer fire departments of the Territories do. They have a splendid record and I think it is responsible in terms of your own department and the people that do work with the local firefighters. So, I would like to compliment the department, the Minister, and also at the same time indicate personally, and hopefully on behalf of this committee of the House, the great work that the volunteer fire department people do in all the communities of the Northwest Territories.

AN HON. MEMBER: Mr. Butters wants to thank the Members.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Butters, did you have some comments you want to contribute?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to echo the remarks of the honourable Member. I do think that the volunteers who serve on the fire departments of our communities throughout the North do not receive the credit that is due them on many, many occasions and I welcome the honourable Member's remarks. I was just suggesting that it would not be remiss I think for this House to develop a motion of appreciation to send on a formal basis to all of such fire departments who serve us so well.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Butters. Safety and mining, \$2,032,000. Mr. McCallum.

Motion To Send Letter Of Commendation To All Fire Chiefs, Carried

MR. MCCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate what Mr. Butters has indicated and I would so move that a letter of commendation from this Assembly be sent to all fire chiefs and their personnel in each of the communities in the Northwest Territories commending them for their past service and the work that they have performed for the people of the Territories.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. McCallum, your motion is in order. To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Question has been called. All those in favour? Thank you. Opposed, if any? Let the record show it was unanimous. Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to say something before the motion passed. I would like to just put on record and single out the community of Rankin Inlet volunteer fire brigade which in December of this year put a fire out at the new rec centre in such a manner that it saved this government almost five million dollars. It was an excellent job and we could have lost the entire new building if it had not been for the job that they did. So, I would just like to put that on record.

---Applause

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): The motion is carried.

---Carried

Safety and mining. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I have been away a couple of days now on other business regrettably.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Regrettable other business or regrettably you have been away?

---Laughter

MR. MacQUARRIE: A little bit of both, I guess. There was an incident that occurred that I have an interest in and I see that while I was away some statements have been made in respect of it and I would like a little more information on it. But because I have just come back I am not prepared to pursue it as far as I intend to or would like to.

Public Inquiry Into Death At Mine

That is the matter of the death at Con Mine of Gordon Lyle Davidson and the call by Local 802 of the United Steelworkers for a public inquiry into that death. I see from today's paper that the Minister is saying "no" to a public inquiry and I know on the other hand that a lot of people who work in mines, where they risk their lives more so than most of us every day when they work, are concerned that wherever there is a serious accident and particularly a fatality, that all of the facts should surface so that they and the public know clearly what the circumstances were that brought about that fatality. I suppose for two reasons so that if there is fault that justice can be done. Secondly, that if the facts point to remedies for the future that those remedies will be taken so that there will not be further fatalities.

That local feels that there were warnings and dangers that were ignored. They feel that there was a spill that was unreported that had a bearing on the case. And they say that pertinent information was not allowed to be submitted at the inquest as relative information, that only that information that pertained to the specific date of the fatality and to that specific fatality was allowed. They say that there are relevant facts that go beyond both of those parameters.

I note from the paper that the Minister is reluctant to see a public inquiry because he feels that it can be divisive. I disagree. Not more so than court cases, for example, that we have day after day after day in our society. It is a means of finding out as fully as possible what happened. I noticed that the Minister questioned the purpose and I would ask the Minister, is not the purpose always to disclose the true facts about what occurred so that the public generally and particularly those who have these kinds of concerns can be aware of what those true facts were? So, I would first ask the Minister then, to explain his remarks that he feels it is divisive. In what sense would it be divisive?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman. Just to indicate to the Member that there was a coroner's inquest that allowed for certain input from those people that were a part of that tragic situation. Now, I will say right now, that I do not think a public inquiry is a proper route to go. As I have indicated, we will review the appropriate legislation. A task force could be established which would examine all aspects without becoming another Grange inquiry.

Now, the other thing that I do not think should occur is a situation where that particular tragic incident which happened should be associated to an incident that happened previously. In that particular situation we are still investigating the March incident. The chief mining officer makes a report which will be carefully examined and an appropriate decision will be made. At this time, such a decision is premature.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: I was not talking specifically about the laying of charges. Certainly our officials who have the responsibility of upholding the laws and the regulations of these Territories have a very weighty moral obligation to consider whether charges should be laid, and if they should be, to do so. So I am not urging somebody to do it if they, in their capacity and knowing their moral responsibilities in that regard, feel that it is not warranted. So I am not urging that at this time at any rate.

The matter of a public inquiry is a different thing. It may be easy for the Minister to say that he does not think that a public inquiry should be held. But those who work in those circumstances think that a public inquiry should be held. The Minister does not think that some incident that occurred earlier can or need be related to this particular incident. But people who work in those circumstances, that are exposed to those dangers, think that there is a relationship. As someone whose own father was killed in a mining accident at a time when nobody had very much concern about workers or previous incidents, or what happened to families after it occurred, I am very much on the side of workers who want to see that they are being dealt with fairly and they are being dealt with in a way that ensures that the greatest precautions that are humanly possible are taken, so that they themselves will not, and their families will not be put in the same kind of position.

Terms Of Reference Of A Task Force

So I believe that the Minister should very seriously consider what a group of people in that kind of circumstance say about it. I do not believe that the public interest will be damaged in any way by trying to get as fully as possible at the facts of the case. I will leave that with the Minister to reconsider and act on it. But I do note in the story as well that the Minister has said "Maybe a task force could do the job. That it might be less divisive." So I would say first of all, what commitment is the Minister willing to make in that regard or has he made? I may not be aware. And further, if that is the way he is thinking and is determined to do something in that direction, what kind of terms of reference, how would that differ from a public inquiry?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When I spoke to the individual with that newspaper, I indicated that I did not think that a public inquiry was the only process that could be used to address the concerns that had been raised. I did not say "no inquiry". I think that the question of an inquiry can be that of a task force. It can be that of a public process. But the reality is that there are other processes that could be used without necessarily causing serious differences of opinion between the people that are involved in the mining industry, those people that are investors and those people that are employees of that particular industry. I think there are other ways of dealing with it. The other thing is that I have not ruled out that particular situation occurring. I have not yet indicated what the terms of reference of a task force, or working group might be, mainly because it is important, firstly, to know what it is that they intend to accomplish. Is it that they intend to develop new direction for government? Is it intended, further, to improve the working conditions in the mine? Those are things that have to be addressed in any terms of reference.

