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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 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, Hon. Dennis Patterson, 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 Friday, March the 15th.

Item 2, Members' replies. There do not appear to be any replies today. These are beginning to stack up. I would request that the honourable Members start making their replies or we are going to wind up, toward the end of the session, on the last, day trying to do 23 replies. Item 3, Ministers' statements. Ms Cournoyea.

ITEM 3: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement On DEWline Site Clean-Up

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, in regard to the DEWline site clean-up. As a result of prompting from this department, federal agencies have responded to the need to clean up abandoned DEWline sites. The first phase of the clean-up will remove dangerous materials contained in equipment, contaminated soil and caustic soda. The second phase will result in the removal and destruction of petroleum products remaining at the sites. The third phase will involve the general clean-up of fuel drums, visible drums, scrap metal, buildings and other structures. The Department of Indian Affairs is co-ordinating the clean-up.

Initially the plan is to visit affected communities to alert the people to the presence of PCBs, to explain the implications and to explain the clean-up program. During the week of the 4th to the 8th of March, communities in the Kitikmeot Region were visited and this will be followed by visits to affected Baffin communities, during the week of the 17th of March to the 25th of March.

The first phase of the clean-up to be carried out in July and August, 1985 will be undertaken by the Department of National Defence, at which time the dangerous goods will be moved to temporary storage areas. Presently, negotiations are ongoing to have the United States Air Force remove these materials to the United States for destruction.

The second phase also planned to be carried out in July and August, in 1985, will involve community consultation prior to disposal of the petroleum products. It could be possible that some of these products may still be of use to the communities.

The third and final phase requires more planning and these plans will take in the following considerations: designation by DND of the three abandoned sites that they propose for use and their modernization plans; determination of sites that could be used for scientific purposes; finalization of Parks Canada's plan for sites that fall within existing or proposed national parks; an assessment of community views regarding final disposition of the site. Community visits, to date, are going well with all concerned agreeing to co-operate in this major clean-up. Thank you.

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

ITEM 4: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 148-85(1): Construction Of Housing Pads, Clyde River

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Local Government. In Clyde River, the hamlet council and the housing association have come to an agreement to build platforms for the houses. They want to construct platforms for the houses. What I want to ask the Minister of Local Government is: Is he going to be able to give the hamlet council the right to construct the platforms? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the question as notice and provide the Member with a reply on Monday.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. You are taking the question as notice. Oral questions. Mr. Richard.

Question 149-85(1): Assistance To Yellowknife Ballet Student

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister responsible for the Ministry of Culture. The Minister is aware of the situation of a young Yellowknife resident, a 12 year old young man who is a dancing student and who has a unique opportunity to study, later this year, with the National Ballet of Canada, but who requires some assistance with his travel and other expenses. I wish to compliment the Minister and thank him for his response to the request that came on behalf of that student. But I wonder if the Minister today could give some concrete response as to whether his department is able to assist this young man.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 149-85(1): Assistance To Yellowknife Ballet Student

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to advise the Member that I have agreed in principle to give the young person that he is referring to, \$2000 to assist him to travel to Ottawa and take part in the National Ballet training. I must say that I have not finalized all the details and precisely where the moneys will come from, but with the new April 1st budget, I am hoping that I will be able to find the moneys there.

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

Question 150-85(1): Lack Of Adult Education Information, Baffin Region

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Education. Pangnirtung, Broughton Island and Clyde River offer adult education courses but they seem to be lacking a lot of information. I am trying to ask the Minister of Education if he could encourage the adult educators to inform the Inuit people of what kind of courses are available. Some people from Pangnirtung who would like to attend these adult education courses are not able to attend the courses because not enough information is given to them beforehand. Thank you.

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

Return To Question 150-85(1): Lack Of Adult Education Information, Baffin Region

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will look into the situation that the Member describes and see that our adult educators inform people in those communities of the opportunities that are available for upgrading and other training needs. Thank you.

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

Question 151-85(1): Cost Increases For Radio Telephone Licences

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will ask this question of Mr. Butters. I am not quite sure if it falls under your jurisdiction but I think it might. It is to do with radio telephones. It seems like a small matter but I have had a number of my constituents, who depend on radio telephones, complain about the fact that the licences for radio telephones have more than doubled in the last year to this year. A mobile unit licence which cost \$15.75 last year is \$36 and the standard unit has gone from \$26 to \$58. I wonder if Mr. Butters could find out what the rationale for this increase is, please?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I cannot at the moment, Mr. Speaker, but I will take the question as notice and provide a reply.

MR. SPEAKER: Taking the question as notice. Thank you, Mr. Minister. Oral questions. Mr. Erkloo.

Question 152-85(1): Dental Services, Foxe Basin

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Health. This was discussed in Hall Beach. I realize that health services are under the federal jurisdiction but they were talking about dentists going into the community to deal with the children in the communities. It seems like the dentists do not do a full job when they go into the communities. They do not do most of the children when they go into the communities. So I am asking the Minister of Health if he could direct the federal agencies who look after the dentists to do a better job? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin.

Return To Question 152-85(1): Dental Services, Foxe Basin

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will contact Health and Welfare Canada and advise them of the Member's concern in this area.

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

Question 153-85(1): Transfer Of Highways Responsibilities To Territorial Government

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Public Works. In November, the Minister indicated that there were negotiations going on with regard to the transfer of highways to the Territories. I would like to ask the Minister what is the progress of that negotiation?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 153-85(1): Transfer Of Highways Responsibilities To Territorial Government

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Negotiations are still under way. As I had indicated, I had written to the Dene Nation and the Metis Association with regard to the transfer because there was some question about transfer of provincial-type responsibilities to the territorial government. I can indicate to the Member that despite three letters and numerous phone calls, the Dene Nation has still not replied to my requests of November. I know the Leader has been in contact with them. They have still not replied. The Metis Association has replied to say that they are going to look at it further. So, in lieu of those replies, I have gone to the Minister and proposed a tentative agreement for the transfer that was sent out a week ago. I have yet to have a response from the Minister but I expect a response within the next couple of weeks. Thank you.

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

Question 154-85(1): Advantages To NWT Of Replacing DEWline Sites

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Government Leader. There was some discussion yesterday about the intention of our federal government to sign an agreement with the government of the United States with respect to a northern warning system. They are going to replace apparently the Distant Early Warning system which had the acronym DEWline, with the North warning system which presumably will have the acronym N-Wars, and there is an old adage, Mr. Leader, that you ought to know your enemy...

AN HON. MEMBER: What is the question?

MR. MacQUARRIE: It is coming, it just takes a little bit of a preamble. I would say that if that were true, in this case such a line would be seen as totally useless, but it appears that in the absence of historical and ideological analysis, the governments of the United States and Canada are going to go ahead anyway at a cost of seven billion dollars total, and 1.5 billion dollars for N-Wars. With them proceeding, our Government Leader has said that our government will try to take advantage of the spending that is going to take place for jobs and so on. My question is to the Minister. Does he not have any moral qualms about taking advantage of the folly of the governments of the United States and Canada?

AN HON. MEMBER: No!

AN HON. MEMBER: Shame!

---Laughter

MR. BALLANTYNE: He loves money.

MR. RICHARD: To protect Nunavut.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Call it Nunavut, anyway.

AN HON. MEMBER: Do not worry about it.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, well, at least I know who my enemies are and they are sitting over there.

---Applause

I will just say that I will take that question as notice and provide an answer.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Erkloo.

Question 155-85(1): Funding To Inuit Broadcasting Corporation For Children's Programs

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Government Leader, the Hon. Richard Nerysoo. The Inuit Broadcasting Corporation has been requesting funding for children's programming. I think that you know how much funding they have requested. I was wondering if they are going to be allocated some funding or have you already set up the amount of funding that you are going to allocate? Thank you very much.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 155-85(1): Funding To Inuit Broadcasting Corporation For Children's Programs

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just to indicate to the honourable Member that in submitting the proposal for funding for the 1985-86 year, we have still not completed that. I hope to have a meeting with my colleagues on the Executive Council but IBC will be part of that particular proposal that is submitted to the federal government.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Oral questions. That appears to conclude oral questions for today.

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

ITEM 6: RETURNS

Further Return To Question 142-85(1): Improvement Of Highway Through Wood Buffalo Park

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a further return to oral Question 142-85(1) asked by Mr. McCallum with regard to road maintenance costs on Alberta roads.

The budget in 1985-86 for the Fort Smith highway maintenance beat, of which the roads from Fort Smith into Alberta form a part, is \$528,900 for 222 kilometres of road. There are 49.3 kilometres of road in Alberta representing 22 per cent of the inventory. The maintenance budget for 1985-86 for these roads is \$116,456, or 22 per cent of the budget for the entire beat.

There is no agreement with either the Alberta government or the federal government to perform reconstruction or upgrading work on the roads outside of Wood Buffalo National Park in Alberta. I will take the Member's advice and approach both governments to clarify their responsibilities for reconstruction or upgrading work on these roads and indicate to them that my department would, under a mutually acceptable funding arrangement, be prepared to do such work on their behalf. I will keep the Member advised of any progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Returns. Are there any further returns for today? Item 7, petitions. Mr. Paniloo.

ITEM 7: PETITIONS

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Petition 7-85(1). It is directed to Local Government from the people of Clyde River, concerning the repair of the dock for smaller boats. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Petitions, are there any further petitions?

