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

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

MONDAY, MARCH 18, 1985

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): Orders of the day for Monday, March the 18th. Item 2, Members' replies. Mr. Curley.

Point Of Privilege

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I wish to rise on a point of privilege regarding reports by CBC this morning. I wish to point out to the House and very strongly indicate at this time, that it seems to me that CBC is obviously attempting to get a picture of the issues before this House that is not totally correct. I say that with respect to the couple of comments that I have learned this morning particularly. Specifically the report on CBC indicated that my proposed motion, in fact, supported the division, that the North must divide. My motion does not say that the North must divide but there must be a process toward constitutional development of the Territories.

It went on to deal with other things that were generally correct on the points of the proposed principles in the report. I have no objection to that. What I object to, Mr. Speaker, is that CBC seems to be taking one point of view. I have been in town all last week. CBC gives certain assumptions about my proposed motion, that it will be ruled out of order and that it does not take into account the progress to date as far as the work of the Constitutional Alliance is concerned. I will say to you, Mr. Speaker, that I am all in support of the progress and the consultation process that has taken place so far and I think they must be complimented for it, but there is further work to be done and I am a little bit disturbed that -- when CBC asks for the sources of their information, it appears that CBC is only interested in the point of view of the Members of Yellowknife. I say they are important too, but I think that if you are a mover of a motion and have a substantial proponent of a certain motion, naturally I think CBC if they are interested in presenting the facts, should hear two sides of the story.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Hear, hear!

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: All this week I listened to the news, this weekend and this morning, and CBC has not attempted to even clarify what my motion is proposing to do. Thank you.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: They talked to Mr. MacQuarrie though.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: I know.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Item 2, Members' replies. Mr. Patterson.

ITEM 2: MEMBERS' REPLIES

Mr. Patterson's Reply

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members may note that I am wearing sealskin qarliik, pants, today and kamiks. I considered wearing a sealskin parka. I believe that would be traditional dress within the rules of this House though perhaps, it is not quite my particular tradition but I thought it might get a little hot here for several reasons so I am wearing some sealskin pants made by Martha Peter of Frobisher Bay. I must say, Mr. Speaker, that I am very concerned that sealskin is a very useful, durable, attractive material, unfortunately, in disrepute in some parts of the world by actions of people ruled neither by reason nor fairness but by emotions alone and I am terribly concerned, so are my constituents, about the current prices of sealskin. It is really an economic disaster to the entire Eastern Arctic. Prices in 1981 were four times as high as now. They are now five dollars for a ring seal and approximately \$15 for a harp seal. People in the South are saying that the Inuit hunt is no different than commercial hunting anywhere. This is a distortion of reality. In fact, Inuit are living in complete harmony with nature.

Community Concerns

Mr. Speaker, I also have some other constituency concerns I would like to raise briefly. In Frobisher Bay we are still concerned about getting basic infrastructure in the community, a gravel source and an incinerator to dispose of garbage, roads to develop gravel sources and I would like to thank the Minister of Local Government for the recent efforts he has made to assist the town in developing roads to gravel and identifying a new gravel source. I would also like to thank the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation for bending over backwards to try to provide nine much needed new houses in Frobisher Bay this summer under the rural and remote housing program.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Hear, hear!

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Unfortunately, despite the efforts of the Housing Corporation these desperately needed new houses will not be going ahead this coming year but I do not blame them -- the Housing Corporation. The town of Frobisher Bay asked for necessary breathing room to do some development in roads and gravel this summer before houses were built and the corporation very flexibly respecting that concern, responded and agreed that materials could be brought up for those nine houses this coming summer, but not built until the following spring. Probably they would have done a very good job building in that spring weather and I am grateful the Housing Corporation was willing to be this flexible. Unfortunately, although the corporation was applying for lots, which had been in fact recommended to them by none other than the mayor himself in our community, just a few days ago the town turned down the necessary permission. I would like to say I appreciate the efforts of the Housing Corporation and I do not think it is their fault that we do not have these new houses in our community next year.

Expansion Of Utilidor

I think unfortunately there is a bit of an obsession on the part of our mayor about pipes and utilidors. The only location for these new houses would have been off the utilidor and it would have required increased water truck delivery or even another water truck. But that means jobs as well and I am not against having some trucked services continue. I think to bring the utilidor everywhere in Frobisher Bay, Mr. Speaker, would cost millions in the short term. I am not against it being expanded as reasonably as possible especially to high density use. Even this summer, for example, relatively short extensions are planned which would include the Legion in Frobisher Bay, the Navigator Inn, the Discovery Lodge, two hotels and a major recreation centre with high water usage on trucked service and this is reasonable. It would cost approximately \$1.1 or \$1.2 million. Unfortunately, this year for the very first time ever, Mr. Speaker, the Department of Local Government is telling the municipality of Frobisher Bay which only has a handful of ratepayers as yet, that the community must for the first time contribute 50 per cent of this cost.

Now millions of dollars worth of pipe have already been put in Frobisher Bay -- I would say up to six or seven million dollars in the past decade or so without Local Government asking the town to pay and certainly without the town having had to contribute. Suddenly things have changed this

year and we are really wondering why tenders are about ready to be called. The town probably does not even have time for the necessary ratepayers' plebiscite and I am very concerned that yet another important project in my constituency might be stopped at the last minute. I am sure the Minister of Local Government will use his best efforts to see that this important project can go ahead. I really think that it is asking too much to expect the community to shoulder this incredible burden at the last moment with regard to the number of ratepayers in that community.

Military And Nuclear Activities In The North

Also, Mr. Speaker, I would like to just briefly express a couple of concerns, not at length but frankly I, and I think many of my constituents are concerned about the increasing level of activity in northern Canada relating to the escalating world nuclear arms race. Canada, and particularly the North, are being drawn in more and more. Our land is being used for military and nuclear activities that we have no control over and, I am afraid, we may not have any knowledge of either. I would remind this House of its formally expressed opposition to the cruise missile testing, and the northern warning systems agreement which was signed yesterday by the federal government and the US draws us in even more.

Mr. Speaker, I am concerned about a modernized DEWline being powered by nuclear reactors. Technology for these reactors is being developed as part of the so-called peaceful nuclear power. Basically these are similar to the untested SLOWPOKE-3 reactors that we all expressed concern about last month. I would also be worried, Mr. Speaker, that in developing a new DEWline that due attention be paid to cleaning up the mess of the old DEWline. In Frobisher Bay we are just starting to receive some assurances that the PCBs and possibly the junk, the tens of thousands of barrels and steel and the numerous waste sites may be cleaned up when we hear of more initiatives. If they provide training and job opportunities there are some positive aspects but I would like to make sure that the mess that is left behind is cleaned up before we add to it.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to just briefly express my concern about the recent ruling in the federal court of appeal which, in effect, says that customs officials who seize immoral or indecent material coming across the border are acting against the new Canadian Constitution. I think Members will share with me that concern about unrestricted hate and violent materials degrading to human beings, let alone women. There should be some controls in this country.