Another Process Possible

I believe that it would have been premature for me to make any commitments until I had the opportunity to speak to my staff who had been involved in that particular incident and, as well, to get some kind of indication as to what terms of reference might be useful in suggesting to both the union and management in trying to get them to work together on dealing with the outstanding issues that might have arisen from that particular incident. That is the very reason I said "no", that I did not agree with the public inquiry, because there is the possibility that there is another process to use, but that seemed to be the only way in which people were prepared to address the question. In that sense, I could not say "yes" to the public inquiry alone, that there might be another option available to us that we could bring together government, management and labour to try to address those particular outstanding questions.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MACQUARRIE: The Minister seems to me to be indicating that some kind of inquiry is very much a possibility. Can I ask the Minister when he will be able to say that he has determined that there will or will not be? Three days, or one week, or two weeks or when? Secondly, if he will give the undertaking that if he determines that there ought to be, that the workers who have called for the public inquiry will be participants in setting up the terms of reference so that they can be satisfied that whatever mechanism it is, the important facts will be disclosed. That does not mean the facts as they see them, but the facts will be disclosed. Would they be part of that?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, I could not indicate, certainly, how quickly I would seek to try to find a solution to this. I just do say, though, that certainly I wish to indicate to the Member that there will be no question that if any final decision is to be made, both management and labour will be involved and they will be involved, hopefully, in any kind of process that might be established.

All we have to do is look at the experience that we have developed over the past few years with the way in which we have been able to bring together management and labour as it relates to the mining industry and the ability of this government to work with them. I think that we should take advantage of that experience and make use of it to try to find the best solution possible that might allow us to be very constructive about any kind of process that might be developed. As to whether or not the results will be made public or there will be public input, I think that time will tell that. I think it is a matter of sitting down with the people involved and finding out from them and giving them what we might consider to be some advice of our own, as to how we might be able to deal with that. It would, again, be premature for me to say, "Yes, there will be", prior to involving them, both management and labour, in that particular situation. But, certainly, I will undertake a commitment to try to bring together those particular groups to see what the situation or what the process might be and as quickly as I can. I don't believe it is an issue that is a very simple issue to deal with and neither is it a very pleasant situation to deal with.

None the less, I would hope that any results will be constructive, will be in the interest of those people that are involved in the mining industry and will ensure that such a situation does not happen in future. But that in itself, I believe, does not necessarily indicate that, as I said before, that process will be a public inquiry. I have said "no" at the moment, but that is the position I have taken until such time as we know what the terms of reference of any type of process will be. It would have been premature for me to indicate to the general public that there will be a public inquiry without knowing -- and the very question you asked -- what the terms of reference would be. I think that that is something that I have to know, as to the manner in which they will conduct themselves or, for that matter, what would be the outcome of such a situation.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. MacQuarrie.

Disclosure Of Facts

MR. MACQUARRIE: A suitable outcome is a disclosure of facts. That is sufficient in itself as an objective for such an inquiry and I would remind the Minister that if there is fault and I do not suggest that there is, that any terms of reference would have to ensure that it was a kind of task force or inquiry, whatever, that made sure that those facts were disclosed to the satisfaction of the public, the satisfaction of the workers, and certainly to the satisfaction of the company.

I come back to the time again, sometimes when people press me for decisions I say I need time but I think I can always say, "Look, by Friday I will tell you what I am going to do and when I am going to do it, or by next week I will tell you." I would appreciate the Minister giving a time frame for this, because it is the kind of thing where if that decision is not made, it lapses and may be forgotten. Certainly not by the family, probably not by the brothers of the worker, but by society generally and maybe by the government. So can you give us a reasonable time frame for making that kind of decision?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, I will report back to this House with some indication prior to the conclusion of this session.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I would like to add a couple of comments on this area. I was involved in the union at Giant for four years and I know what it does to the morale of the workers in the mine if there is a serious injury or fatality. This inquiry was asked for by the Federation of Labour, which represents six and a half thousand mine workers in the Northwest Territories. What happens is, if there are not findings that clarify what happened, if there is not the feeling among workers that the situation has been looked at and that every effort is made to make sure the situation does not happen again, the morale right across the Territories in mines goes down. For those of you who have not worked in a mine, every day there is danger for a miner

and I know right now that the families of every miner in the Northwest Territories are looking at this particular situation. They want to know what happened and they want assurance that this sort of accident should not happen again. So, I echo my colleague's concerns and I, too, would like to hear the Minister's future response and I was glad to hear he has not at this point in time totally ruled out an inquiry.

Safety And Mining, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Safety and mining, \$2,032,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, I just want to indicate one thing. The government has not forgotten the incident. The reality is that there is ongoing work in this particular situation and we have moved on our own to make amendments to certain ordinances to rectify certain situations that should not ever occur again, or some of the restrictions that did affect such an open discussion in this particular situation. Now, I do not underestimate the seriousness of this incident but it ought to be taken in context of changing the situation for other miners, the very point that Mr. Ballantyne raised. It is unfortunate that the incident happened and I certainly sympathize with the family. You can be assured that we are trying to find some solution and we have not stopped in dealing with the situation but, as I indicated, we have to be sure about what the intent of any inquiry will be whether it is a public inquiry, whether it is a working group or it is a task force, what they intend to do, what they intend to accomplish, the terms of reference of that particular working group. Once we are sure of that, you can be assured that we want to participate as well. We want to make sure that whatever is required can be done properly either through legislation, whether it is new legislation or amended legislation, but we are trying to deal with issues that we feel are necessary in order to ensure that some of the restrictions that occurred previously do not occur again.