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

ITEM 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Tabled Document 43-85(1), a letter of support from Lake Harbour and Cape Dorset concerning all the Nunatsiag residents to be in Inuit Nunavut. Thank you.

---Applause

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

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Tabled Document 44-85(1), Clyde River's view of the principles of agreement of the Constitutional Alliance. I am just going to read the document so that you will be able to understand it clearly.

In Clyde River, the residents of Clyde River had discussed the Constitutional Alliance, in regard to the division, whether we should divide Nunavut or not. There was an agreement in 1980 that they wanted to have the right to vote in Nunavut. They feel that the headquarters of government is too far from the residents and, also, if Nunavut is divided the region should be called Nunavut. They have been having public meetings and as a result of those meetings, the people said that the Inuit people should be in Nunavut. These are the communities that said they wanted to be in Nunavut: Broughton Island, Baffin Region, Keewatin Region, and the Inuvialuit region. Their reasons were that they had relatives all over the Arctic. Thank you very much.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Tabled documents. Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Tabled Document 45-85(1), Sanikiluaq's support to Nunavut Constitutional Forum, a motion moved in my community. Also I have some petitions along with the written document. They would like to see all the Inuit people within the Nunavut, inside the Nunavut region.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Appaqaq. Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: I would like to table Tabled Document 46-85(1), a motion concerning support of the annulment of principles of agreement. On March 11, 1985, the settlement council of Resolute Bay held a meeting concerning supporting the Inuvialuit, Motion 071-85, supporting the Inuvialuit having the right to vote or decide which territory they want to live in. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk.

---Applause

Tabling of documents. Ms Cournoyea.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I have two documents I wish to table. Tabled Document 47-85(1), Press Release and Resolution passed by the Mayors of the Beaufort Sea and Kitikmeot West Communities on March 8, 1985. Tabled Document 48-85(1), a letter from the Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement to the chairman and the vice-chairman of the Western Constitutional Forum, cancelling the mid-March meeting. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Tabling of documents. Item 10, notices of motion. Mr. Butters.

ITEM 10: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 12-85(1): Additional Sitting Hours

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on March 26th, I intend to move the following motion: That the Speaker be authorized to set such additional sitting hours as he may consider necessary in order to ensure that the business of the House can be dealt with.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. 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: Bills 7-85(1), 3-85(1), 9-85(1) and 10-85(1), with Mr. Erkloo 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. Erkloo): Before the committee starts out, I would like to recognize the presence in the gallery of the first group of correctional service trainees from Frobisher Bay. These three, Tommy Inookie, Kalapik Barnes, Johnathan Palluk. They are part of the 48 trainees who have gone through the correctional officer training program of the department in the last five years.

---Applause

Department Of Economic Development And Tourism

I believe we were on the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. Does the Minister wish to bring in his witnesses?

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Yes, I would ask that my deputy minister be invited back into the chamber with me. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister, would you introduce your witness please?

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to introduce my deputy minister of Economic Development and Tourism, Mr. James Britton.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. General comments. Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to make some general comments on this important subject of economic development. I suppose there is quite a lot that we could all say about economic development. I know that over the last couple of years there has been more Dene involvement and interest in economic development and at least from my point of view a lot of it is coming from the communities. It is an important subject because if it is not dealt with I see a situation developing in future years where the aboriginal people, the vast majority of native people could be left really with nothing. So in looking at it I think that it is good that this government has so many programs in place that people can access.

Outfitting In Mackenzie Mountains

I want to say that with regard to tourism I believe that my constituency has one of the greatest potentials for tourism. I refer here to the Mackenzie Mountains and the fishing lodges on Great Bear Lake. I was at the regional council meeting in January where the subject of big game outfitting in the Mackenzie Mountains came up. The main complaint was that all of the outfitting operators were from the South. They were headquartered in Alberta and there was only one operator that operated out of Norman Wells. So that was a point of contention I guess. The other thing in regard to outfitting in the Mackenzie Mountains is that there is a lot of interest by people from Norman Wells and Fort Norman and Fort Good Hope to take advantage of the economic benefits that come from outfitting in the Mackenzie Mountains. When people begin to look into it they are faced with a situation where the territorial regulations permit only a certain number of outfitters into a certain area of land. I know for sure that people do not understand how those regulations got there. They want to get into outfitting but they are basically told that their rights to a certain zone are already taken up. My view on that is that traditionally the mountains were and are still today where people hunt. My view is that people do have economic rights there. Their rights today extend to economic rights. My feeling is that the government should buy out these outfitters or their rights and turn them over to the people. That is the way I look at that.

Fishery Potential On Great Bear Lake

With regard to the lodges on Bear Lake I think that situation is pretty much the same. I was at a meeting about a year ago in Fort Franklin with the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans. The meeting was about the resources of Great Bear Lake and the communities have always seen the resources of Great Bear Lake as belonging to them. The people of Fort Franklin are named for Great Bear Lake. At the time of meeting they were looking into setting up a fishery of some kind but they were basically told by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans that it was not feasible. I guess I question that when I see in the budget book that there seems to be quite a bit of support for fisheries on Great Slave Lake. Mr. Chairman, those are my general comments on economic development. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Minister, do you want to respond to that?

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, again I am glad to hear such opportunities do exist to develop the tourist industry in that area. I can assure the Member that when the opportunities are there then there really is an opportunity for the community to eventually develop a plan that is a viable plan which my department is certainly interested in receiving from any community. I will be reviewing further some of the points that the Member raised particularly with respect to two

items. One is, I believe the Member is saying to me that there are some problems with commercial quotas. There might be some with big game hunting and so on, but I will look into exactly how many outfitters there are operating in that area. And I would like to be able to have information gathered before I make the trip to your region. You invited me to come up there and I think it is likely that around May I will be travelling in that area. I would like to assure you that I will have all this information put together. All I can say at the moment is that you presented us with some of the opportunities and the opportunities seem to be very attractive for tourists and the community to eventually get involved in. So I am going to seriously assess with my people whether or not we can help your constituents to further develop the community-based tourism in that area anyway. That is all I want to say.

On the concern with fisheries, I have to look more closely at exactly what the nature of the problems are. I want to say to you that although we are putting in some money for some areas, as well as Great Slave Lake fisheries because that area has been pretty much in production for many years, I and my department officials are not satisfied with other areas, particularly your part and the far eastern Territories. We believe that we could do a lot more to harvest even the existing quotas, as we are far from completing those existing quotas. I have given an initial direction to my department that that should be the further work for next years major initiatives, to try and get our capabilities in the department to develop markets and to develop a real capability to deal with the fisheries at every level. So far, what we have been doing has been tied up by the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation regulations and, really we have not been able to get around that corporation. If it is going to exist, I believe that we could probably establish co-operation with them to sell directly to the market in some other ways. I would like to say to the Member that that is going to take more time because federal regulations are always very difficult to effect a change on our immediate concerns. So, what I want to say is, we will take the point that you raised into consideration, to see whether or not we will have more information to provide to you when I make the trip next May. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question on Expo '86. It says, "Present the Northwest Territories to the international community in a manner which will enhance the tourism industry and also create export-related business opportunities in the North". How are they promoting the smaller communities? I am referring to a community like Snowdrift. They have crafts there and they have no place to sell. I feel that this is a good place for them to promote some of their crafts. How does the Minister expect to promote that sort of thing? Is it possible to send someone in to check and see if they can buy crafts from them?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mrs. Lawrence. Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My advice would be that the Member or the local individual involved in the marketing of crafts should get in touch with our Expo officials, because they would be able to give further advice as to the procedure to take. I assure the Member that my officials and Expo representatives are sitting here. Perhaps I will have them correspond and get in touch with your people because all types of native art and crafts are going to be displayed at that site and I would think that they would be glad to receive any suggestions from you and your constituents. At the moment I can say I will have that information communicated to all people and have them get in touch with your representatives and yourself before too long.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the amount of money involved in Expo '86, I would hate to see a smaller community such as Snowdrift not involved in any craft. I think that would be a good place for them to promote some of their crafts. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Any more general comments? Mr. T'Seleie.

Taxation Of Norman Wells Pipeline

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I do not know if this is under this subject, but I would like to ask the Minister whether or not the territorial government will be collecting any taxes from the pipeline that is going south from Norman Wells?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, yes, I indicated when Finance was before the House that there is a proposal to take advantage of the taxation opportunities offered with the opening of the Norman Wells line and that that proposal will be examined by the Executive Council in the very near future and referred to the standing committee on finance for its examination and general approval.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Butters. Any more general comments? Okay, we are on page 15.4, directorate. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I notice that in the 1984-85 objectives, that one of the objectives was to integrate the socio-economic agreement process with the business support programs. I assume that has to do with the Norman Wells pipeline. I wonder if the Minister can explain who is actually handling that right now? What has been done in this area?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: I would ask the Member to elaborate further on it. I am, personally, not aware of what he is referring to at the moment. Thank you.

MR. BALLANTYNE: In the departmental objectives for the directorate in 1984-85, one of those objectives -- I do not know if you have copies of them -- was to integrate the socio-economic agreement process with the business support programs. I understand that there was a socio-economic agreement reached with the proponents of the Norman Wells pipeline and I take it that this reference has to do with that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Mr. Minister. Mr. Britton.