Boundary Agreement Negotiations

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to speak briefly about constitutional development as is my wont. I would like to take this opportunity in my reply to the Commissioner's Address to speak about the sometimes tortuous events of recent weeks and months. One thing that has really distressed me, Mr. Speaker, are the hurt feelings that I experienced when it was said in public that I had betrayed the Inuvialuit in connection with my participation in the negotiations respecting the tentative boundary agreement.

Mr. Speaker, at the risk of sounding a bit like John Diefenbaker, I know that is not possible, I know where I stand...

HON. TAKAG CURLEY: He was a good Conservative.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I was a good Conservative at one time, I am not ashamed of it. I know where I stand with the Inuvialuit, Mr. Speaker. I signed their land claims agreement in Tuktoyaktuk, on a glorious day last May. I have always supported those people and their long struggle for a land claim, supported their language commission, their desire for a Western Arctic regional municipality. I would like to say something about this Constitutional Alliance and recent events and I hope this will make sense to this Assembly, Mr. Speaker. I have been called many names, some very choice ones, by the press, so I suppose I am a bit of the villain of the piece. I have been called foul and contemptible and it has been suggested that I am racist.

Mr. Speaker, I was impressed by one thing that the press said. The Yellowknifer in its editorial last week -- what is now required is a leader was the effect of the piece.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: You mean, News/North.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I think this is a simplistic thing to say. I think, and probably Mr. Nerysoo will agree with me, that what we need is a leader with a mandate and frankly, Mr. Speaker, I can see a difficult time ahead for consensus government in the Northwest Territories. I still support consensus government. The issues are very clear for some of us and I am speaking for the people who believe in Nunavut. We know what that means. Now the Nunavut government would be consensus government. The Yellowknifer went on to say, "What is required now is a charismatic diplomat who can cut through the political entanglements so that a new constitutional agenda can be struck."

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Right there.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Now, Mr. Speaker, I fear that neither Mr. MacQuarrie nor Mr. Sibbeston nor myself can quite fit that description. Charismatic maybe, diplomat no, not one of us. Nor is the mayor of Frobisher Bay.

---Laughter

It goes on to say in the editorial, Mr. Speaker, "A great leader may descend from the skies to get us out of this mess. We pray."

Position Of Inuvialuit

May I say just a few more things about this blessed tentative boundary agreement? I wonder if anyone will recognize who these wonderful words come from? "In quoting the January agreement of the Constitutional Alliance that the Inuvialuit will be in a western territory, we have always made it clear that the agreement was subject to the WCF and Inuvialuit reaching an agreement on principles whereby the future of the Inuvialuit would be secure." And then referring to the agreement between the WCF and COPE, it is stated, "At the same time I want to clearly state once again that we will not interpret such a meeting as a commitment on the part of the Inuvialuit to join the western territory. A decision to join the West would be subject to the WCF and the Inuvialuit reaching a mutually acceptable tentative agreement on principles and then subject to the ratification of these principles by Inuvialuit communities." Did you guess? It is from Nick Sibbeston, chairman of the Western Constitutional Forum and his letter dated March 14, 1985, to Mr. Billy Day, president, Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement.

MR. MacQUARRIE: (Inaudible comment)

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: This is the same Nick Sibbeston...

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: We have not seen it.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: This is the same Nick Sibbeston who said at the press conference as chairman of the Western Constitutional Forum, January 14th, in announcing the tentative boundary agreement, "COPE is in the West." No need to make it complicated and mention negotiations, no need to clutter it up and mention things like the importance of the agreement being acceptable to the Inuvialuit or ratified by their communities. Now, he is saying what we thought the agreement really meant all along. Things are being brought to life that have been let pass by and are now in the open.

Mr. Speaker, the spirit of the agreement was lost. It was agreed in principle that the Inuvialuit would be in the West. I confess to that. But what it really meant, what the spirit of the agreement was, it was agreed in principle that the Inuvialuit could be in the West, not that they would. I suppose as a lawyer I should of all people know the difference between will and could, but the ordinary man in the street does not know that and the average CBC radio reporter does not know that and, unfortunately, there are not that many choices in the way of instantaneous communication in the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Speaker, if the Constitutional Alliance has failed to achieve public support, then we have all failed because we are all part of the alliance. Mr. Wah-Shee was at the founding meeting and so was I and let me just quote briefly from the mandate of the alliance agreed to in Rankin Inlet by the alliance, July of 1984. "It is essential that the new boundaries try to satisfy the best interests of the people of the Northwest Territories and that the boundary be determined first by a tentative decision by the Constitutional Alliance, through negotiations and discussions which will form a consensus based on the careful consideration of all the above 13 principles; and secondly by agreed-to forms of public ratification, concluding with some form of territory-wide ratification."

It was never intended that the public would not participate. I think, Mr. Speaker, it is time, beginning today in this Legislative Assembly, that we allow the people of the NWT to participate in an open debate in this House on these developments. Not just five or 10 minutes of one speaker, which we saw several weeks ago, but a proper free and full debate.

Motion Would Allow Free Debate

There is a motion, Mr. Speaker, before the House today, which would allow that free and full debate. In essence, the motion calls for renewed discussions. We have already been served notice through the press that certain MLAs question this motion. Mr. Richard, through the voice of Ms Kathy Kohut, who is newly appointed to the constitutional development desk of News/North, in last Friday's paper warns us "that the motion is out of order since the Legislative Assembly has already endorsed the principles of the tentative boundary agreement". Also through CBC morning news today, we learn that Mr. MacQuarrie thinks that the tentative boundary agreement still stands because it has not been rejected by the NCF. Now I would like to know where Mr. MacQuarrie has been for the last three weeks and what more he needs.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: He's been dreaming.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: He went to the Kitikmeot, he went to the COPE annual general assembly, he has seen copies of the motions of those councils, he saw the chairman of the NCF resign in this House because the Nunavut caucus couldn't support the agreement. I know what more he wants. He wants the president of ITC to resign from the NCF, he wants the chairman of the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut to resign from the NCF. He wants everyone who was at the infamous January 12 and 13 meeting, from the NCF, to resign. Now is that reasonable, Mr. Speaker?

AN HON. MEMBER: That's a good start, isn't it?

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I suppose technically, there may be reason for saying that discussion should not go ahead today. But the tentative boundary agreement, the so-called foundation of objections and the motion and the report, was dealt with by this House in less than five minutes, after the 10 MLAs from Nunavut had walked out. So Mr. Richard is now saying, for procedural reasons, and Mr. MacQuarrie seems to be saying, since the NCF hasn't officially rejected the agreement, there is not need for the people of the NWT to hear further debate on this matter in this House.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Shame, shame!

MR. BALLANTYNE: Naturally. Naturally.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Now, procedural rules or not, Mr. Speaker, I think it is time the people of the NWT heard, in this Assembly...

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Hear, hear!

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: ...not in the Constitutional Alliance or in the press, but in this Assembly, discussions about their constitutional and political futures.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Hear, hear! A democratic process. Not a communist system.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: One thing I do agree with on the news report this morning -- Susan Morphet's report -- do I hear myself actually agreeing with the CBC? -- is that eastern and western MLAs need to start talking with each other again, in public. I am not afraid of that. Having a debate in the Yellowknife newspapers and the Yellowknife news desk of CBC is just not good enough for all the people of the NWT.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Hear, hear!