I do say further that we continue to work on this issue, as I stated earlier. It is not something that has gone away nor have we forgotten the particular incident as a government and we want to find some solutions and come to some conclusions as well. We will try to find a method that will hopefully accomplish this and without any questions lay before this government some of the facts that might be relevant and will be relevant in improving the work place and in improving the legislative protection that might be required. I just make you aware that we are not ignoring the situation but rather that there may be some other methods by which we can accomplish the same thing and it is a matter, I guess, of us trying to find that situation that we can work with and work on in conjunction with both labour and management and government. We cannot ignore the role of government in this process. So, I just wanted to indicate that we are in fact trying to deal with the situation.

Consumer Services, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): I believe the safety and mining has already been approved. We are on consumer services at the present time, \$840,000. Agreed? Mr. Appaqaq. What is your point of order, Mr. Ballantyne?

MR. BALLANTYNE: I do not recall approving it. We have carried on discussion. When was this approved?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): It was approved prior to the Minister making his comment. So, we are under consumer services. Mr. Appaqaq.

Licence For Radio Station

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that consumer services have the right to give a licence for some small businesses or companies. I was approached in my community by the local radio station committee and they received their licence from Yellowknife for the operation. This licence lasts for six months, and I was told when they were trying to make some money to run

the radio station, because they have been waiting for their licence for over a month. However, we are quite concerned about this and I am sure that we can rectify this. I am sure that this local radio station committee can be given a licence from the hamlet. The hamlet council gives licences, to the Hudson's Bay or the co-op or the small business people, but the radio society received their licence from Yellowknife and we are not happy about it. I would like to ask the Minister, I was wondering if it was possible for the hamlet to be giving a licence to the radio society. I think that will be more convenient. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not aware of the situation that Mr. Appaqaq raised but certainly we will look into seeing if we can make the appropriate changes that he has suggested.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Consumer services, \$840,000. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: During the standing committee on finance hearings, there was a question asked of the Government Leader about changes to the Landlord and Tenant Ordinance and we asked for details of a public consultation process. The committee was very pleased that we received from the Minister those details. I wonder if the Minister would like to read out those details.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

Terms Of Reference For Review Of Landlord And Tenant Ordinance

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I certainly express my gratitude to the honourable Member for allowing me to read the terms of reference of a contractor that we have directed to complete a review of the Landlord and Tenant Ordinance of the NWT, 1974:

- a) by comparing said ordinance to various landlord and tenant acts of the common law provinces of Canada;
- b) by inviting landlords, tenants, and the respective associations in the major centres of Yellowknife, Hay River, Pine Point and Fort Smith to make representation by way of public meetings to the contractor;
- c) by consulting with the consumer affairs officers and the chief of consumer services;
- d) by consulting with various members of both municipal and territorial governments;
- e) by consulting with other individuals and members as deemed appropriate by the contractor. The contractor shall provide the deputy minister with a report of his review which will include recommendation for changes to the Landlord and Tenant Ordinance.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Consumer services. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to reiterate that the committee was very pleased with the Minister's response on the whole area of the Landlord and Tenant Ordinance, which is one of prime concern to many people. I think this process is a fair way to try to get to the root of some of the problems in the whole area of landlord and tenant relationships.

Another objective of consumer services for the 1985-86 year is to commence to devolve the lottery function to the regions. The time frame for that is within the next two years, and maybe the Minister could just explain a little bit about that process.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

Devolution Of Lottery Licensing To Regions

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, at the moment we are in the process of looking at the turnover of responsibilities for lottery licensing authority and responsibility to regions. This would, in our opinion, allow for quicker response to, particularly, smaller communities and other regions that are outside the capital. We would also continue, of course, to maintain an office here, a central location here in Yellowknife, that would provide guidance and support to all regional offices and provide an office where residents in Yellowknife can have the services that would be provided in other regions available to them as well.

We are looking at, generally, a two year time frame, and beginning of course, with a meeting of regional directors, hopefully our first experience will be in the Fort Smith Region. Hopefully also, training sessions will be given to those people from the regions of Baffin, Inuvik, Keewatin and Kitikmeot by approximately this time next year, after the experience we have had with the Fort Smith situation. By late 1986, maybe 1987, we hope we will have moved the appropriate lottery licensing responsibility and authority to all the other regions.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. We will go for a 15 minute coffee break.

---SHORT RECESS

The committee will come to order. We are dealing with consumer services. Before the coffee break, I believe Mr. MacQuarrie wanted to ask some questions under consumer services. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Amendments To Labour Standards Ordinance

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. On the matter of the Labour Standards Ordinance, I know a year ago I raised the matter as to whether there would be attempts to improve it. I remember citing concerns that it seemed in the Territories -- for example, one thing; while there are a number of workers who do not get their wages for one reason or another, I am afraid nothing much seems to happen. Some of them feel that the procedure is a bit of a joke. But also some of them feel that if there are employers who are not fair with workers, who use their services for two weeks or a month or whatever and then just do not pay them, that there seems to be no way in our government to brand that kind of company that operates in bad faith so that workers can be alerted in the future.

I am just mentioning those as specific examples by way of making the point that at that time the Minister and the deputy minister indicated that there would be some thought given to reviewing and strengthening the Labour Standards Ordinance. So my question is, is that on the horizon? When can we perhaps expect some strengthening of that ordinance?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, just to indicate that it is hoped and I probably indicated previously that there will be amendments to the Labour Standards Ordinance. This would bring it up to date, and include employment agencies provisions. This would, of course, lead to repealing the Employment Agencies Ordinance. There are amendments also being prepared to the Wages Recovery Ordinance to update the financial limits found in that ordinance. And to reiterate again the issue of draft human rights code has been prepared and has been distributed for public discussion, and that particular consultation has been extended to the 4th of March. Hopefully we can have that particular code introduced as a bill in the spring session. I must also say that the Fair Practices Ordinance is to be repealed upon adoption of the new code. Hopefully all the amendments relating to the Labour Standards Ordinance can be introduced by the fall session but no later than the winter session of 1986.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Consumer services. Mr. Paniloo.

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. While we are meeting this time around I would like to ask a question regarding the bars. I would like to know how they go about getting the licences for the bars.