MR. BRITTON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To be quite honest, I am not quite sure if we have an extensive written agreement relating to the Norman Wells pipeline on anything that I would call a socio-economic action plan, but it would be fair to say that we have had a very intensive involvement with both the oil companies and IPL and with the people attempting to do business associated with the pipeline construction. There has been a great deal of work done in that direction and a certain number of benefits accrued to the northern economy and it is also fair to say that there has been a certain amount of disappointment in some sectors as well.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Britton. (Translation) We will break for 15 minutes.

---SHORT RECESS

Mr. Ballantyne, you had the floor before we had a break. Go ahead.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I could get into this socio-economic agreement and action plan. Has the government done an evaluation on the effectiveness of the socio-economic agreement with the proponents and on the action plan?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I think, to clarify our role in that, I would like to say that there are a number of agencies within the government that monitor socio-economic impacts of the major resource development activities. To deal with that, one specific group was established in the government prior to my time and that was regional operations. This group of individuals was set up to specifically take care of the socio-economic impacts as well as the other requirements. So, I would think that when we get into the estimates on regional operations, that question could likely be dealt with a little more clearly because they did have a specific officer assigned to that community. Our department really was not monitoring the socio-economic impacts of the activity, although they were taking part in the formulation of the various business development plans because there was tremendous economic activity. The department has all the figures for the contributions and everything else that was done and I would be pleased to table them at the appropriate time, whether or not they might be useful to the Member.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I think this government really was not well-prepared for the Norman Wells pipeline. I think one of the problems was that there really was not an integrated, co-ordinated approach to monitoring the impact of the pipeline and maximizing benefits. So your response today,

that other people were involved, is essentially the same response to this that I have had from a lot of departments and I am not blaming the Minister for this particular one. I think it was the government as a whole. This happened very quickly and I do not think we prepared ourselves properly. My major concern is, who is looking at that experience to develop an approach so that for instance in early 1990s if a small oil pipeline is coming down the Mackenzie Valley, we will not get into the same situation that we found ourselves in this time, that we were not prepared, we were not able to really maximize all the benefits that we could? Who is doing that now?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

Studies On Socio-Economic Impact

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, all I can say at the moment is that the project is not entirely completed yet, so there is ongoing work being done and I can say to you that the federal government has an involvement in that. They have been able to provide some funds to the territorial government with northern oil and gas action program funds, so assessments are being carried out. As well, our Energy, Mines and Resources group now has a co-ordinator for the NOGAP studies. So, I would think that by another six months or so that we would have more integrated reports collected from those various studies that are being carried out.

You will recall that Mr. Munro made quite an extensive statement on it. Although there have been some cut-backs with some of the programs and projects that were to be funded, I think the overall socio-economic impact studies are being carried out by them and I will again have some more information to say on that when we get into the Energy, Mines and Resources Secretariat because at the moment I have not had the total briefing on these various studies that were initiated not long ago. About two months ago we concluded a co-ordinator to the various studies that are being carried out including the Beaufort area. If the Member is prepared to wait I will have that, but we are not a leading department in the socio-economic impact studies. I think regional operations was involved. All I can say to you is that I think it should be dealt with by more neutral departments as far as I am concerned and as a result regional operations was assigned specific tasks in certain areas. I do not think we have come forward in preparing for 1999 at the moment. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: It was just that in this particular argument for the socio-economic agreement your department was responsible for ensuring that it was integrated with the whole economic system in the Northwest Territories. On the actual socio-economic agreement itself, is it your feeling that the proponents, Esso and IPL, lived up to the terms and conditions of that agreement?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, my feeling is that the North should definitely receive maximum benefits from any project economically. When we talk about social impact I really, personally, never understood exactly what that term means. It becomes a motherhood statement as far as I am concerned because it involves a whole lot of people. You can ask the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council about it. You should ask Social Services people about it. You should ask certain employment counsellors about it and really our department has no control over these. I do not think it is really my role to get all the social scientists together and make a report about them. My feeling is that I think the communities themselves should be asked the question and are the best source of information. The proponents tend to give you their side of the picture. This government normally enters into agreement with the mining companies on, again, socio-economic agreement, but really the agreement is non-binding so the companies can give you the kind of report they think is going to be acceptable to all parties.

A Collective Approach Needed

As far as I am concerned, I think we need to totally, collectively as a government, rethink our approach to assessment of the social impact of these projects. I really do not know what we normally are trying to get when we are asking for the result of the major impacts. Sure, there are a whole lot of problems that are normally left behind. I share that, but the federal government is very much involved in that. You know that we just do not have the resource control, management

control of these activities and so we are left with assessing the impacts of these developments. I do not know whether I am making any point or not but there is a whole lot that should be done and I think that collectively as a government we really need to get our act together on the whole issue. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I guess the problem, as I see it, is there are certain commitments made by the proponents in front of the National Energy Board, in front of the EARP panel, and there was the socio-economic agreement that was reached between our government and the proponents. I think you mentioned in December that you or the Executive Council had withdrawn that agreement and were working on tightening it up. What is happening with that? I think you told us before Christmas that that agreement was no longer in effect and you were doing some work to try to tighten up that agreement.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, there are a number of social and economic agreements that this government has entered into with a number of mining companies and they are renewable at certain periods, either annually or some other additional year. We have, I know, one agreement that had expired and we have not renewed it at the moment because we are attempting to try and get a more binding agreement with the mining company, mainly because I am not satisfied as to the numbers of northern employees. With that mining company the socio-economic agreement is not in place. When the agreement was in effect, really there was no way the government could influence the company's activities in terms of labour and other matters. So as a result of that we are reviewing that and I know before long we will likely be communicating with them and attempting to put in a more effective socio-economic agreement with them. That is all I am prepared to say at the moment. Matna.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Qujannamiik, Mr. Minister. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I think another one of the lessons that we should have learned from the Norman Wells pipeline experience was that the federal government really took on probably the prime monitoring role. For all intents and purposes they were really a proponent because they are going to be benefiting with I think one third of the equity or whatever in the pipeline. There was just no way that being a proponent themselves they could be objective about the monitoring of the pipeline. I think that is something we have to ensure does not happen in the future.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I share that. To me I think the resource development in the North, as far as the NWT is concerned, is a bit of an embarrassing situation because from whatever angle, we are pretty much losers as far as the overall benefit is concerned, mainly because we just do not have the legislative or regulatory authority. I think the North is going to be an active region for oil and gas development. Before any major projects proceeded I think this government -- I was not here then -- should have negotiated a tough agreement with the federal government and not just to assess social economic impacts of the pipeline. I really think our government should have dug its heels in trying to come to an agreement with a resource revenue and resource management sharing type of arrangement, so we are not only benefiting by supporting our small businesses in the North but the North is actually getting something in return in overall long-term aspects of development through revenues and so on. Although we are benefiting through property taxes and so on and encouraging our businesses to take part in the development, other than that, for a long-term project we still have to negotiate with the federal government on more fundamental issues of the resource activities. That is all I will say at the moment. Qujannamiik.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I think that aspect of it is crucial if we get into this situation which I am sure we will in the future, on another large project. I agree, I think we, as northerners, were taken, on the Norman Wells pipeline. I think that there were obviously some short-term benefits to certain companies and individuals but I really think that we should have negotiated resource revenue sharing which would have had a long-term positive impact and also would have been spread out over the whole economy. So I am glad to hear the Minister is saying that and I think the important thing is it is time right now to start preparing for the next one so we can really maximize those benefits.

Directorate, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. We are on directorate. Total O and M, \$5,556,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Tourism And Parks, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Tourism and parks. Total O and M, \$3,834,000. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to ask a few questions dealing with this particular activity, basically with parks. Can the Minister indicate to me if there are plans to open and/or develop any new areas for territorial parks? Does he have anything in mind to increase the amount of space for our own territorial parks?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I think the Member can help me on this one. At the present time although there are plans for future development of territorial parks in the NWT, I cannot at the moment say that we are pursuing a major development of a park other than to say to you, as we go through the capital projects you will see there are small park activities going on all over the Territories. As far as more major parks are concerned there are a number of reviews that are taking place and discussions with the federal government. They have plans to continue their studies with the East Arm of Great Slave Lake, and the potential of a national park development on Ellesmere Island. I think that likely will be brought before the government before too long. But as far as our own government is concerned all we are doing at the moment is reviewing where and how we can affect federal government's plans to patrol the major national parks. We do not have the list of priorities for major comprehensive plans for the development of the parks. If you help me on your questions I will probably be able to provide something further. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. McCallum.

Intergovernmental Discussions On Parks

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. All I was concerned about was the kind of land that would be set aside for parks. The Minister referred to some of the concerns I had, obviously with what the status is of the federal proposal regarding the East Arm of Great Slave Lake. I wonder in terms of that, whether your department is still carrying on discussions with the federal government about the plans of Parks Canada to increase the amount of space.