---Applause

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I challenge all Members today, Mr. Speaker, in the interests of fairness and free and full public debate, to give their consent and their co-operation today, to initiate a proper discussion on where we go next, rules and technicalities aside. This House, Mr. Speaker, if it has the will to engage in debate on our constitutional future, can find a way. I would ask

Members to have some good will and find the way for debate. We went home to our constituencies over two weeks ago to consult with them on difficult events of recent weeks and to cool off, as our caucus chairman, Mr. Ballantyne, said. Let us try to be a little reasonable about this motion of Mr. Curley's. All it seeks to do is open up the discussion again. Surely even Mr. Richard and perhaps even Mr. MacQuarrie will admit that less than a page of Hansard on Monday, February 25th, on the subject of the tentative boundary agreement, with comments from only one speaker -- even the eloquent Mr. MacQuarrie, who is the oracle of all that is reasonable and true in Yellowknife...

---Laughter

...is not going to be very much for the historians to go on, in trying to figure out what happened at this historic time.

MR. BALLANTYNE: All Members walked out.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Well we are back now. We are back and we are cool and we are ready to talk.

---Applause

With all respect to her, Mr. Speaker, I would hope that historians would have more to go on than even the columns of Ms Kathy Kohut and recent editorials in Yellowknife papers. Let us find a way to let everyone have their say at least. In case we are prevented from discussing this matter due to rules and rulings, and as I say I hope Members who use technicalities to insist on stifling free discussion of these important matters will think twice about what they are doing today...

MR. BALLANTYNE: Do you think your motion is out of order?

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: And since the town council of Frobisher Bay.

HON. GORDON WRAY: You've told the press already.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: And since the town council of Frobisher Bay has not made a motion...

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: You make your own rules.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: ...which I could table...

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: There are no such rules.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Mr. Patterson has the floor.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: ...Mr. Speaker, I would like to briefly report on a meeting I had with the Frobisher Bay town council. They did not make a motion on this subject which I could table and I would like to take this opportunity since, if some Members have their way, I may not have another opportunity today to report on the views of my constituents, in brief.

Views Of Constituents In Frobisher Bay

First of all, the council and constituents recommended better communication between the Constitutional Alliance, MLAs, local governments and the general public. I think a lesson I have learned well from this whole process, Mr. Speaker, is that a lot more could have been done to keep my caucus and my constituency informed of the work we were doing. Even though our mandate did call for us to try to work out an agreement as an alliance, it was very difficult to have done that without public participation. Maybe we should all think about this need for communication with the public when we go to consider the motion which has been laid before this House now for over two weeks. The public wants to know what on earth is going on, Mr. Speaker. They want to be more involved in decisions affecting their future. The impression was given by the Constitutional Alliance and I would say in my humble view, especially by the Western Constitutional Forum, that the matter of the boundary had been finalized. The press, again, fuelled this impression. Many people felt that a decision they had no part in had been made behind their backs. By the time that wrong impression was out, with active help from the western media, it was too late to point out that the agreement was only a process, was only tentative and subject indeed to public

ratification. Indeed it includes within it, that a meeting be held immediately to discuss further, the agreement itself and the process of public ratification. Unfortunately that meeting never happened. We all owe it to the people of the NWT, Mr. Speaker, to make them feel more a part of where we go from here.

This was the other clear message from the Frobisher Bay town council. "I strongly suggest you continue the discussion", Councillor Andy Ciseley told me. "It is your job to continue", Councillor Harry Kilabuk told me. Councillor Goola Nakashuk said "Go back to the Assembly and try again." Councillor Ipeelie advised soliciting support from the public. The public views should be given more consideration. Mayor Pearson, after he took the opportunity to give me a lecture -- it was not too nasty a lecture, but it was given none the less -- acknowledged that we have a difficult job not being guided by anything except perhaps our consciences going in different directions, but that the breakdown, as he called it, may be a blessing in disguise. I agree with him for once on that, but perhaps for different reasons.

Serious Discussions Have Taken Place

We are further ahead, Mr. Speaker, than we were before January 13, 1985. The cards are now on the table. We know what the issues are. We have all finally sat up and seriously looked at the issue of division and the distinct possibility of new improved forms of government for the NWT. There have been, and I am very pleased about this, some very serious discussions about our political future, in chambers of commerce and municipal government levels. I welcome the motions and comments that have been tabled in the House in recent weeks, even those from the Yellowknife City Council and the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce. Mayors have met together. We know about the important meetings of the mayors of Kitikmeot and the Inuvialuit communities. They are talking about meeting together again. These weighty subjects are going to be discussed at regional councils. This is all necessary for growth and change.

As Mayor Pearson pointed out at our meeting last week, this is not new in Canadian history. It happened in 1905 when Alberta became a province, without resource revenue ownership or even without resource revenue sharing at first. I think we have a chance of doing better on that, if we work together. There was also extensive debate in this very House in the 1960s when the federal government of the day almost divided the NWT.

Mr. Speaker, let's start talking to each other about these weighty issues, in this Assembly, in a full and free debate. The people of the Northwest Territories deserve to know what is going on. They want to find out. They do not want to hear rules of procedure and technicalities. With good will from all Members of this Assembly, Mr. Speaker, and your usual co-operation in assisting and reflecting the will of this Assembly, I trust we can get on with the business of public discussion of our constitutional future. If we don't, we are allowing our function to be usurped by the broadcasters and the journalists and the critics. I look forward to a new spirit of co-operation and good will to have these important issues resolved in this Assembly, today and over the coming days.

Meeting With Liquor Licensing Board In Frobisher Bay

Mr. Speaker, I also must finally refer to one weighty constituency matter. The Liquor Licensing Board of the NWT is holding a public meeting tomorrow in Frobisher Bay to discuss the situation involving licensed premises and the privilege of serving liquor in the community. I would like to just quote briefly from a telex I received from the project director of Tuvvik, which is a counselling social action and education and prevention program in Frobisher Bay, which grew out of the Frobisher Bay alcohol and drug abuse advisory committee. They say, "The social action subcommittee of Tuvvik, wishes to express its concern to the Liquor Licensing Board regarding the obvious disregard for the ordinance and its regulations by the various commercial drinking establishments in Frobisher Bay. A significant number of complaints by citizens of Frobisher Bay have been expressed to committee members. It is well-known that overserving, serving intoxicated persons and serving people who are known to be on the interdict list, are general practices of the establishment."

Mr. Speaker, to make it clear, there are licencees who are not abusing their responsibilities and their privilege in Frobisher Bay but they are referring to the Frobisher Inn bar and the attitude of that establishment, of disrespect to the public and its patrons. I am going on to quote: "Frobisher Bay has seen public violence, family violence and personal injury as a result of these

practices. We ask that the Liquor Licensing Board increase its inspection of this establishment and, where necessary, take appropriate action. Tuvvik offers the board its full co-operation and we invite your agents to discuss this matter with us at your earliest convenience." I am delighted, Mr. Speaker, that through the good offices of the Minister, that it has been made possible for the board to visit Frobisher Bay, hold a public hearing and hear the views of my constituents first hand. I too have some strong views which I would like to pass on to the Liquor Licensing Board. I am concerned about corporate responsibility on the part of the Frobisher Inn. I am not convinced that they have earned the right to have the privilege of serving liquor any longer in this community. It is a long and sad story of neglect and disrespect well-known to my constituents and I am confident that they will make their views known clearly to the board. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Members' replies. Are there any other Members' replies for today? Ms Cournoyea.