In Frobisher Bay, some people are restricted from getting drinks from the Frobisher Bay bar. The Inuit Members of the Legislative Assembly are able to purchase drinks from the Frobisher Bay bar and I think the people that are not given the drinks from the bar have not had any problem with the law or anything. I am wondering how they could be served the same way as the MLAs would be and as some of the white people who are served in Frobisher Bay.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I certainly hope that that situation is not a breach of the law. Certainly with regard to the issue of off-sales, that is under the jurisdiction of the Liquor Licensing Board, particularly as it relates to off-sales in bars and any kind of licensed premises. But if the case is that the licence does not allow for off-sales, then certainly that is a situation of breaking the law. So I think that in the incident that the gentleman raises maybe it might be helpful if we looked at that particular situation and discussed that item with him directly.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Paniloo.

Non-Residents May Purchase Liquor

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Frobisher Bay bar was closed for a short time and I myself have never really looked into how the situation is now since then. I am talking mainly about the people who come from the other communities who would like to purchase drinks. Pardon me, it is the other way around. I am talking about the outsiders that are able to get drinks and the people that are living in Frobisher Bay are not able to purchase liquor.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, I would have to find out the circumstances under which such actions are being carried out before I really give an opinion. I would like to indicate to the Member that it might be a good idea if we had an opportunity to meet and discuss the issue, particularly as it relates to sales of liquor either from licensed premises or a liquor store. But I do not believe that the liquor store is open to the general public. The only method that I have heard that the people are able to purchase from that liquor store in Frobisher Bay, Iqaluit, is through the local alcohol committee or through a system of ordering from that particular store. I think I would have to look into it prior to making final comments because I do not want to cause problems for the honourable colleague until I am clear about the issue, because it could be a legal question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Paniloo.

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The question I had was about the bar in Frobisher Bay, I was not talking about the liquor store. I am just talking about the Frobisher Inn bar.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, I would really like to get all the facts before I make any further comment. I would suggest again that we sit down with the Member and further discuss the particular item because, as I said, there may be a problem but I would like to speak to the honourable Member.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Consumer services, \$840,000. Mr. McCallum.

Effect Of New Time Limit For Off-Premises Sales

MR. MCCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, since we are on the business of the Liquor Ordinance and responsibilities of the department in that, I know there has been a recently proclaimed ordinance. I wonder if the Minister could indicate to me whether he, or his personnel within the department responsible for this, have had any kind of feedback from, say, hotels, the hotel association, hotel operators, whatever, regarding the particular content, if you like, of the ordinance itself and I refer specifically to that part of the ordinance that is concerned with off-premises sales. That is, the whole aspect of the one case of beer before a particular time, I think it is 10:00, shut-off time. Have you had adequate time to review the effect of that? In my own community and, I do not know about others, there has been an upswing in late hour purchasing...

MR. BALLANTYNE: After one o'clock.

MR. MCCALLUM: The business normally has been with hard liquor. It never was worth while for an entrepreneur involved in that particular business to resell...

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible comment)

MR. MCCALLUM: They are all northerners.

MR. BALLANTYNE: He wants business incentives for bootleggers!

MR. MCCALLUM: ...to resell beer, but now I know personally of it, that we have those people involved in that particular trade now selling beer and the sale of that particular alcoholic beverage does not realize any money for the government, whereas under the previous regime the government did realize moneys from the sale, especially in licensed premises. So I wonder if there

has been any kind of feedback to the government over the new Liquor Ordinance in that regard. If I am not making myself clear enough, it is the business that you are not getting any revenue from the bootleggers who are now stocking and selling beer, whereas in the past they were not, but you were realizing tax benefits from the sale in licensed premises up to a particular time. I know, before the Minister responds to that, that the ordinance was devised and put into effect, if you like, not proclaimed but certainly it was talked about when I was part of the government, so I do not want to revisit that. In other words I am not looking for that kind of a response. I want to know what you have heard since I have been on the outside.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Certainly I have not received any direct communication from the NWT Hotel Association. There have been a number of issues that have been raised other than the question of off-sales or the time. I cannot say that I have not personally heard some complaints, but those have been from individuals as opposed to associations or particular representative groups. I do want to indicate that we are continuing to review and update the Liquor Ordinance and hopefully we will be introducing some amendments in the fall of 1985.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Certainly, I am surprised because it was to my knowledge, I had heard that the Hotel Association had made a submission for the government to review that particular aspect of the Liquor Ordinance, the business of off-sales. If you have not, then the information that I received is wrong. I am not going to try to promote it but I am going to try to make sure that what I have been hearing and you have been getting are the same thing. I am interested in this particular aspect only because it has been brought to my attention, of this particular difficulty that people have.

Tax Revenue To Government

I know that obviously the sales from which the government derives a benefit have been down and I would like to get an indication, if it is possible, from your department through some kind of a study over the past year or so, what is the difference now in the revenue we are getting from the sale of beer under the new regime as opposed to the old one. It would seem to me because of the new time for closure of off-sales that the government is losing a certain amount of revenue. That is not to say that you may not be selling it as much in the liquor store but you are getting an additional tax revenue from the sale of beer from, for example, a lounge or a hotel. If I am using the wrong terminology, you can indicate it, but, let us say from a hotel. There must be some idea of facts and figures of what is the difference in the sales of a couple of years ago and now, in terms of revenue to the government. If there is not, I suggest that you do that kind of research. I think you will find that the revenue is down. The Minister indicated that he would be introducing amendments in the fall of 1985. Is it possible that this House may be apprized of what kind of amendments you are suggesting or thinking about?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

Amendments Relating To Fiscal Accountability

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are some very significant problems, I believe, in the ordinance as it relates to fiscal accountability. That was pointed out by, I believe, the Auditor General and particularly in light of the recent decision to divide the responsibility into two departments. We have to make the appropriate amendments to respond to the report of the Auditor General, without any question. So in that sense it is going to be quite substantive.

With regard to the question of actual sales, we would have to ask the Minister of Government Services to do that particular audit for us so that we were aware of what impact the existing legislation has caused or the effects of the existing legislation.

I must apologize to the Member for saying that I had not received any information. I must say I did and I apologize for giving you the wrong information. I had received the information but there were a number of items on there that had to do with not only the question of off-sales but had to

do with such things as the ability of lodges to sell to employees. It had a number of issues that were related and so in that sense I apologize for saying I had not received it. I did and I must say I read it.