I have a concern that there is a great deal of land being contemplated to be taken over by the federal government in the NWT. We are in a different situation in the Territories than people are in the provinces. The provinces have a greater right, as it were, to enter into negotiations. I just hope what we are trying to do here in the NWT is to make sure that Parks Canada knows of our concerns on freezing a lot of land. I think the difference between the territorial government and the federal government in regard to usage of parks is very distinct. The federal government use them as pristine wildernesses for environmentalists, if you like, and for animals, but not for people. That is different from the territorial government where we use it for recreational purposes and I agree with that. My concern is, are you or your officials in your department and/or other government areas still involved with discussions with the federal government as regards their plans to set aside large areas? The major concern I have, of course, is in the East Arm of Great Slave Lake but there are other areas that they are contemplating and you referred to Ellesmere Island. There are other initiatives that have been ongoing. I just want to make sure that we as a government are getting involved with those discussions. I wonder if you could comment on that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, a couple of areas that I did mention were Ellesmere and the East Arm and I also can tell the Member that the previous federal government approached us that they would like to study my constituency, the Wager Bay area, and a number of smaller areas in that district.

I can assure the Member that there is a regular contact between the federal officials and our territorial officials on parks proposals. I think the more urgent parks studies that are going on are on the East Arm and the consultation process is under way with the federal government and they have recently again expressed their desire to reactivate the consultation process with the communities. That is the federal government's plan and our officials will be actively involved in trying to get community feedback and surely I think your points must be respected. I cannot, at the moment, make any suggestions as to what priorities we have in terms of either people or naturalist type of parks, or not. I think our parks division seems to prefer that these parks should be used to bring in tourists rather than just be wilderness preserves sitting out with people not necessarily having a whole lot of interest in them, so I would welcome any kind of comment we can get from the communities and Members so that we can respond more effectively when dealing with the federal people. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. McCallum.

Limited Use Of Federal Parks

MR. MCCALLUM: The concern I have, Mr. Minister, is the fact that there is a great deal of land being contemplated to be set aside. In my opinion, too much of it. We have examples, now, of the federal government in particular parks and obviously I refer to Wood Buffalo National Park. It stops any kind of access to that area. It is a large area being contemplated on the East Arm of the big lake. It stops any kind of development that may or could possibly go on in that area, it stops any kind of access into the area, because there is a reluctance on behalf of Parks Canada to allow roads or highways into it, given that they have had bad experiences in other places in the South. It stops the possibility of transportation routes into that area. I think that it is something that we, as a government, should be putting forth in our discussions with the federal government when they contemplate taking over large areas of the Territories for their own particular purposes.

Wood Buffalo National Park is not a park that allows a great many people in and out, or use of it, and to perpetuate that kind of a situation in further areas in the North is, in my opinion, not right. We want people to come into the Territories to use it and it is this whole business of usage and the federal parks' mentality about it is, to my way, foreign to what we are trying to do. Not only on the use of the area, but on the possibility that there may be some kind of initiatives taken to develop certain parts of that particular country, I would hope that when government officials or officials within your department are talking with Parks Canada people of the federal government that you would put forth those kinds of views. These may be views that are not held by a lot of people here but, certainly, I think, they are views being held by a lot of the people south of the lake because of the experience that we have had.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I am glad the Member raised these points because I think the mentality of the federal officials is they set aside a whole lot of land and then as the Member says, it is very restrictive. It prevents a lot of tour groups and development plans and so on. I share the Member's point. I think it is also important to point out that as far as the East Arm is concerned, I indicated the federal government now again wishes to enter into consultation process with the community. I would think that that will be an opportunity for your community or any other interest groups who may wish to put forward their concerns when that consultation process is under way. I also would like to indicate to the Member that the native land claims question is very much a factor in this. I would think that the Dene Nation will be very actively involved in that and I think they should be involved and they are going to have to question it because it affects their land claims proposals.

There are a number of serious factors involved. I will try to put forward more detailed documentation, and probably table a document about what the federal government is trying to initiate in this area. Once I have received further documentation, I will table it for the House.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yesterday I asked a question of the Minister with regard to tourist associations being funded and whether he would consider funding regional councils. The response that the Minister gave was that most of the responsibility is in the hands of these

associations but he also said that unless the regional council is prepared to get into the promotion and other economic roles related with the tourist industry that he did not think it would be fair to give them the added responsibility. I would like to ask the Minister then if the regional councils are prepared to take on these additional responsibilities, say in a form of a resolution, would the Minister be willing to support and be able to fund them with regard to the promotion of tourism?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mr. Minister.

Political Organizations In Business

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I think I will say this. The regional councils which are prepared to have the responsibility can put forward any kind of resolution or whatnot that they wish to, either in the form of support to industry and whether it be any other economic activity. The tourist industry is of a commercial nature and if the regional council wishes to get involved in the economic activity on behalf of the community, I think that would be very, very much to the satisfaction of that particular region or community. But I will say to you that it is very difficult in practice to have a political organization try to dictate and run commercial and business activities. You have to decide, as a council, whether you are going to represent either the municipality and municipal affairs and politically related issues, or economic activity. If you are going to succeed in economic activity it is normally run better with politicians or regional council if the politics are left out.

What I am saying to you is that there are other ways. I think the answer to what you want to get is to get the committee to put forward a very strong business group or local corporation, or form a local chamber and have that group that is directly involved in the running of business get actively involved in the tourist potential. Then, I think, you would be under way. Regional councils are really a political organization and, therefore, sometimes it is difficult to put forward financial assistance when it is not going to really be put toward the economic related programs. I am trying to simplify the problem. I may be confusing the Member but I am trying to be helpful to him. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess I will take it, then, that that is a "yes".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Tourism and parks, total O and M, \$3,834,000. Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a comment to make regarding the national park on the East Arm. I know the territorial government has been involved in the consultation process with the community and I would just like to know how far it has gone. The last I spoke to the community in Snowdrift I had the understanding that they did not want the park at that time. I just want to know how are they doing with their consultation.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

Documentation On Constituents' Objections To Proposed Park

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, this is a federal initiative, federal consultation and our officials are keeping track of the federal consultation process. I think this new government has not got into the consultation process yet and they have expressed their desire to reactivate the consultation process with the affected communities and with the territorial government. We are not proposing that there will be a national park. It is a federal responsibility and I would very much like to receive correspondence, whatever it may be, from your constituents that object or support the proposed park. I have not received any correspondence from your community or from the local band council or hamlet council. If the Member has any documentation objecting I think it would be helpful to my department when we are communicating with the federal government the exact position of the affected communities because I think that is the only way that the federal government is going to take note of your concerns. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: There is not too much documentation on the park at this time, Mr. Chairman, due to the fact that they are opposing the whole national park idea. The last time that I spoke to them was last winter and I have not been able to get anything on it since then, so if I should have any more documents on it I will be willing to share them with the Minister and I expect the same thing back from him as well. Mahsi cho.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Minister, do you want to respond to that? Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister about the tourism strategy for the Northwest Territories. I wonder if I could have a copy of the tourism strategy.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I will be pleased to present to the Member any plans that we are developing and I know that there are some references to your part of the area as far as the tourism industry is concerned. When I get them I will make them available to you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Tourism and parks. Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask under this section about the department's objective of demonstrating that community-based tourism is a viable and practical method to deliver tourist services. My question is, what is the intention here? I would like to know how this department plans to evaluate community-based tourism and is it the intention to at some point say that 70 per cent of community-based tourism has not worked and therefore it is not viable? I would like some indication on that topic.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. T'Seleie. Mr. Minister.

Benefits Of Tourism To Communities

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think all of us would agree in the Assembly that the Northwest Territories is probably the best place in Canada and that it is very wealthy in terms of the nature and wildlife and people and that it is our position as a government that we encourage people from all over the world to visit and learn about the people in the communities and provide economic benefits to local businesses whether they be arts and crafts, local hotels, outfitters or local cultural groups in that community. We believe the tourists should be benefiting communities through these points that I mentioned. Because the Northwest Territories has been a pretty difficult place to travel in and because our transportation system to and from the major centres is relatively new, many places, including your communities, have not been known by the potential tourists from southern Canada. Therefore, I know we are a long way from introducing a whole lot of visitors to communities yet but in terms of the overall strategy, that is what we would like to suggest to the public, that community-based tourism industry is a good objective and it should be pursued to the extent possible. Therefore, wherever appropriate, we are going to try and keep believing that that objective is consistent with the communities' desire to develop tourism and that we will continue to try and develop our programs toward that. I know that it is going to be difficult with a whole lot of communities because, simply, they are limited in active opportunities to develop the tourist industry in places. But wherever viable I think we are going to put our support to that area. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Richard.

Departmental Role In Wildlife Management Agreement

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I have a question of the Minister with respect to this activity, tourism. The question deals also with outfitters and the Department of Renewable Resources. There has been a concern expressed recently by outfitters and groups of sport fishermen or sport hunters about the land claims process and the wildlife management agreement that is being negotiated between the federal government on the one part and the Dene/Metis organizations on the other part. I know your government, Mr. Minister, has a role to play as well in those negotiations. The groups of outfitters, sport fishermen, sport hunters, etc., I understand have made requests for copies of draft wildlife management agreements. I believe they have gone so far as to suggest that they should participate in the land claims process. Perhaps those things cannot be done but there is, I understand, a confidentiality

attached to some of the final draft agreements, and perhaps they cannot sit at the negotiating table as participants. I wonder, Mr. Minister, in your department's mandate to encourage the development of the tourism industry, if there is not a responsibility or a desire to keep that sector informed of the ongoing negotiations and to perhaps listen to their concerns. I know that the Minister of Renewable Resources has confirmed in writing to some of these groups that it is important that public participation in wildlife management decisions be encouraged and the opportunity provided. Could the Minister perhaps indicate if he sees a role of that sort within the mandate of the Department of Tourism? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, thank you. I fully share the Member's points and I, as the Minister, have been making statements that tourism is a viable economic base and it is one that has a tremendous potential to be I think one of the long-term economic industries in the NWT. I can say to you I have communicated my concerns, to my colleagues, on the fact that there must be an appropriate protection for existing businesses and fairness in dealing with the operators in the Territories. But that is one point of view. I am not directly involved with the negotiations with the federal government and I believe each operator is going to have to communicate their concerns to the appropriate Members who are directly involved in this exercise.