Ms Cournoyea's Reply

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have just a few brief remarks to make in response to the Commissioner's Address. I am sure that all Members will agree with me when I say the past four weeks of debate in this House have been filled with confusion, uncertainty, mistrust and a clear lack of understanding for the position taken by each caucus in attempting to deal with the report of the Constitutional Alliance, tabled in this session. I know each of us had to look deeply within our own consciences, questioning sincerely the manner in which the conflicts have developed as we attempt to resolve the issues that have arisen around this report. Many of us forget that there are two initiatives pressing forward for the creation of two forms of government that will divide the present Northwest Territories.

Basis Of Government In The West

The Dene have been strong advocates for the creation of a form of government based on the traditions and approaches to decision-making more in keeping with the lifestyles of the Dene and Metis who reside in the present Northwest Territories. Government in the western territory, which my colleague, the Minister of Local Government, the Hon. Nick Sibbeston, is usually so quick to remind us, will be called Denendeh. The Dene have asked that we incorporate the values that have served as a foundation for a way of life shared by both the Metis and themselves. These values include equality between the people and all other living creatures, sharing the land and its resources, caring for all members of the extended family, self-respect, pride in themselves and the work the person is doing, and respect for elders and those with special skills.

It is felt by the Dene and Metis that a form of government based on these values would have to include protection for aboriginal rights, the renewable resources of the land and the principles of collective land use. The form of government in Denendeh would have to be eventually recognized as a self-governing jurisdiction within the Canadian federation, eventually assuming provincial-like status. The government would be based on the principle of participatory government, bringing decision-making as close as possible to the people. Denendeh is seen as a form of public government that would enhance and enrich the lives of the Dene, the Metis and the non-native peoples, a form of public government enhancing the cultural diversity such peoples would bring to the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Speaker, the House has focussed its attention on the second initiative for public government, the creation of Nunavut. In doing so, an injustice has been done to the Dene, the Metis and the non-native residents of the western Territories. By focussing our attention on the boundary aspect of this issue of division, we have put aside the development of an agreed-upon solution to the most important aspect of this process of constitutional development which was a protection of aboriginal interests and interests of non-native peoples. In doing so, Mr. Speaker, we have neglected to describe how these interests would be agreed to and how they would fit into a western territory.

I am sure that all Members here can appreciate the concern that the Inuvialuit and non-native residents of my constituency felt when they saw themselves and their resources dealt with such an arbitrary manner in the report of the Constitutional Alliance adopted by Members of this House. As the elected Member for Nunakput I have tabled in front of you in this House, motions from each

community council in my constituency objecting to the manner in which they have been dealt with. I have also tabled correspondence from the Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement to the chairman of the Western Constitutional Forum expressing their disappointment in the WCF action to date. Mr. Speaker, I would like to say the consultations with the communities these were full meetings in full discussions, anticipating how we could respond responsibly to the actions that were taken. As well, Mr. Speaker, I have recently learned that the president of COPE, Mr. Billy Day, has written to the Hon. Richard Nerysoo, the Government Leader of the territorial government's Executive Council advising this government of COPE's intention to deal directly with the Government of the Northwest Territories to develop the Western Arctic regional municipality.

Public Administration Reflective Of Concerns Of Nunakput

Mr. Speaker, it is important to my constituents that this type of constitutional discussions for regional government be sorted out, in the interest of providing good and effective public administration reflective of the concerns of the constituents of Nunakput. I am sure that my honourable colleagues across the way, Mr. Ballantyne, Mr. MacQuarrie and Mr. Richard would be just as quick to defend the interests of their constituents in Yellowknife if government in this city was reduced to the level which exists in my area.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Hear, hear!

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: I am sure they would just as easily resent the imposition of decisions that came from a population far removed from their concerns.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: As Members of this Assembly, we listened with great interest to the words of the new Minister for Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the Hon. David Crombie, on the opening day of this historic session. His statements gave us support and encouraged this Assembly to be creative and to act with courage in defining our structures of government in Mr. Sibbeston's western territory of Denendeh and the eastern territory of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, my constituency or constituents look forward to creating for our region, a framework for regional government that will let us make decisions setting our priorities to solve our problems with solutions that we will be responsible for and which we will be accountable for. Mr. Speaker, we in my constituency all agree that the Western Arctic regional municipality will have to fit in within the larger structure of territorial government realizing that when our actions as a region affect the people of other areas, we would have to accommodate ourselves to the legislation of that government in the territory of Nunavut.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I hope that all Members will view the actions of my constituents and myself as their Member to this Legislative Assembly, in a positive light, and, Mr. Speaker, in a manner we feel complementary to the future work to be carried forward by the Constitutional Alliance and reflective of our involvement in the Nunavut Constitutional Forum. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms Cournoyea. Are there any further Members' replies? That appears to conclude Members' replies for today.

Item 3, Ministers' statements. There do not appear to be any Ministers' statements for today.
Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Pudluk.

ITEM 4: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 156-85(1): Request For Return To Question 65-85(1)

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There has been a letter sent to the Minister of Health about a vehicle for Grise Fiord. He has sent the letter to the Minister of Local Government. I wonder if he is going to reply to me in this House instead of just sending the letter.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a written question in return to that item, which I can give later today.

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

MR. PUDLUK: He keeps saying that but he never replies. Mr. Speaker, just for the record, on Tabled Document 23-85(1), to confirm support to the Constitutional Alliance, and also Motion 8-85(1), Acceptance of Report of Constitutional Alliance of the NWT, which was carried on February 25, 1985, that agreement is very important to us.

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, Mr. Pudluk. This is oral questions. Are you coming to a question?

MR. PUDLUK: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot question the Speaker so unless you have a question for somebody else -- get to your question, Mr. Pudluk, please.

MR. PUDLUK: My question is how come I cannot see that agreement in this transcript? The acceptance of the Report of the Constitutional Alliance of the NWT was carried on February 25, 1985. That is my question. How do people in the North or settlements when they read this transcript, know that?

MR. MacQUARRIE: Because you walked out when we were trying to read it into the record.

MR. PUDLUK: I did not ask you a question.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Well, you got your statement in, Mr. Pudluk, but it was not an oral question. You are entitled to debate but not right now. This is oral question period. If you have a question of somebody specific that you wish to ask you are entitled to but you are not entitled to make statements with regard to your position on a question that has already been settled. It can no longer be debated.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Government Leader about this again. There was Tabled Document 23-85(1), about the agreement in principle of the Constitutional Alliance. There was also Motion 8-85(1) accepting the Report of the Constitutional Alliance of the NWT, which was carried. Mr. Speaker, that issue is very important to the North, the whole North, through you, Mr. Speaker. How come I cannot find that document agreement in these transcripts?

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, Mr. Pudluk. I did not understand your last part of your -- what was your question? You cannot find which? While you are looking it up, we will go on with other oral questions. Oral questions. Mrs. Lawrence.