I guess the other point would be that when we are clear about all the amendments we no doubt will approach the -- we certainly are open to Members of this House for their advice on what amendments might occur and none the less I guess we are still looking ourselves at what approaches or what amendments might take place. Responding to the Auditor General's report was of key importance to us and any amendments initially.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I raised the question of the revenue because it is my understanding that the liquor system is still using the ad valorem tax, which to me is a value added concept.

I raised the business about the early closing of off-sales because I live in a community where people are in-and-out tourists, because of the highway. People may come into town and rather than wishing to sit in a bar or a lounge, would much prefer to have a bottle or two of beer in their lodging and if the liquor store is closed early then they are restricted, dependent upon the number, to one case of beer. And when they have travelled over dusty roads in the summer, one case does not lead much to a very good quenching of one's thirst.

AN HON. MEMBER: One long weekend in the ball park.

MR. McCALLUM: Exactly. One long weekend ball tournament. I know that there are difficulties in particular places but that is the difficulty with legislation that covers everybody and I know that there is that concern. As I say, I have the concern about what is being put forward. I know that the Hotel Association has made certain recommendations to look at -- as an MLA, I have people in my constituency who are involved in that business and they have a concern over it, especially since this is an avenue for revenue to the government. I am not suggesting that you are going to open it all up because I know the difficulty with demon rum and its associate beverages.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Not Scotch though.

MR. McCALLUM: No. But I am glad to hear that the Minister has that particular submission or submissions and that he is intending to introduce amendments to it. I would hope that we would in the House have the time to look at it and the attendant regulations that govern them as well. I recognize what he is saying. So I just have those comments.

If I may move to one other area in consumer services and that deals with the Labour Standards Ordinance. Could the Minister indicate to me who is the chairperson of the Labour Standards Board? Is it vacant or what is going on with that particular position.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, Ms Gail Cyr has been appointed the acting chairperson. I would just like to indicate the following members as well: Jack Kupeauna, Bill Berezowski, Ron McLean and there is one vacant position.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Consumer services. Total O and M, \$840,000. Mr. Richard.

Amendment Has Resulted In Increased Bootlegging

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Very briefly I would simply like to add to Mr. McCallum's comments regarding the result of the amendment last year to the Liquor Ordinance. In the community of Yellowknife it has resulted in an increase in bootlegging after 10 o'clock at night. In regard to Mr. McCallum's comments, while I agree with him that the Minister should re-look at that amendment in that context, I do not necessarily agree with my elder friend, Mr. McCallum, in the context of lost revenue to the government. I do not think when government decided to regulate the sale of liquor that it did or should have done so for the purpose of raising revenues for government purposes.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Hear, hear!

MR. RICHARD: So I do not necessarily agree that we should go back to the old system so we can get more money out of the consumption of alcohol. However, I do believe that the Minister should re-look at that amendment because it has resulted in an increase, certainly in this community, of the problem of bootlegging after liquor store hours. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Consumer services. Total O and M, \$840,000. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: I would like to second Mr. Richard's remarks and add as well that in contemplating any revision, it is not only the question or very little the question of revenue, but from my point of view perhaps having a look at the question of bootlegging. But also the purpose was to try to reduce the consumption of alcohol by people who already perhaps had enough or too much to drink and were buying it at a time when they were not making a reasonable judgment about it. So I would ask the Minister, is there any indication that it has had that kind of impact? Does he get letters from grateful wives or husbands that it is having any kind of impact? Or is there any other way of knowing that because that certainly was the purpose and I approve of that purpose.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I am not sure if there are any grateful people in existence.

---Laughter

However, Mr. Chairman, I do say that the intent was as Mr. MacQuarrie stated, the wishes of the previous Legislature to address a question of consumption. A question of the problems that had arisen due to alcohol and alcohol abuse was a primary concern when we made the amendments that we passed. I do say that there were all kinds of other issues that were raised by the Executive at that time. Even with regard to off-sales it has to do as well with the atmosphere in which one is making that purchase. I say that because I am not sure if people that want to purchase do purchase because they have to wander through the bars, maybe that is not what they want to do. I guess I have always looked at the Yukon experience and not necessarily in the sense of competing with their consumption rate but the way in which things are carried out. I cannot at the moment indicate whether or not there has been an increase or a decrease. I cannot indicate what the costs have been to this government, financially. I think that we would have to work with the Department of Government Services to put all that information together and as soon as we can do that, certainly we will make that available to Members here.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: It seems to me that the whole issue of liquor consumption in the Northwest Territories is a very sensitive one and different communities have different situations. They have different ways to deal with the problem. Some communities do not want any liquor. Some communities set up committees. I think that a basic philosophy of this government is, really, community control, community participation. I wonder if a possible way to look at liquor laws -- and the example would be off-sales -- is that the government asks for community input so that the liquor laws may be applied differently in different communities. There are obviously different sorts of problems. I wonder if there is any way to increase the participation of community councils into these sorts of decisions because I think community councils in every community, whether band councils, hamlet councils, probably have a better understanding on the actual problems in their community. Has this idea been looked at or does the Minister think that it is a viable way of approaching the problem?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, there are in existence many options available to the communities. We have worked a number of those options. In some cases they have been extremely successful, in others they have been a complete disaster. However, I think that when one looks at trying to find solutions, one cannot always focus only on the particular community. For instance I will take my particular region, the Inuvik Region. The situation there is that we have one central liquor store and all orders, all purchases take place at that particular liquor store. Now, for instance, for Inuvik or even for that matter with regard to licensed premises, for us to suggest that Inuvik have their own controls for their community that would not have an effect on other communities in the surrounding region, would completely be ignoring the reality of the situation. I would think that that experience has not only occurred in the Inuvik Region. We had a rationing

system there that we put into place but it did not work because in the community of Inuvik itself, people could purchase as much as they wanted, or at least had access, and could purchase every day on a daily basis, whereas the other community people could not do it. It did not seem to be working and there was a lot of abuse of that. Prohibition in Fort Rae, in my opinion, is not successful because you come to Yellowknife which is some 50 miles away and you can have access to any amount of alcohol. You are not helping the solution by saying that, particularly regional centres or those centres that have liquor stores, have a major effect on the surrounding region and we have got to deal with it in the context of what that effect is and how best to address the problem. Many times it includes the involvement of major centres. Maybe what we have to do is try to find a role for the larger centres that have these outlets so that any suggestions or solutions that we are trying to implement, these people recognize it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Mr. Gargan.