I must say to you, I am not directly involved. I can only communicate the concerns that I receive and I have done that. I think it is your role as their MLAs wherever they are, to communicate their concern directly to the appropriate Ministers involved in that exercise. I am not at liberty to release details of these points but I can say to you we have continued to assess them, through the process that we are limited to and I have pointed out the kind of concerns that you have said. It is not up to me to provide you with a final answer because I really do not know what the final answer will be, because if the native groups are negotiating with the federal government, it is really between the two parties as to what kind of deal they will strike. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Tourism. Mr. Ballantyne.

Surveys On Tourist Traffic Into NWT

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Over the past number of years there has been more and more emphasis by this government on promotion of tourism. A lot more money has been spent. I wonder have any surveys been done as to the effectiveness of promoting tourism? Has there been a corresponding increase in tourists going along with our increase in promotional dollars?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Minister. Mr. Britton.

MR. BRITTON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do attempt and it is very difficult, of course, to count heads in this business. But we do attempt to monitor the amount of tourist traffic into the NWT. Generally every year we have a small consultant study into the volume of tourist trade. We are just finalizing the results of a survey that was carried out during the tourist season last summer and I think the results of this when it is finalized can ultimately be made available to the House.

It seems the early returns suggest the travel industry is growing. The level of tourist trade within that, unfortunately, from some parts of the world has not kept pace with the growth in our travel industry associated with business. The world-wide recession has affected us but not in any significant way. Some parts of the Territories seem to have experienced a good growth in tourism, Baffin being one of them. We are hoping now that the recession is ending in some parts of the world that there will be a healthy growth in the years ahead. The short answer is, yes, we do monitor, and overall, the results are encouraging.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: The surveys that you are doing, are they comprehensive enough to give us really realistic figures? Is there a sort of plus and minus factor in these surveys?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Britton.

MR. BRITTON: Mr. Chairman, the survey that was done this summer was I guess called, and I am not a statistician, but it was a "cordon survey". People were counted in airports, a sampling was done from all the major airports and entry points over a period of time. Then you have to explode this

and try to make some assumptions about what happens during the time that we were not actually counting. We are reasonably satisfied with the results of this but there is some methodological checking that is going on at the present time. You can always argue with any kind of survey that the results are always somewhat in question. We will never be at the point -- and I don't think we ever want to try to count every tourist who comes in here. We feel that when we have done our methodological checking on this study that the statistical results will be meaningful and will be a guidepost to where we should market and help us decide what our advertising strategy should be.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Once that study is done, I for one would be interested in having a look at it to see how we are doing. The MLAs...

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Inaudible comment)

Procedure To Establish A Territorial Park

MR. BALLANTYNE: We are economic indicators so we can actually count all the tourists. If I can get on to another point. It is for territorial parks. How is a territorial park established? I brought up the point of the problems out at Vee Lake now and as you know Vee Lake is the access to Walsh and Banting Lake -- there are those problems there. I do not know if it is feasible or possible but how would one establish, for instance, a territorial park right at the Vee Lake parking lot area there? What is the process to establish territorial parks?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Britton.

MR. BRITTON: Mr. Chairman, if it was identified that it was desirable economically and it was the wish of the people in the area to do that, I guess the process is an interesting one -- we would attempt to secure the land first. If it was Commissioner's land I suppose it would be reasonably easy to do. We would survey the boundaries and describe it as a park. I suppose ultimately it would become a regulation pursuant to our Territorial Parks Ordinance but there would have to be some money voted for it as well for its maintenance and for whatever capital is necessary to develop the park. I cannot say there is a highly defined process. Each park involves a little bit of a separate problem.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Britton. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Is it really a complicated procedure? Again, using this example, I think it has some interesting potential because a lot of tourists use that area, those three lakes, and it would not cost that much money. We are talking just about the parking lot area itself. It is a matter of putting in rest rooms, garbage cans. Really nothing more than that. What are the implications to the government if they agree that that should be a territorial park? What responsibilities then does the government assume by taking that action?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Britton.

MR. BRITTON: Mr. Chairman, I suppose once the land was secured and whatnot it extends to maintaining it in a reasonable standard of repair and cleaning the washrooms and making sure that the area is safe and reasonably well policed. It could be a day use area, I suppose, with maybe some campsites. I do not know whether that would be desirable in there or not.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: No, I do not think there is a need for campsites there, just as a day use park. If I get a petition from all the people that are using that lake and brought it to the Minister, would he look at the idea?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Britton, or Mr. Minister.

MR. BRITTON: Mr. Chairman, these things always do start with an expression of public interest and I suppose we are having this right at this very moment. Certainly the point of view of the city of Yellowknife would be significant, a petition would be significant and if it appeared there was interest in so doing, we would put it into our capital plan and try to make it a reality.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Tourism and parks. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Government Input Into Land Claims Positions

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like for a moment to follow up on the question that the Member for Yellowknife South raised earlier and more particularly follow up on the response that the Minister gave about his input into the land claims positions. Unless I misunderstood it, I am a little concerned about the answer that was given because I suppose that I had always believed that -- I know that we have representation at the land claims talks through the Aboriginal Rights Secretariat and I believed that we took formal positions as well to those talks with the idea to try to ensure that public government interests in the existing territory would be safeguarded. I thought that in the formulation of those formal positions that departments that had interests were quite thoroughly involved in shaping those positions and yet the Minister's answer did indicate that he had expressed concerns but that did not seem to go very far. Could I ask for a clarification of that?

Surely, the economic viability of a public government jurisdiction, whether it is a divided territory or the existing Northwest Territories, is very important and the safeguarding of, or reasonable safeguarding of existing businesses is very important. Would the Minister maybe elaborate some more and explain what his department's involvement is in that process?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I think it is always an ideal notion that all fairness and fair input and opportunity is granted to interest groups and let us say even to the departments, input into the complex process involved. Like any major complicated issue, it is not always possible that one department or group of individuals gets a fair hearing into those processes until an appropriate forum or time has been settled. I can equate it to the recent practice that you initiated. Complex moral issues were involved and political issues were involved but the winner-take-all approach was exercised and I can say to you that during these claims negotiations there are very strong feelings on matters and our native groups are going to go for it. I think it is their right that they do so but as far as the fairness issue is concerned, that is always subject to one's interpretation and I, again, I am equating that to your actions the other day. There were questions involved but you have to jump the gun at a certain time when the opportunity arises and I know that that is what is happening with our native negotiations. While there is an opportunity for them to take and get control I believe that is what they are doing. What I am trying to say is that, as a department, we are not always granted that opportunity because we are a small part of the broader federal government's jurisdiction. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, I concede that in a loose sort of way that there is a parallel, as you pointed out, to the work that took place with the alliance and so on but it is only in a loose way. If we examined that a little more clearly we see that in that process there are various interests involved and it is up to each of those to pursue them as diligently and strongly as they possibly can. I have no difficulty at all when you make the statement that in the land claims forum, native groups should go for it, I think you said. I agree that they should as well, but what I am saying is that there is another interest as well and that is the public government interest in the Northwest Territories. It seems to me that that interest should be going for it as well in order to counterbalance the initiatives that are taking place elsewhere and I think it is important if various departments within our government have not had as big a role as they should have then I believe that the Executive Council as a whole maybe should examine this matter a little more thoroughly and ensure that departments begin to take a bigger role and that is not to try to work anything to the detriment of aboriginal people but to be sure that where there are strong interests advanced on the one side there are also strong interests advanced on the other and that it is in a thoughtful reconciliation of them, that we arrive at the best possible result.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Minister, do you want to respond to that?

---Laughter

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I think as I indicated we have done a fairly fair representation with the concerns that we did receive but I do not think that I have to advise the Member how drastic one should be because I think you are quite capable of doing that yourself. We do present the concerns of the interest groups that we have within the department and they are communicated to the parties involved and it is up to them to take it or leave it and I cannot go beyond that. The Member has a pretty fair, I would say, group of contacts and he is probably well-informed of these things and if he is prepared to take a more drastic approach that is up to the Member. I think we are doing a fairly good representation and I think my colleagues on the Executive Council, who are involved in the negotiations more closely, will agree that they have received representation from my department on matters that affect the public interest. I will say we are doing it but I am not prepared to risk the negotiations that are taking place because they are, I think, being conducted in a fair and reasonable manner. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Tourism and parks, total O and M.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Just one follow-up to that one point, the Minister said that he would make representations and then it is up to the parties involved to take it or leave it. Could I just clarify which parties those are? Is it merely the Minister responsible for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development, in that case, who formulates the position or does your input go to the Executive Council as a whole to formulate a government position with respect to these?