Question 157-85(1): Drop-Out Rate At Thebacha College

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister responsible for Education. It was brought to my attention regarding students attending Thebacha College. Some students are attending academic studies or basic learning, whatever you want to call them, before entering into the diploma program. I understand several students have dropped out, including students from my constituency. Can the Minister tell me how many students have dropped out since the fall of 1984 and did anyone take the time to find out why these students have dropped out? That is my number one question.

Supplementary To Question 157-85(1): Drop-Out Rate At Thebacha College

Number two question is I also understand some changes have been made in the program. I am questioning the changes made. Was it to meet the needs of the students or is it to meet the needs of the program of the college, and who is responsible for these programs in Thebacha College? Mahsi cho.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am sorry I just do not have the facts available on how many students had dropped out but I will ask to take the question as notice and reply as soon as I can, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. I would remind Members that on oral questions, it must be reasonable to assume that the person can answer the questions, so on those types of questions you should give previous notice so that the Minister can gather the information you require. Or you should put it in as a written question rather than an oral question. Oral questions. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Question 158-85(1): Appointment Of Public Servants As Justices Of The Peace

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Justice and Public Services. Mr. Minister, on February 12th you said in this House, "I will be honest with you" and I did not take that to mean, Mr. Minister, that you were not honest with us on other occasions but you did say "I will be honest with you, we are no longer appointing government employees as justices of the peace." In view of the concerns expressed at that time by my honourable colleague, the Member for Slave River and myself, about the fact that in a small population such as ours it seemed unwise to unduly limit the pool of people from which the JPs could come, we asked that you reconsider that and not anticipate the problem. My question is: Has the Minister reconsidered and decided now to continue to appoint public servants as JPs in the NWT?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 158-85(1): Appointment Of Public Servants As Justices Of The Peace

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, no.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions, supplementary. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Supplementary To Question 158-85(1): Appointment Of Public Servants As Justices Of The Peace

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could I ask then, whether in refusing to reconsider it -- or else having reconsidered it and still decided, no -- is it that the Minister feels that there is a legal impediment to appointing such people? If that is his feeling, would he please tell me very specifically, what is the legal impediment in the way of doing so?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 158-85(1): Appointment Of Public Servants As Justices Of The Peace

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, to indicate to the honourable Member, as I indicated before, that while I made the Member aware of the decision of Mr. de Weerd, that is not the only basis by which I am making that particular decision. Now I have stated already that I will not be recommending the appointment, in the future, of government employees as justices of the peace. That is the position we are -- and I am -- taking. Now I suggest that the question of independence of the judiciary is important...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: ...and it should not be considered as only being independent and impartial but that justice should also be seen to be happening. If the case is that there are some questions in the communities or by justices of the peace, then it is an obligation on my part to ensure that the perception of the judiciary is seen to be independent. At the moment it is not seen to be independent by the ordinary individuals within communities, particularly when we have the government itself making laws, and having our officials enforcing those laws and regulations in the communities. That is not seen as justice to the ordinary individual in the community. I will go on that particular situation and not -- I indicate to the particular Member -- and not proceed in future with the appointment of government employees as justices of the peace.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. MacQuarrie.

Supplementary To Question 158-85(1): Appointment Of Public Servants As Justices Of The Peace

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is still some equivocation in the Minister's answer. He alluded to a case handled by Mr. Justice de Weerd and in that one I find, when I read the judgment, that Mr. de Weerd is saying that no issue is raised as to the lack of judicial independence on the part of Mr. Hebb or any other justice of the peace employed in territorial public service. I also find that in a case that the Minister referred to back in February, that was handled in Ontario, the Currie case, that again the Ontario court of appeal overruled a judgment that said there was a lack of independence because justices of the peace were employed full-time by the Ontario government. In light of that, will the Minister agree publicly in this House, that if his decision is not to appoint them, that it is not because there is a legal impediment to doing so? If he has other reasons, he should say what those are.

AN HON. MEMBER: Apprehension of bias.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Apprehension of bias.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 158-85(1): Appointment Of Public Servants As Justices Of The Peace

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, the decision has been made. We will not be appointing government employees as justices of the peace.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: I would like to try again, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the Nunavut caucus, the principles of agreement of January 14, 1985, appendix A, was tabled February 22, 1985, Tabled Document 23-85(1). There was also Motion 7-85(1), Report of the Constitutional Alliance to Committee of the Whole. Also there was a Motion 8-85(1), Acceptance of Report of Constitutional Alliance of the NWT. Between February 22 and 25. I wonder if the Government Leader would put that principle of agreement into the transcript so the public can see it?

MR. SPEAKER: The Leader does not actually have the authority to put anything into the transcript. That is not part of his duty. It is not within his purview to answer that particular question. Any further oral questions? Mr. Erklou.

Question 159-85(1): PCBs At Pond Inlet Airstrip

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Leader of the Government. In Pond Inlet, since they built the airport in 1968, within the airstrip lighting, the transformers, there might be some PCBs, the dangerous substance. I am wondering if you could investigate this for us. Since they started to clean up that DEWline site, I am just wondering if this can be looked into. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Ms Cournoyea.

Return To Question 159-85(1): PCBs At Pond Inlet Airstrip

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize to the Member. I was not listening too carefully. But yes, I made a statement the other day saying that we are actively looking into the clean-up of the PCBs on the DEWline sites and we are in active communication with the Minister of the Environment from the federal agency.

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

Question 160-85(1): Legal Aid Worker For Spence Bay

MR. ANGOTTITAUQU: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Justice. There was a letter written by the mayor of Spence Bay on February 7th explaining the need of a legal aid worker at Spence Bay. I would like to know at this time what steps the Minister is taking or is he considering giving Spence Bay a legal aid worker? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 160-85(1): Legal Aid Worker For Spence Bay

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have not considered giving Spence Bay a legal aid worker. I think that we presently have a courtworkers program that is functioning in that particular area. I would suggest that we review it within that particular context and see if we can find a solution which applies to the courtworkers program as opposed to a legal aid worker. I can then review it in the context of the existing program. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. T'Seleie.

Question 161-85(1): Statement On Employment At Expo '86

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask a question of the Minister responsible for Expo '86. On Friday during the consideration of the main estimates, I asked the Minister about the employment of young people and hosts who are to be hired to work at Expo. The Minister's reply was essentially that he would be making a statement with regard to all aspects of how the hiring will be done and how many people will be required to work at Expo. My question is when can we expect that statement and could the Minister undertake to give us that information before the end of the current session?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 161-85(1): Statement On Employment At Expo '86

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I assured the Member the other day that I will be making a statement on the estimates, if I can as closely as possible, to give to the House the number of employment opportunities that will come out of Expo '86. I know my officials are working on that and I can assure the Member that I will be making a statement along with my colleague, the Minister of Education, who has some interest as far as the students of the NWT are concerned. We will be making a statement before the end of this session. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Then you are taking the question as notice. Are there any further oral questions? Mr. Pudluk.