Rationing System Throughout The Territories

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister before this 10th session, I believe, the then Minister of Justice, George Braden, did say that he was going to implement some kind of a rationing system right across the Territories. I am just wondering if you yourself are following up on that or are you looking for other alternatives?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, no, I am not trying to follow up on a completely territorial-wide rationing system because, as I indicated earlier, particular communities have different ideas on the solution for dealing with alcohol and alcohol abuse. There are ways in which they themselves wish to control the consumption or the ability for people to obtain alcohol and for us to cause problems for particularly those communities that have been completely successful, or regions that have been completely successful, you would not want to impose another system that may completely destroy the success of what those communities have done. Certainly it is not my intention at this time to introduce a territorial-wide restriction. I think that we try to do it a number of ways through the outlets, licensed premises. Again, just a few minutes ago, our colleagues raised the point that this has not necessarily helped the situation. In some cases, it might have caused more problems than had been anticipated.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In Fort Providence, they do have a beer outlet that is open until 10 o'clock and it is based on one case per person to take out. I am just wondering, is that...

AN HON. MEMBER: Nick's law.

MR. GARGAN: ...is that, I am just wondering about Providence, is this a management decision of the business or is that imposed on them by this government?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that that is part of the legislation, the Liquor Ordinance itself, that was passed by this House. We recall an amendment coming with regard to that particular ordinance and it was passed. So, it is part of the law now, it is part of the existing ordinance. Also, I must say, that the time period in which off-sales were to occur is as late as 10 o'clock and after 10:00 no off-sales could occur. So, that is also part of the legislation. Previously, I believe that it was up to the municipality to determine the length of time in which off-sales could occur and the Liquor Licensing Board would approve that but that is not the case any longer; it is part of the ordinance.

Consumer Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Consumer services, total O and M, \$840,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Museums/Heritage Division, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Museums and heritage division, total O and M, \$1,283,000. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, during the finance committee hearings, the concern was raised that because of the existing financial legislation that contributions or grants to museums were being steered into the consolidated revenue fund and from our discussions with the Minister before Christmas he told us that a mechanism was being put into place whereby the museum would be able to utilize any contributions to the museum. Perhaps if he could explain a little bit about that particular mechanism.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, we have not yet developed the mechanism. At the moment all funds that have been directed to the museums program are put into the museums program. We are in the process of developing the mechanism itself, either through an agreement or a financial arrangement that I will be presenting to the Executive Council for approval. It is our intention to put that particular mechanism in place but it has not come forward from the department officials yet.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I guess I have two questions. What time frame are we looking at and will the mechanism entail changes in legislation?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: With regard to the second point, yes, it could entail changes to legislation and secondly, I guess I am looking at some initial document up for discussion by the end of this fiscal year.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess it would apply to museums and also it might even apply to the next topic too and it is with regard to building capital. It is mostly for the operation of these museums and libraries that this budget is designed. I am just wondering, do you actually have capital moneys for building such facilities?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, yes, we have funds for capital.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: I do not know whether this would go under this particular museums and heritage division but do halls of fame fall under that category too?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Is this a hall of fame for yesterdays hockey game? Mr. Minister.

Sports Hall Of Fame

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, only if my name can be entered in the sports hall of fame. But, no, as I indicated previously, I have not had the opportunity to put together any direction. I have had some discussion. I would hope that, as I indicated to the mover of a motion, in fact, Mr. McCallum, who introduced a motion in Fort Smith, that hopefully we could be looking at some type of structure or institution, but more a structure initially as opposed to an institution to deal with this. I think that an item that was raised at the Fort Smith session of 1984 seemed to focus around the whole question of contribution, nationally, and I think that any hall of fame, sports hall of fame should take into as much consideration the contribution of people to northern sport development and the development of athletes in the Northwest Territories because many members that have made it nationally are recognized by the national sports hall of fame and they have at least some way in which they are recognized. I think the intent of any sports hall of fame should

be recognizing the contribution of athletes or builders or participants either to cultural sport development or those new sports that have been introduced to the North, including hockey, and no doubt such sports as the Arctic Winter Games are associated with could be a part of that. But I think that we should be looking at the structure as opposed to an institution initially and I would not be suggesting that you spend money for capital purposes until we knew what the intent of the sports hall of fame would be.

The other thing is that there is the possibility of utilizing present structures. I know that we sometimes have received criticism with regard to the Heritage Centre, but that could be a good facility to be using and adding onto if it is necessary but certainly looking at the use of that particular facility, I think we have available structures at the moment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you. Just one final question. It is with regard to archaeological sites. At present, are there any archaeological finds and are they being developed?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, yes, we have presently in existence some archaeological sites. We develop them in accordance to federal legislation. In other instances I believe that there are probably more sites but we have not done the appropriate work to recognize those sites and certainly we will be working with the other organizations in the NWT to ensure that that takes place.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Richard.

Private Donations To Museum

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, on this activity, I would again want to question the Minister about the possibility of the museum being set up as a separate institution at arm's length from the government for purposes of soliciting donations to run the museum. As I understand it, last year, that was one of the reasons why the Science Institute was created separate and apart from government, so that it would be eligible for donations from the various private foundations and donation funds that exist.