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Point of order.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Point of order. Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, it would seem to me that the Member's concern should be addressed during the discussion of the budget of the Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: I asked the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism where his input goes, so I think that is a legitimate question for the committee here, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. MacQuarrie, go ahead with the question.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you. So I would ask the Minister, then, the direction in which his input goes. Is it merely to the Minister responsible for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development or is it to the Executive Council as a whole?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I think when we review the Executive Council's budget he will see in the organizational chart there is such an Executive Council committee called the aboriginal rights and constitutional development committee. Most of the aboriginal rights matters are dealt with through that committee and the appropriate departmental concerns are presented through there where an issue arises that affects a certain department's point of view. Through that exercise we normally make representations to the Minister responsible for aboriginal rights. There are two of them, one for Inuit claims and one for Dene claims.

Again, I will say to you that normally the weight of the Minister that is conducting the negotiation is the one that, I think, has normally the fair chance of carrying the recommendation to the federal negotiations. I can say to you that we normally get a fair opportunity to express our concerns through them. I think the Minister, again, will elaborate to you in his budget as to how these are normally finalized but until they are made public we are not at liberty to go into them at the moment. Thank you.

Tourism And Parks, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Tourism and parks, total O and M, \$3,834,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Business Development, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Business development, total O and M, \$8,936,000. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister in this business development you talk about the venture capital and as I understand it in the priority book that we have, this venture capital is to be put into targeted areas. It is to provide equity capital for new businesses, renewable industries and native-controlled joint ventures. Could I get some idea of what areas we are talking about? What are the targeted areas? Has the Minister been able to identify just where this venture capital will go? What kind of ventures are we talking about?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I indicated yesterday that we have not finalized these programs and the policy with respect to this proposed item. I will say to you that what we have in mind is a number of opportunities that have not been able to be funded through the existing government funding programs. I think one area that I mentioned to you as lacking in terms of financial assistance is the renewable resource sector. There are a whole lot of opportunities and I can give you some examples. Country foods development in the Territories and developing opportunities for that, I think, is there but we just have not been able to get into it. We might be interested in looking at operations for agricultural development. These are just ideas at the moment but all these other ideas are at the formative stages and I would like to be able to announce them in the June session as to exactly what number and the specific nature this venture capital will have.

What I am saying to you is that I think, and you know as well, that there are opportunities out on the private sector which just do not have access to capital funding sources and we would like to try and direct that funding toward this sector that has not had an opportunity for other funding from either commercial or the territorial loan funds. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, where will this venture capital fund be based? Is it in headquarters? Will it be put out into the regions? Who will be administering the fund and authorization of those loans being made? Do you have any idea if there is a maximum amount that can be given to any one company or consortium? Do you have those kinds of particulars worked out?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Once the headquarters have been decided for Nunavut, that is where it is going to be administered from. Mr. Chairman, presently our idea is that, since this is going to be reviewed annually until it is fully under way, our proposal is that it really should be administered from the headquarters level and I would like my deputy to explain a bit about the plans that we have because, really, this whole thing has to get back to the Executive Council for final approval. Anything that we are proposing is only at the idea stage at the moment in terms of the possibility of the detailed program aspect of it. I am saying to you that final recommendation is going to be presented to the Executive Council and any ideas that we get from you or other Members are really appreciated.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Britton.

Concept Of Venture Capital Project

MR. BRITTON: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I could just outline the concept that we are working toward in venture capital, realizing full well that it has not been presented to the Executive Council and that many of the different ways that the program can be administered are controversial and may be

subject to change. First, we have studied all of the venture capital funds that are offered in the provinces and there are half a dozen provinces that have been in this game. The models that we liked the best are those in place in Ontario and in Alberta and we are giving, I guess, strong weight to considering some of the concepts that they have put in their venture capital funds.

First, we see a group of territorial business people getting together and forming what we call a venture capital corporation which is an investment corporation and it has to be a group of people. We are talking about having at least three territorial businesses who would join together. They would pool their funds and again the ceilings have not been placed on it but obviously the fact that there is only half a million dollars in the program suggests that there will have to be some ceilings imposed. This venture capital corporation would pool its funds and they would use their funds to take minority interests in other companies, new companies primarily, which we are interested in for job creation reasons and so on but also other companies that are owned by northerners but who may need capital to embark on new ventures or who may perhaps be struggling and need capital and the management expertise of the venture capitalists. In exchange for them doing these investments and becoming minority shareholders in these new companies, we would provide them with a cash incentive for doing that and again that amount can vary.

I can tell you that the amounts vary from very small numbers in some of the provinces to very significant numbers and perhaps I should not, until the Executive Council has reviewed this and taken its stance, get too specific but essentially a cash grant would be made of a certain proportion of the investment that was made in a new company to the venture capital corporation or else to the individual members of that venture capital corporation to reward them for making the investment that they have so made.

The venture capital corporations very often are told -- in Ontario for example, the Ontario government is trying to encourage the development of the publishing industry and the high-tech industries and four or five other sectors and so this incentive is only payable for investments that are made in those sectors. We have not decided exactly how we should do it but we do know that we are trying to encourage joint ventures and investment in the renewable resource sectors and obviously that will be one of our sectors but whether it will be just limited to renewable resources is not known at the moment. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Britton. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Do I understand from the comments of the deputy minister that there seems to be a pre-empting of -- I am not too sure which is coming first, the venture capital group or consortium of which we know there is one now formed. I guess my concern would be here, is this one of the ideas or recommendations that came from the Minister's business council, to set up this venture capital deal? This advisory council, I guess it is called the NWT Business Council, is this one of the recommendations that that council came to him with, to set up this kind of venture capital concept? Has the idea pre-empted where the moneys will be distributed? Could you comment on that in any way?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Northern Companies Access To Capital Funds

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, initially when we had this idea floating we consulted with the business council. They were in full support of it because it is pretty difficult to get access to venture capital, to funds for any major enterprise that wishes to get into the field. I can give you a whole lot of fields, the renewable resource sector is one that has difficulty in getting access to capital funds for the existing programs. You look at our oil and gas sector. How many northern-owned companies do we have exploring and taking advantage of this development in the Territories? Why are there not enough oil and gas exploration companies owned and operated and controlled by northerners? I would say to you because they do not have access to capital funds. We believe there is room for such a fund that should be established by this government, so we are recommending at least that portion of the small fund be established to try and see whether or not it is going to be attractive to the northern companies. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: I just want to comment on the preamble to the answer the Minister gave me about where the funds would be kept. He referred to the final formation of Nunavut. I take it then it will be in either of the two dead centres of the Northwest Territories, Rankin Inlet or Baker Lake, is that correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, my recommendation would be that it be based at Tuktoyaktuk, Nunavut Territories.

---Laughter

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Business development. Total O and M. Mr. Richard.

Funding For Economic Development Organizations

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a brief question. In this activity there is something in the order of \$200,000 to fund economic development organizations. The Minister indicated earlier to the standing committee on finance that he could not answer where that core funding was going to go, specifically to which organizations, as again the policy had not yet been approved by Executive Council. Can the Minister give that response to us today?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I can say to the Member that the policy has now been approved by the Executive Council and it will come into effect on April 1, 1985.

I think we did indicate to the standing committee on finance which has not reported to this House yet on its exercise and should before we present our estimate because that is the purpose of us attending these SCOF meetings. I indicated to you at that time that there are economic development groups such as regional chambers of commerce or the territorial chamber of commerce or Baffin Region economic development associations who are directly involved with the regional or territorial-wide activities. This fund is designed mainly to help them, in my view, to bring various groups together for economic conferences such as the one that has been planned for Rankin Inlet next week which brings in the business people from the regions to review their regional economic development activities. So that is what this small fund is for. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was hoping, Mr. Chairman, that the Minister could give some indication as to what organizations were going to get this fund and specifically that is a question that was asked during the Minister's attendance before the standing committee. If the answer had been obtained, perhaps the committee might have been able to give a report to the Assembly. The difficulty from time to time seems to be that the information is not available. So that we must of necessity ask the question again when we are in committee of the whole but that simply was the intent of the question, Mr. Chairman. If the Minister is again not able to respond to the question today, perhaps we will ask again another day.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, all I know is that my answer does not make any difference to the Member. Whether he has the facts or not he can be sceptical as long as he lives. That is his privilege, I cannot do anything about that. But I will say to you at that time we did not have the policy but I indicated to you that this fund item was to cover and assist regional groups. I did give you an example. There are a number of them -- construction associations in the NWT, lumber industry associations, there are groups, territorial groups, economic groups that have no assistance. We are not handing out this fund. They have to present a proposal to us and reasons behind it.

In the past we have had to go to the Financial Management Board for small items for contributions to regional conferences, whether it be \$5000, \$1000, because there was no policy. The policy when I appeared before you was in formation and I was not able to tell you without it being approved by the Executive Council, which ones we were going to be gearing it toward. That is all I am saying to you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I see the Minister is getting a little bit touchy on this one but I think what is important is the principle that before the government expends funds a policy is developed. And in the letter that you have written to the standing committee on finance you said that this policy in question will be tabled before the priorities and planning committee the week of February 4th. You were not able to do that, I take it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, maybe if I speak in Inuktitut you would understand. The policy was approved since then. The policy is in place and it is effective April 1st and once the printing process can get under way it will be right in front of your nose before long.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: That's good. If it had been in front of our noses a little while ago, we would not have gone through this exercise. Okay, can I go on to another question? I think we have made our point and I think the Minister is aware of our concerns.