Question 162-85(1): GNWT And Federal Employees As JPs

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a supplement to the question of Mr. Bob MacQuarrie regarding the Minister of Justice, that you said that you would not be considering appointing employees of the GNWT as JPs. Did you say that just for the NWT government or just for the federal government, or is it all combined together? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 162-85(1): GNWT And Federal Employees As JPs

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With regard to justices of the peace, I believe that all government, both federal and territorial government employees will be included in that. I must say to the honourable Member that generally speaking the judiciary is very separate from both government and the Executive, and I refer to the Legislative Assembly. And they function independently of both responsibilities as a separate entity and therefore the decision that was made was to reflect that as opposed to creating some problems. I still feel that we can find justices of the peace that are capable of doing the job that are not government employees.

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

Question 163-85(1): Night Shifts For RCMP, Clyde River

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Leader of the Government about the RCMP, especially in the Baffin Region. Would the RCMP in my community be able to work during the night? In my community, there are two RCMP. There are a lot of young offenders during the night and the RCMP only work for eight hours a day together during the day. I am just wondering if you could set up a night shift, especially for young offenders? That is my question. Could one RCMP work during the night? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 163-85(1): Night Shifts For RCMP, Clyde River

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just to indicate that I realize that the Member has raised the particular issue previously and that any change in schedule or working hours as they relate to the RCMP Police, will probably mean extra financial resources and extra money to ensure that that is carried out. Further, we have to consider the additional implications that might occur if such a policy were introduced, to other communities. I think it is not a matter of only one particular community but others. If that is the case then we are going to have to sit down and speak to the RCMP and the commissioner, as well as the Solicitor General, to see what solutions we can find. But I believe it is going to be a little more complicated than just giving them direction, particularly since it is a matter for negotiations with the union that represents the RCMP Police as well.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Paniloo.

Supplementary To Question 163-85(1): Night Shifts For RCMP, Clyde River

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A supplementary. The RCMP work together during the day and I am just wondering if they could just transfer working alternately during the night shift. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Further Return To Question 163-85(1): Night Shifts For RCMP, Clyde River

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will consider that and raise it with the chief superintendent of G Division of the Northwest Territories to see if we can resolve that. Again it is a matter of what the implications are, either financially or with regard to the human resources that are available. If it is just a case of making a certain agreement then we can get on with it but if it is a matter of significant changes then we will probably have to report back to the House indicating that situation.

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

Question 164-85(1): Divisional School Board In Rae-Lac la Martre

MR. WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, my question will be directed to the Minister of Education. Some time ago the communities within my area requested that a regional school board or divisional school board be set up and a formal communique was sent to the Minister. I understand that the communities in the West -- and I use that term loosely at this point -- request divisional school boards to be set up in other communities other than the Baffin Region and I understand there has been a delay. Could the Minister indicate to this House whether the delay was requested from the communities that I represent?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 164-85(1): Divisional School Board In Rae-Lac la Martre

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am anxious to proceed as quickly as possible to establish a divisional board in the so-called Dogrib region, if I may use that term. I was very pleased to receive the expression of support for the establishment of such a board from meetings of

those communities. Mr. Speaker, I cannot recall precisely what was said in reply to that petition but I have had recent discussions with the area superintendent in that area and it was suggested that in the coming year we should allocate support, including financial support, to development and training initiatives which would help prepare the leaders in those communities for assuming this responsibility as soon as they are prepared. I think the Member will perhaps appreciate that taking this significant step does require some preparation and community development work. I have suggested that the training model which had been used and is now completed in the Baffin Region, might usefully be applied. I am looking forward to receiving proposals from my area superintendent there on just how we might undertake this development phase so that the Dogrib communities will be prepared to assume this new status as soon as they are ready. I hope that answers the Member's question. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. I would like to recognize in the House Solomon Voisey, the mayor of Whale Cove. Welcome, Your Worship, to Yellowknife.

---Applause

Oral questions. That appears to conclude oral questions for today.

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

ITEM 6: RETURNS

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

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: I wish to provide a reply to Mr. Paniloo to a question he asked on Friday. The hamlet councils are established as the most basic form of government for people in a community. As such, their main function is to look after roads, water, sewage and things of that nature. This is the main function of the hamlet council. In a number of communities where there are no businesses set up for the purpose, the hamlet council has filled a void and has undertaken contracts for government, Housing Corporation, and other bodies. So the precedent is there, the precedent has been set for hamlets to enter into contracts with government and other bodies, such as the Housing Corporation and housing associations, so the answer to Mr. Paniloo's question is yes, the hamlet council of Clyde River can enter into a contract with the housing association to build the platforms that the Member has referred to.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Are there any further returns for today? Item 7, petitions. Mr. Appaqaq.

ITEM 7: PETITIONS

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a petition with 94 names. Petition 8-85(1). I will just read part of it. In the past several years in my constituency, the young people used to play hockey one to five miles away from the community. "For the last couple of years we have been playing hockey outside of Sanikiluaq within one to five miles from the community and at the time of writing this letter we're playing eight miles from Sanikiluaq. We want you and your government to install an indoor hockey rink, an arena in Sanikiluaq, and it would be used for the people in Sanikiluaq in so many ways."

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any further petitions? Mr. Angottitauruq.

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: I have a written petition, Petition 9-85(1), coming from the hamlet of Pelly Bay. They are requesting some funding to have IBC programming in their community. I cannot count the names at this time. They will show on paper. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: I presume lots is the answer.

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Lots.

AN HON. MEMBER: Too many to read.

MR. SPEAKER: Petitions.

Item 8, reports of standing and special committees. Item 9, tabling of documents. Mr. T'Seleie.

ITEM 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Tabled Document 49-85(1), a letter that was sent to me from John Bayly and it concerns the drowning last August of a young man on Great Bear Lake. The inquest into the young man's drowning was referred to a coroner's jury and I would like to table Mr. Bayly's letter and the report and recommendations of the coroner's jury.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following document: Tabled Document 50-85(1), the hamlet of Coral Harbour's position on the division of the Northwest Territories. In short it says, if at first you don't succeed try again in a more democratic form.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Hear, hear!

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Tabling of documents. Mr. Angottitauruq.

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am afraid of reading this but -- do you want me to read the whole thing, Mr. Speaker?

MR. MacQUARRIE: No, it is okay, we know what it is.

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: I have to table this document -- it is coming from Pelly Bay hamlet, and they are my friends, I do not know why.

---Laughter

Tabled Document 51-85(1). The Pelly Bay hamlet on March 12, 1985 made a motion to support Nunavut Constitutional Forum, moved by Councillor Canute Krejunark, seconded by Councillor Tars Angutogornerk. Proposed resolution for Nunavut Constitutional Forum. The community of Pelly Bay would like to see the boundary be near the tree line. I do not know where that is.

---Laughter

This community would like to see Inuit settlements as one region called Nunavut -- and I love it. This community would like to see that western communities get equal chances to vote freely in which region they wish to be, WCF or NCF. That is nice writing there too. This community strongly supports NCF. It is also signed by Mayor Ovide Alakanuark and assistant manager Guido Tigvareark. Thank you.

---Applause

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

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Tabled Document 52-85(1), a letter from the hamlet council of Pond Inlet. A motion was moved regarding the boundary of Nunavut. I do not think it is necessary to read the letter but I would like to table the document. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any further documents for tabling today? Tabling of documents. Mr. Paniloo.