It occurs to me, Mr. Chairman, that because donations to the Heritage Centre go into the consolidated revenue fund, that that fact in all likelihood hampers the soliciting of donations for those purposes. Perhaps, Mr. Minister, if you could indicate, what is the level of revenues or donations received in this area? Can you confirm that they do go into the consolidated revenue fund and how does the Minister ensure that those funds in fact are spent or expended for the purposes for which they are donated? Perhaps the Minister could comment if he does not agree or whether he would agree, that there would be easier access to these foundations if the museum or Heritage Centre was a separate entity from government.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the financial regime that we are presently working under it is difficult for us to say that the moneys that we will be receiving are going to go into that particular project or museum or any other museum because these financial arrangements exist. What we are intending to do is to try to recommend to the Executive Council a method by which those contributions that are made privately would go directly to the museum for those particular purposes or for that matter contributions to other museums in the NWT. Again I am not really sure yet whether or not it is necessary to establish a separate entity out of government, as opposed to ensuring that there are financial agreements or arrangements that have been agreed to. That could and would include amending certain legislation and I think that that might be the approach we take initially. I do say that it is about \$50,000, I believe, that is presently going as private contributions to the museum.'

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A little earlier there was some discussion on the proposed sports hall of fame and I see that the Minister is certainly amenable to do something about it. But nothing concrete has been done as yet. I would just urge the Minister to seriously consider doing something very soon because he should realize that there are certain sports relics in the NWT that are fast decaying...

MR. BALLANTYNE: On both sides.

---Laughter

MR. MacQUARRIE: If I may point to the honourable Member for Slave River...

---Laughter

So, you should not wait too long. Perhaps a session with the curator of restorations might have some good benefit to him.

---Laughter

MR. McCALLUM: Wait a minute, you're wrong.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to say that I have visited the museum here in Yellowknife more than once. I think that it is a very good museum and to me it is pretty reflective of the cultures of the North. I do not often get a chance to say a good thing but I would like to say that I do not think I would like to see it put into the hands of private or corporate interests. Because I think a lot of times what happens in that situation is that the people that pay usually get to dictate what they should display. It pretty much leaves those people that do not have any money, it pretty much leaves them out of having their cultures displayed.

Admission Fee For Heritage Centre

I wanted to ask if the government or this department has ever considered charging an admission fee to visit the museum here in Yellowknife?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to indicate that that item has arisen a number of times but we believe that it is really not a good idea at this time. As much as we might want to raise revenues, people would like the opportunity to see a lot of the history of the North and to learn about the history of the North. We should be open to freely allowing people, particularly our own people, as much as we can say that we know of what each region's history is in the NWT with regard to individual groups. There is still a lot to learn about each other and many times some of the new things that we see either through art or artifacts are a really good indication of the history of people in particular regions or particular groups of people. So in that sense it is very good educationally. The other thing is that the intent is also to protect those particular items for people in the future.

It also is good for tourism, and bringing people into the North to spend money. I think that people come to spend money to see many things, the history of the North. In my opinion that particular museum, while the name may have been in question a number of times, none the less has as you said, provided very good service and certainly provides a good example of the history and all cultures of the North, the relationship that has developed over the past two or three hundred years among all the people. It goes back further than that for the aboriginal people but with regard to recent history it shows the role of particularly the non-native people here, the role of the Dene, the Metis and also the role of the Inuit.

So in that sense it has been good and we really think it would be, in our opinion, improper to start causing people to pay to see a very important part of their history and to learn about that history. It is valuable, I think it is more valuable in some cases than money itself and I think

that we see that and the idea of paying to see that at this time, in my opinion, is certainly not a good idea. I do say though that hopefully many of the things that are seen in that museum today will also be made available to other museums for particular shows or particular communities to see those kinds of things.

In your particular case, I know that your community is discussing the idea or certainly working on the idea of a museum in your community. Particularly in the church, that is of very historical importance to that particular community. Certainly the things that are seen in the present museum can hopefully one day be shown in your community. But as important as that, many things in your community can be displayed here in this museum for other people to see.

I also want, Mr. Chairman, to thank the honourable Member for giving us the comments that he did because I must say that the people that are involved in the museum, the curators and the staff and the personnel in the museum have done an extremely good job. I think that without their knowledge and without their professional support, many of the things that we are now involved in would not be successful had it not been for them.

The other thing I would like to say is to express my personal appreciation and my gratitude to those people that have presented to the museum some personal donations. Some very valuable stuff that really indicates and shows the history of the North -- if it had not been for their willingness to donate that and I refer to Dene, I refer to Inuit, I refer to Metis and to the non-native people, to those people even that are leaving the North that are prepared to bring back many of the things that they took out with them so that it can now be shown in our museum here. I should say also that in the case of smaller museums that are now being established, people are contributing to those and in the case of Fort Smith as well, there are personal contributions of many people in that particular museum. It is really an important part I believe of recognizing the history of the people of the NWT.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Do I hear progress? Mr. McCallum, the elder.

MR. McCALLUM: I am going to get Richard for that.

---Laughter

Mr. Chairman, I would just like to say that I have some questions about this particular activity but at the outset I would just like to say that though I appreciate the suggestion of my good friend, Mr. MacQ to my left, I am not too sure that curator of restoration would concur that she and I should get together and take advantage of his suggestion. I'll just leave that alone for a while.

MR. BALLANTYNE: That's right. That's the point.

---Laughter

Legislation Restricting Removal Of Artifacts

MR. McCALLUM: Whether it is restoration or resuscitation, whatever. I have a question to ask of the Minister regarding this business of historical artifacts, etc. Is there legislation now in the NWT that deals with either the respect or restricting of the removal of certain artifacts from the NWT? I appreciate that a lot of people have contributed things back but is there legislation now that restricts the removal of artifacts and things that would have historical or other benefit by retaining it here? Is there such legislation in effect?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, no. There is no such legislation.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think on the comments of the Minister about the contribution by people of particular artifacts that hold great significance for what has gone on in the past and will obviously become much more of a greater concern in the future, may I respectfully submit to the Minister that I think that is one particular piece of legislation that would meet with a great

deal of approval of people in the Territories. It has been my experience to know that a great number of things have been taken from the Territories and through the generosity of some people and corporations, as well, some things have come back. But I would suggest as well that there has been a great number of things that the Territories are not going to get back, that are sitting maybe in private collections, in collections of large corporate structures, some universities, other institutions of learning throughout Canada and quite possibly the other parts of the world, that would be of a great importance to the NWT. May I offer that as a suggestion that the Minister and his very capable people both within his department and in other divisions could promote or bring forth a piece of legislation that would in fact restrict the removal of any kind of historical artifacts from the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Chairman, before the Minister replies to that, I note under this division, both in the contributions to community museums and under museums and heritage division, in capital and contributions to museums there is no breakdown as to which of the institutions are getting what. Could I get some idea of a breakdown?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, certainly with regard to legislation, I will give it consideration and have my department review the options that would be available for us with regard to such legislation.