Fish Price Support

In the whole area of fish price support, the Minister and I have had some discussions. I think there is some concern right now in the fishing industry as to what is happening. I know the Minister has been talking to some of the people involved, about some of the problems right now in the fishing industry. Does the Minister have any ideas of how we can improve that situation? I see there is an increase this year of \$233,000 for fish price support. Is there a way to improve the situation?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, yes, there are a whole lot of concerns with the fishing industry. Number one, I think the marketing is a problem and as well the transportation costs. Transportation cost is the biggest expenditure that affects particularly the Great Slave Lake fisheries. What we are faced with is a whole lot of complexities, again because of the lack of our own control over the marketing aspect of the resource, not only in this area but in Eastern Arctic fisheries as well, with the arctic char. So there are a number of activities taking place within our shop and I have further plans to try to shape the fisheries economy in the Territories because I believe the number one problem we have in the Territories is the lack of manpower and lack of resources to really be able to have the capability to represent the fishermen. We really do not have a marketing group within our shop that is able to assist the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation. We leave all the marketing strategies for them. Therefore, although we have a representative on the board, and advisory committees, the department will have quite a shortage of the expertise I believe necessary to really be able to expand the fisheries in the Territories. I am hoping that that will be another exercise for next years major efforts. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Ballantyne.

Privatization Of Commercial Enterprises

MR. BALLANTYNE: I am glad to hear the Minister is looking at the problem. It is another sector of our economy that does have long-term potential and I think right now it is not really as healthy as it should be. I think that there are things this government could do to try to assist it. If I could go into one last question in this area, Mr. Chairman, and that is the whole concept of privatization of commercial enterprises. I know the Minister is in favour of that philosophy and he kindly provided us with a list of industries that had been privatized. Are there other industries right now that have been targeted to be privatized over the next year?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, we have quite a few -- I believe over 10 enterprises that presently are operated by the territorial government. Particularly, I think, the majority of the enterprises operated by the territorial government are in Baffin area. Specifically in Frobisher

Bay there is a craft shop, knit wear, laundry facilities and jewellery shop and Pangnirtung weaving shop which, in my view, if successful proponents can be found, could be privatized within the year. So we are going to work toward that. The Pelly Bay craft shop again is another mainly local economic activity which I think could very well be privatized before too long. There are other shops, mainly related to sewing centres and crafts throughout the Territories, which we have been carrying out on behalf of the communities. I will say to you that wherever we can find a proponent in communities we will move toward privatizing these enterprises.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: What has been the results of Economic Development operations that have been privatized? Have you found that they become more effective, more efficient and more productive after privatization than they were before?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I can say to you that the businessmen who take over these have streamlined their operations and cut costs and wherever possible, in effect, have improved some of these operations because they do hustle and seek markets directly themselves and not just wait for the fine weather to eventually arrive and hope that the market will improve. In many places, we have had to be convinced that businessmen or individuals who are taking over will actually go out and hustle and go all out and try to improve their markets out there. I have been satisfied with the ones that we have privatized so far, other than maybe one or two which we are having second thoughts about. Thank you.

Business Development, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Business development, total O and M, \$8,936,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Finance And Administration, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Finance and administration, total O and M, \$1,516,000. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: One item in this particular activity is that there will be a \$200,000 increase to allow for doubtful accounts. This is under the Business Loan Fund. Why is that? Doubtful accounts is being increased by \$200,000 but the fund this year is only being increased by one million dollars. Are we looking at a potential of 20 per cent loss within the fund?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Britton.

MR. BRITTON: Mr. Chairman, this is the first time that we have put in the main estimates an allowance for doubtful accounts. It is a question of a realistic appreciation that we are going to have some accounts that do not succeed and we had an audit done on the fund a couple of years ago and it was suggested that an allowance of this kind should be established because we will have some loans that are not successful. It does not suggest that we are going to lose 20 per cent of the one million dollars that is being added to the fund this year. It suggests that we are going to have to write off about \$200,000 of the total portfolio of \$10 million.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Britton. Finance and administration, total O and M, \$1,516,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. McCallum.

Regulations, Business Loans And Guarantees Ordinance

MR. McCALLUM: One question on this area, Mr. Chairman, dealing with the business loans and guarantees. The ordinance is to come into effect the 1st of April. Could I have some indication as to what is the status of the regulations concerning that particular ordinance? The ordinance comes into effect, has been passed by the House, where are the regulations? When will we be made aware of those? It was my understanding that those regulations would be given to us. Have they been developed? Will we be able to see the regulations? I raised that because it was one of the things that came back from the Auditor General in the past and it was my understanding from previous public accounts committees that this would come in. I understood when the ordinance was to be proclaimed that those regulations -- to my knowledge we have not seen the regulations as yet.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Britton.

MR. BRITTON: Mr. Chairman, the regulations are in the very final stages of legal drafting. They should be available on Monday or Tuesday and can be made available at that time. We do apologize for them taking a little longer to be put out than we thought but I do not think there are very many surprises at all.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Britton. Finance and administration, total O and M.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Just one technical point. When I asked earlier about the allowance for doubtful accounts I understood that Mr. Britton said \$200,000 was the total amount. It says in the SCOF book that it is an increase to allow for doubtful accounts, Business Loan Fund. So there must have been something there before.

AN HON. MEMBER: No.

MR. BALLANTYNE: No? So that is just a mistake in the SCOF book.

AN HON. MEMBER: No, no!

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Britton.

MR. BRITTON: Mr. Chairman, just by way of clarification on that. This is the first time that we are going to be putting money into the budget every year, this \$200,000 every year. In fact, last year as you recall, there was a two million dollar allowance for doubtful accounts to take care of the fact that we had not had an allowance for the previous 10 or 12 years since the loan fund began and so perhaps that is the item that was referred to in the SCOF document.

MR. BALLANTYNE: It is in the main estimates, too.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Britton. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: It is in the main estimates on page 15.7. It says "An increased allowance for doubtful accounts...."

Finance And Administration, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Finance and administration, total O and M, \$1,516,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Expo '86, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. Expo '86, total O and M. Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to know how much Expo '86 is costing the Northwest Territories government, and I would also like to know what happens with the pavilion after the Expo is over. I would also like to know whether or not the revenues that are collected from Expo '86 will pay for the cost to this government of Expo '86.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I think the Member perhaps should have -- point by point he is asking a number of questions in one question. I think as far as the item before us is concerned, the chairman of the committee -- Expo '86 budget in total for this fiscal year, the total expenditure, is \$2,653,000. If the Member wants that in detail for the total costs of the whole project, we can provide him with that if that is what he wishes. Are you asking, does it include the revenues and whatnot? We can give you the summary in detail if that is what you want and I would like the Member to help us on that so that we can read into the record exactly what he is asking for. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, if the answer is too long, I would just be satisfied with receiving that information.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. T'Seleie. Mrs. Lawrence.

Employment Of Northerners

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question for the Minister. I would like to know how many native northerners will be hired at this Expo and how many students will benefit from it in terms of employment or is this something that you have to be very highly qualified for, degrees and all that attached to it? Mahsi cho.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I think the Minister of Education is going to be able to announce before long either at this session or the June session as to the participation of the students that will eventually be taking part there. I am going to leave that question to him because he has a number of students that he will be getting involved. As for the direct employment of the individual, we estimate roughly that there will be about 80 or so individuals involved at the Expo site. That will be staff for the pavilion as well as the concessionaires and guides and everything else in total. We have with us the information that there will roughly be about seven sales staff and seven sales cashiers and a whole lot of other people involved as waitresses and hostesses for the various projects that we do have but as for the qualifications, we are not into that in this shop. Maybe the managers of the concessionaires or so on. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Are you training individuals for this project now or are you just picking up qualified people from the South?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I did not say we will pick up people from the South. The Member knows that whoever is employed at the site when the pavilion actually opens up will be mainly from the Northwest Territories. From managers to hostesses, people involved at the concessions and so on will be all from the NWT and there will be ample training take place with all our staff, mainly because it is a special event and there will be a really detailed requirement. Because we are dealing with a whole lot of people there will have to be a short training course that will be carried out at Vancouver and we do expect to have the finalization of the staff by this coming summer so that they can commit themselves to prepare for their other work that they will eventually

have to either leave or so on. Because they are going to have to get to the site by about May, the training is going to have to take place within the early part of the year. We expect any individuals that wish to take part are going to be solicited by, I would think, this spring so that they can be informed by the end of the summer. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you. I have one more comment to make. I am hoping that the Northwest Territories will benefit from this since we have put so much money into it and we were aware of the Expo '86 well ahead of time. I am really hoping that northerners will be considered first over anyone from the South. What I am saying is that in some communities they have never even heard of Expo '86. They are questioning what is Expo '86 and, from my past experience, I just question how many of the native people will benefit from this. That is all. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mrs. Lawrence. Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister could answer my question about what will happen to the pavilion building after next year?

AN HON. MEMBER: Going to Baker Lake on the new highway.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, what will likely happen is that it will likely be tendered for successful bidders and we would like to recover as much as we can the cost of, the partial cost of that material. If we have a successful bidder from any community we will sell it to that particular individual. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. T'Seleie.