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Tabled Document 53-85(1), a letter from my constituents in Broughton Island supporting Nunavut. They are in support of dividing the NWT by the tree line. I would just like to table this document. Thank you.

Also, I would like to table Tabled Document 54-85(1), a letter coming from the residents of Pangnirtung which is also supporting the tree line boundary of Nunavut. Thank you.

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

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to table Tabled Document 55-85(1), a document which is a letter from WCF to Billy Day, indicating our sorrow at the fact that COPE had cancelled the meeting that the WCF was going to have with COPE on March 15th.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Tabling of documents. In view of the hour, we will break for 15 minutes for coffee.

---SHORT RECESS

We are on Item 9. Tabling of documents. Are there any further documents to be tabled today?

Item 10, notices of motion.

Item 11, notices of motion for first reading of bills. Item 12, motions. Motion 9-85(1), Constitutional Progress Toward Division of the NWT. Mr. Curley.

ITEM 12: MOTIONS

Motion 9-85(1): Constitutional Progress Toward Division Of The Northwest Territories

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I humbly beseech thy chair:

WHEREAS this House is of the view that the constitutional progress of the Northwest Territories toward the eventual establishment of Nunavut and a western territory must continue;

AND WHEREAS this House endorses the principle of full democratic involvement of its residents in such constitutional progress;

AND WHEREAS this House believes that any progress made toward the establishment of Nunavut and the western territory must enjoy general acceptability of the residents of the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS this House endorses the mandate of the Constitutional Alliance, the Nunavut Constitutional Forum and the Western Constitutional Forum to work toward the constitutional progress leading up to the establishment of Nunavut and the western territory;

AND WHEREAS the Constitutional Alliance, the Nunavut Constitutional Forum and the Western Constitutional Forum need to examine and determine the forms of public government which may be properly developed for Nunavut and the western territory;

AND WHEREAS any such determination of the form of public government must consider and take into account the proposals contained in the document "Building Nunavut" and the Denendeh proposal;

AND WHEREAS this House recognizes that any agreement pertaining to the establishment of Nunavut and the western territory must enjoy overall support of the Members of the Legislative Assembly from the Nunavut caucus and the western caucus;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that this House endorse the following principles for constitutional progress toward the establishment of Nunavut and the western territory:

1) that members of the Western Constitutional Forum and the Nunavut Constitutional Forum should immediately embark upon discussions and negotiations to develop a renewed process acceptable to both the Nunavut and the western caucus for the establishment of Nunavut and the western territory;

2) that the Western Constitutional Forum and the Nunavut Constitutional Forum renew discussions on the question of the division of the Northwest Territories and the creation of two new forms of public government for Nunavut and the western territory;

3) that this House deliberate upon the outcome of such discussions and negotiations and endorse them once they have been concluded by the Nunavut Constitutional Forum and the Western Constitutional Forum;

4) that this House encourage the Nunavut Constitutional Forum and the Western Constitutional Forum, through the auspices of the Constitutional Alliance, to seek public acceptability of the agreement reached between them from the residents of the Territories;

5) that this House affirm that any decisions made pertaining to the establishment of Nunavut and the western territory be based on recognized forms of public government taking into account the Nunavut proposal, "Building Nunavut" and the Denendeh proposal.

Thank you.

---Applause

Motion 9-85(1), Ruled Out Of Order

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. I have studied your motion very carefully and I find it out of order. I wish to inform the House that on Thursday, March 14th, I met in private with the Hon. Tagak Curley, the mover of this motion and gave him a private ruling that it was my intention to rule Motion 9-85(1) out of order. This was done so that the honourable Member would have sufficient time on Friday to give notice of motions that would be acceptable to accomplish the intent of the Member. Motion 9-85(1) is out of order for the following reasons:

a) The motion purports to endorse principles for constitutional progress. At least three of the resolutions do not deal with principles but rather instructions to the Constitutional Alliance, that is not a body that is under the authority of this House.

b) Resolutions 1) and 2) have the effect of negating Motion 8-85(1), which is not permitted under parliamentary rules unless the previous motion has been rescinded by motion.

c) Resolution 3) purports to require this House to endorse the report of the Nunavut and Western Constitutional Forums whether the House agrees with the report or not, which, of course, is not in order.

Therefore, Motion 9-85(1) is out of order and I wish to remind the House that the Speaker's ruling, once given, belongs to the House without appeal or debate. The Speaker is not vested with the power to alter them either -- any of his own rulings.

AN HON. MEMBER: Point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: A point of order. Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I know the fact is, the Speaker, upon appropriate notice given to you, that you have allowed certain amendments and certain replacement notices of motion or motions reintroduced. I am wondering whether or not at this stage you could not entertain a motion that in effect deals with the technicalities of the motion. We do have that motion in hand. But the other problem that I have as well is that, Mr. Speaker, the so-called adoption motion seems to be an issue here, which in my view is really not endorsed by the House inasmuch as the point that the report was really not read into the record, and therefore, is not part of the property of the House, as far as the debates are concerned. So I am wondering whether or not you would be prepared to entertain going back to notices of motion. One of my colleagues is prepared to make another attempt to introduce a motion that in effect would not interfere with the so-called technicalities that you mention.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Curley, the motion has been ruled out of order so it cannot be amended as such. It will have to go the route of going through notices of motion and motion in a normal process. You mention that on occasion we have allowed a correction to a motion. That is correct but usually it is just the clarification of one word or something. This motion is a two page motion and there are so many parts of it that require redoing. It is not in my opinion a practical solution to the matter. It has to be rewritten. Motions. Are there any further motions? Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Point of order, Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect, sir, I wonder for my edification as a Member, if perhaps you could clarify something for me because this process is becoming increasingly confused. Rulings have been made on certain things and I am really at a loss now as to understand

where we can go because of some of the rulings that have been made. I wonder if perhaps you could explain for me. On February 25th, Mr. Pedersen made a motion to adjourn debate, which was subsequently ruled out of order because the debate had not started, and therefore, you could not adjourn something which had not started. Then later on that day, another motion was brought in endorsing the same report even though debate had not started but that motion was accepted and allowed to go ahead. I am just wondering if you could tell me why there was a difference in the two of them. If one was ruled out of order because debate had not started, why wasn't the other one ruled out of order for the same reason? I am wondering if there is a reason and perhaps you could explain it to me.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: To attempt to keep harmony in the House.

---Laughter

I will answer your question but technically speaking it is out of order to question the Speaker relative to why he has done something.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible comment)

Explanation Of Previous Ruling

MR. SPEAKER: You have asked a question. I will give you the answer. The answer is if you will check in Hansard at the point where you asked on a point of order for the floor to make a motion to set aside the debate, there had been nothing done or no action taken by the committee on the paper that was in front of it. Now, if you will look in your debates, you will find that there is three quarters of a page that Mr. Sibbeston had read into the record. The debate was under way. Something had happened. And so there is a difference in the time element.

Secondly, the motions -- one was made in committee of the whole. The second was made when we were in formal session. Now, formal session overrides the committee of the whole as far as authority is concerned. As is common practice in the House by unanimous consent you can go back to subjects. There was a full quorum present and they got unanimous consent and put forth a motion and it was approved. That is the state as recorded. It is in your Hansard so have a look at it.