You wanted a breakdown of capital, is that correct? The capital contributions, I believe, Frobisher Bay, \$99,000; Northern Anthropological and Cultural Society, Fort Smith, for purchase of equipment, \$315...

MR. MCCALLUM: Say, what?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: ...\$315.

MR. MacQUARRIE: (Inaudible comment)

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I must say just let...

MR. MacQUARRIE: (Inaudible comment)

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman. Thank you. Pangnirtung Visitors Centre, \$30,000; Northern Anthropological and Cultural Society, Fort Smith, \$30,000...

MR. MCCALLUM: Compared to \$315...

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Could I, Mr. Chairman, further -- O and M, Northern Anthropological and Cultural Society, Fort Smith, \$50,000; funding for recirculation of education material, \$1300; Frobisher Bay, \$35,000; Pangnirtung, \$8000; and requests for financial assistance to community and groups, Arctic Bay, Eskimo Point, Fort McPherson, Holman Island, Inuit Cultural Institute, the funds available are \$15,000. Those are communities that have requested finances and I just want to know whether or not my honourable colleague was happy about that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister, for your generous contribution.

MR. MacQUARRIE: With your permission, the local MLAs...

MR. BALLANTYNE: Report progress.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Do you wish to report progress? Mr. Ballantyne, are you making a motion to report progress at this time?

MR. BALLANTYNE: Mr. Chairman, on your suggestion, I am doing exactly that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): I would prefer it was your idea.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Let the record show that it was my idea.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): So be it. To the motion. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

I shall report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wah-Shee.

ITEM 16: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILL 7-85(1), APPROPRIATION ACT, 1985-86

MR. WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering the departmental details of the 1985-86 main estimates with one motion being carried unanimously and your committee wishes to report progress.

Motion To Accept Report Of Committee Of The Whole, Carried

Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the committee of the whole be concurred with.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. Members have heard the report of the chairman of the committee of the whole. Are you agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any announcements from the floor? Mr. Sibbeston.

MR. McCALLUM: Equal opportunity, I hope.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, just an announcement with respect to the hockey game last night. I am sure you will want to know what happened. All I can say is it was very close. It was officially recorded on the score board that it was 5-5 but in reality the Flyers scored more goals but the referee seemed to have a bias...

MR. McCALLUM: Who the hell was counting?

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: The referee seemed to have a bias against the underdogs and so was instrumental or somewhat equally -- we do admit to our team receiving a couple of penalties. The Tundra Tiger, Tagak on one occasion was trying to pass by someone and he inadvertently, by mistake, tripped someone, and the Tiger was blamed. It was obviously a situation where his aggressive reputation in the Assembly is carried, unfairly, out to his activity on the ice.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: That is right.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: I must say that we were impressed by the unusual and unexpected skills shown by certain Members opposite. To name a few: Moses Appaqaq and his shimmering along the ice. He would get out of the box to play and it took all of about five minutes to get to the other side of the rink and it was time to come back. We noted that he had a penalty shot where he almost took advantage of our goalie, Tom Butters. I want to say too that the goalies for you people took advantage of the situation of the rules that were being enforced by the referee. They seemed to place themselves flat on the ice from one end of the opening of the goal to the other and with the rule that you cannot raise the puck, we were kept from scoring for quite a long time, until the last few minutes when there seemed to be a let-down and we quickly shoved the puck underneath Ludy for a few goals.

HON. GORDON WRAY: They were getting tired and...

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: All in all, Mr. Speaker, it was a very fun and enjoyable game. There was not any clear winner, there will obviously have to be a return match and we look to the Members opposite to suggest to us what the next match or game will be to decide...

MR. MacQUARRIE: Our guys will have an import next time.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mahsi.

MR. McCALLUM: Point of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Foster Hewitt need not worry. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, thank you. Just on a point of privilege, I just want to ensure that we, on this side, set the record straight. We did take a little lapse at the end of the last while because we were ahead by two or three goals and we did not want to rub it in too much and so we let them score two goals at the end to tie the game. The Member mentioned about the only two violations and of course they had to be incurred by two of our more reputable Ministers, both of whom are absent now. They were absent at the time. We would have done much better had we had our coach but "Loquacious Eliza" was not able to show up, she was sick. We were doing very well until "Nagging Nellie" came into the rink and spurred her forces on. That was, I think, the turning point of the whole game.

I think in all seriousness, Mr. Speaker, that it is this kind of activity and the kind of activity that we participated in while Members were in Fort Smith that kind of reduces or relieves some of the kinds of tension that goes on in this House after a period of time. It promotes the kind of fellowship that I think is necessary in our government...

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Hear, hear!

MR. McCALLUM: It shows that we are all human even those with frailties. I want to thank the other side for a lot of fun. I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that you for future years obtain a suitable -- and I will leave it to your very vivid imagination -- trophy or some kind of similar such award and that will be put up for annual competition between our side and that side. Thank you, and, as Mr. MacQuarrie said, next go we will make sure we have our, I was going to say "old man" but, second senior citizen.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Are there any further, so-called, announcements?

MR. MacQUARRIE: Are you going to come across with the trophy?

MR. SPEAKER: The problem is the trophy I have in mind will not fit under every bed. Mr. Clerk, announcements and orders of the day, please.

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.

ITEM 17: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Thursday, February 21st at 1:00 p.m.

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: Motion 4-85(1)
13. First Reading of Bills
14. Second Reading of Bills
15. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters: Bill 7-85(1); Bill 3-85(1)
16. Report of Committee of the Whole
17. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: This House stands adjourned until Thursday, February 21st at 1:00 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT

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Published under the Authority of the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
of the Northwest Territories