Possibility Of Supplementary Estimates

MR. T'SELEIE: My other question is whether or not the costs of this item in the budget book are firm. I am thinking of later on in the year whether or not we will be expected to maybe approve more money for this project and I would like to ask the Minister how firm the figures we see in our books are.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I think Members of the standing committee on finance were fairly briefed on the budget of Expo '86. It is pretty clear cut. We are not expecting any increases with the budget that the Executive Council and FMB had approved. That is going to remain as it is because that was a condition, that we had to present it as the final budget presentation last fall to the Executive Council and FMB.

What is missing in the present estimate, what is not included are some of the changes that the government was forced to adopt because in view of Galaxy and the private concessionaire dropping out, we have now had to absorb that. But our estimates remain the same and we will require supplementary estimates perhaps in the June session to reflect Galaxy's costs which would have been absorbed by them because we now have to put it into our own estimates. They will be adjusted in next years budget. All of it will then be in our estimates at that time. We can provide that information to Members of the House if it is desired of the Members because the breakdowns and summaries are all included in my information item. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mahsi, Mr. Minister. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to follow up on the cost a little bit and I see approximately three million dollars is expected to be the overall cost. Is that an approximation within, you know, three or four million dollars or \$200,000 or \$300,000? More seriously, surely that is a net figure that is expected to be net cost after all revenues are accounted for.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman, that is correct. Our net costs as close as we can calculate them would be \$3,350,000 to the territorial government. I think it is important to point out that we do have revenues coming to us and sure we would try to get them as close as we can. But we would like to try and hold that line and if at all possible give the figure that we have been able to get from our staff and our consultants. We believe that it will be under four million. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Total Cost If Venture Unsuccessful

MR. MacQUARRIE: It is possible, of course, that the whole venture could be a bust, if it is bad weather or for a lot of reasons it could be possible that the 16 million visitors or whatever they are expecting do not come. In which case we are not going to recover the kinds of revenues that we expect and we may not be able to sell the pavilion or whatever. So could I ask then what is the...

MR. McCALLUM: Plan B.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Plan B, Mr. McCallum says. If that were to happen what could our costs rise to then? Would it be in the order of six million dollars or something if we just were not able to recover it at all? In that case, what would be a figure?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman, if rainy days do develop, our projections for revenue would surely be reduced. Definitely. Other costs therefore would be incurred by the government. But we are really not expecting that we would depart from the total cost that we have estimated, which is roughly about -- I think I will leave that to my deputy minister to explain further in detail because they are confusing to me at this moment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Britton.

MR. BRITTON: Mr. Chairman, of course it is difficult to speculate on what would happen if the fair would be a bust. All I can say is that it certainly does not look like it is going to be at this point. There is a very positive attitude, both in the nation and internationally, developing toward this fair, so I will be very surprised if it is a bust. If it was, it would only impact on our costs, as my Minister said, to the extent that we would not sell as much there as we think we are going to sell. In the restaurant, which is going to be a very busy place and in the boutique which we hope is going to be a very busy place, we are projecting about four million dollars in sales during the life of the fair. I suspect the restaurant is going to be full. People are going to eat, regardless, I suppose. The boutique sales we will know when the cashier chits are tallied up at the end of the day, as it were. It would be in the boutique, I think, that the sales might be affected if there was bad weather or whatever the case may be. So, I hate to even throw a figure in the air but I suppose a million bucks at the worst case.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: So, it would appear then that the approximate cost in that case could rise to four million dollars or something. It would be a bust in another sense, not only that we did not get the revenues there but if there were not visitors there then the long-term benefits that supposedly come from Expo would not be there. Anyway, I take it that the Minister in a sense is saying that everything considered we could not run a deficit of more than four million dollars, any more than a whale could give birth to a walrus. That is a firm undertaking is it?

--Laughter

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Expo '86. Mr. T'Seleie.

Recruitment For Employment At Expo '86

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to go back to an earlier question asked by Mrs. Lawrence about the hosts and people who will be hired to work at Expo. I wonder who makes those decisions and is the department planning to advertise those jobs throughout the Northwest Territories?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, yes, our Expo staff will advertise through the appropriate means to try and get a cross section of representatives from the Territories and from the regions. They will be advertised likely in the form of category of job and so on and I do not think we are going to be asking how many from particular communities. So it will be important, even at this stage I think, that those individuals or young people who are interested, even before the advertising is publicly released, should start inquiring through their MLAs. As to how many of them would be interested in carrying out a job at the Expo site, there will be so many individuals that would wish to. I know from initial discussions with the Expo people, that young people and groups will be able to be employed for only so many weeks so that opportunities can be spread out to more of the young people of the Northwest Territories. I will try and have that information and perhaps make a statement on it at an appropriate time as to these various positions and the expected time of employment for each individual. Once I get that I will try to make a statement on it in the House.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Expo -- progress being called.

AN HON. MEMBER: Expo-progress.

---Laughter

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Are we on Expo or progress, Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Expo has been called. This is not debatable. All those in favour?

---Laughter

Progress being called. This is not debatable. All those in favour to report progress? Mr. Pudluk, are you making a motion then?

MR. PUDLUK: No, I was just asking to report progress.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Richard, Expo.

Close Watch Should Be Kept On Budget

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just very quickly wanted to not ask a question of the Minister but make a comment on this project. I do wish the Minister and his official, Mr. Braden, and the others well on this project.

However, I am, with some others I guess in this Assembly, concerned about the total cost compared to the benefits that will accrue to the Territories. I know that there are a lot of benefits that we cannot put a dollar figure on like the young people of the Territories having an opportunity to be guides or hostesses, if you will, at the pavilion itself. But still I think we should exercise some responsibility in keeping a rein on the dollars that are being spent. Some of the things that have happened already, the withdrawal of that Galaxy consortium, the Minister has indicated that one of the corporate sponsors, one of the major sponsors, that it had been hoped would contribute a cash donation, did not. The deputy minister indicates the reaction nationally and internationally -- I beg to differ. I suppose we cannot always trust the media, but certainly the media reports that I have heard in the last number of months go both ways. Coming out of British Columbia the Minister's statement last fall about the projected number of people that would pass through the pavilion -- I am certain that is involved in the estimate of the revenues that we hope to get from sales. They may or may not be correct, those estimates. The Minister yesterday indicated that he sees an optimism in the NWT about this whole project and I am not sure if that can be translated to the success of the pavilion in terms of the number of visitors in Vancouver. But in any event, Mr. Chairman, that is simply my comment that I would simply encourage the Minister. If this budget is approved, in the first two fiscal years of this project, we will have authorized expenditures of close to \$3.5 million, with projected revenues in those two fiscal years of \$800,000. So virtually from April 1, 1986 on, the project is going to have to break even thereafter if the Minister's original projections are correct. I would simply encourage the Minister and his officials to keep an eye on this whole project budget as the months go by. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Richard. Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to thank the Member for his optimism and encouragement. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Just to try to end it on an upbeat note. I support the project.

---Applause

And I will go to Vancouver in the summer of 1986.

MR. RICHARD: And buy some hamburgers.

MR. MacQUARRIE: With my MLA's salary, I may have to hitch-hike but I will try my best to make it and support the project. I had intended to go to Rankin Inlet that summer and spend some money but I think I will go to Expo instead.

---Laughter

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Expo '86, total O and M, \$553,000. Agreed? Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to make a comment and maybe a question. I understand the Minister to say that they will alternate people so that more people will benefit from it. If so, then I wish them luck too because it means a lot of time spent on individual staff and from my past experience a lot of volunteers in some of our group in order that people will benefit from it. Is that so then, that they will be alternating for a few weeks at a time and you bring them back into the Territories and take another group out?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): The Chair recognizes the clock. I will rise now and report progress.

DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Gargan.

ITEM 16: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 7-85(1), Appropriation Act, 1985-86, and wishes to report progress and that Bill 3-85(1), Bill 9-85(1) and Bill 10-85(1) are recommended for further consideration in committee of the whole.

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. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members have heard the report of the chairman of the committee of the whole. Are you agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Carried

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

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in the absence of any coverage in the local media, I wish to announce a unique accomplishment by a resident of Yellowknife South. Mr. Kim Poole has recently become the Canadian champion in ski orienteering. This is a unique combination of cross-country skiing and orienteering using map reading and racing from point to point. Mr. Poole is currently an employee of the Department of Renewable Resources of the territorial government attending the University of Alberta on educational leave, obtaining his master's degree

in biology, specializing in gyrfalcons. As a superior Canadian skier, Mr. Poole has been invited to compete in next years orienteering championships to qualify for participation in the world ski orienteering championships to be held in Bulgaria this time next year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Are there any further announcements from the floor? Mr. Clerk, orders of the day, please.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Announcements, Mr. Speaker. There will be a meeting of the special committee on housing at 1:00 p.m. today in the caucus room. There will be a meeting of the Management and Services Board on Monday, March 18th, at 9:30 a.m.

ITEM 17: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Monday, March 18th, 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 9-85(1)
13. First Reading of Bills
14. Second Reading of Bills
15. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters: Bills 7-85(1), 3-85(1), 9-85(1), 10-85(1)
16. Report of Committee of the Whole
17. Orders of the Day

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This House stands adjourned until March 18th, at 1:00 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT

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