I would hope that you continue and have this other motion rescinded, but that is the first thing that has to be done and Mr. Curley was told that on Thursday, so I cannot deal any further with this Motion 9-85(1) and I am not prepared to discuss the matter any further. Are there any further motions?

Item 13, first reading of bills.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Point of order.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. As seconder to the motion, just to clarify what you said. On Thursday, when you relayed the information to Mr. Curley he did come back and we subsequently had a meeting on Friday. After our meetings in the Executive we did attempt to see you. However you were not available to speak to because you had already left, so we did make the attempt. Just for the record, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Point of order, Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, although I respect your decision again I need to seek clarification from you. It is my privilege, as well as a number of my colleagues on the Executive Council or the Nunavut caucus, that we can go back to notices of motion and give appropriate notice that in effect would be technically appropriate. But we still have a problem with us here because

the adoption motion, regardless of how you put a certain motion to deal with the constitutional issues of the Northwest Territories, still will implicate any good will motion that would, in effect, be considered by this House. The problem that we have is that the report which was tabled contains at least six pages and only a page and a quarter was read into the record and, therefore, we have a tremendous difficulty in getting across because whether it was read into the record or not, whichever is the case, the ruling will still be that it implicates the adoption of the report as well as the tentative boundary agreement.

It is not fair, in my view, to put forward a motion that would actually disappoint the Members from the other side because I cannot see how in the world they would want to support a motion to rescind the motion that eventually adopts the report. So, we need your guidance in this respect.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, the Chair actually, as you are fully aware, has not had anything to do with the Nunavut caucus or the western caucus. I must stay politically neutral and I intend to stay that way. Now if there is anything I can do to assist in getting this impasse overcome, I am prepared to listen if a delegation comes to my office, but I do not intend to institute one. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, not to challenge your ruling but to, I believe, make you aware that there is a way in which we can amend the motion that has been proposed by Mr. Curley and seconded by Ms. Cournoyea without necessarily rescinding the previous motion. It is a matter of removing certain sections and, also, changing the words within certain areas. I have had the opportunity, Mr. Speaker, to review the motion. I believe that I have a suggestion, that I will be making available to all Members here, that will probably satisfy the concerns that you have raised of a technical nature, as well as the substantive nature of the motion itself. That has already been done and I will be prepared to make that motion available to Members here. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 13.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Point of order, Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just for clarification, I understood you to say we could not amend the motion because the motion was out of order. Therefore, the motion cannot be amended, it would have to be an entirely new motion brought in. That is what I understood you to say.

MR. SPEAKER: That is correct. The motion cannot be accepted because it is out of order so you cannot get it on the floor to amend it. You have got to go through the process of giving notice of another motion. It can be the same motion amended, but it has to go through the regular channels.

Item 13, first reading of bills.

Item 14, second reading of bills.

Item 15, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Bill 7-85(1), Bill 3-85(1), Bill 9-85(1) and Bill 10-85(1), with Mr. Wah-Shee in the chair.

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

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): The committee will come to order. Last Friday we were on page 15.8, Department of Economic Development and Tourism and we were dealing with Expo '86.

Department Of Economic Development And Tourism

I wonder if the Minister of Economic Development would like to have a witness appear before this committee?

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, yes, I would appreciate if my deputy minister would be invited back into the witness table with me. Thank you.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Mr. Minister, I wonder if you could identify your witness for the record, please.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my right is my deputy minister of Economic Development, Mr. James Britton.

Expo '86, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Expo '86, total O and M, \$553,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Grants, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Detail of grants and contributions. Total grants, \$50,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Contributions, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Total contributions, \$2,754,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Total grants and contributions, \$2,804,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Tourism And Parks

Campgrounds, Fort Smith Region, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Detail of capital, tourism and parks. Campgrounds, total Fort Smith Region, \$220,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Campgrounds, Inuvik Region, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Total Inuvik Region, \$50,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Campgrounds, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Total campgrounds, \$270,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Fort Smith Region, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Buildings and works, total Fort Smith Region, \$450,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Inuvik Region, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Total Inuvik Region, \$85,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Kitikmeot Region, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Total Kitikmeot Region, \$30,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Baffin Region, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Total Baffin Region, \$263,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Keewatin Region, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Total Keewatin Region, \$200,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Total buildings and works, \$1,028,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Acquisition Of Equipment, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Total acquisition of equipment, \$92,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Tourism And Parks, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Total tourism and parks, \$1,390,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed?

---Agreed

Business Development

Buildings And Works, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Business development. Total buildings and works, \$593,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Acquisition Of Equipment, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Total acquisition of equipment, \$70,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Business Development, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Total business development, \$663,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Expo '86, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Total Expo '86, \$2,100,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Total Economic Development and Tourism, \$4,153,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Are there any questions on major information items? Mr. Ballantyne.

Economic Development Agreement

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 15.15 of the main estimates book, the economic development agreement, I have two questions. The department has indicated that certain of the subagreements, specifically the human resources subagreement, is not operating at target level. Has that problem been rectified and do you expect that when the economic development agreement is completed that all potential funds will have been utilized?

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I will have my deputy answer that question as he is much closer to that than I am.

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

MR. BRITTON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have been very concerned that that human resources subagreement has taken longer to perform up to our expectations, than the other two subagreements. However I am pleased to say that in the last couple of months things are moving along better. Given the fact that this program of EDA runs an extra year, we believe that it is reasonable that the program funds that have been set aside for the human resources subagreement will be expended by the end of the agreement.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Is the human resources subagreement delivered exclusively by the federal government?

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

MR. BRITTON: That is correct, Mr. Chairman. The other two subagreements, the domestic market and the natural resources subagreements are administered by this government primarily. The applications are received by the Economic Development Agreement Secretariat, employees of whom are employees of our government, although cost-shared by Canada. For the human resources subagreement, on the other hand, its secretariat is the Canada Employment and Immigration people, who are all federal employees of course.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Why do we cost share an agreement with the federal government when it is solely delivered by the federal government?

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

MR. BRITTON: Mr. Chairman, all of the economic development agreement, which is \$21 million and which represents an intergovernmental agreement between the Government of the Northwest Territories and Canada, is shared; 90 per cent of the costs are paid by Canada and 10 per cent by the NWT, regardless of who performs secretariat services or who implements the projects that are approved. So that is the way the agreement was structured and I think it is generous to the Government of the NWT. We feel it is anyway.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: I have already stated some of my problems with the flaws in the agreement. But generally it is good and generous and it has potential to be a very positive economic development tool. What you are saying then is in the provinces, with this sort of agreement, that there are instances where the provinces cost share, with the federal government, direct delivery programs of the federal government. It seems a bit unusual.

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

MR. BRITTON: Mr. Chairman, in fact it is not unusual at all. Similiar agreements, they are called ERDAs I think, exist in a number of the provinces. I understand that the split in the expenses between the provinces and Canada varies somewhat from province to province, but it is by no means unusual for provincial governments and the Government of Canada to enter into these types of arrangements.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Mr. Chairman, I had asked a question last Friday and they called progress and my question was never answered. Would it be possible to ask that same question again?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Yes, proceed.

Employees At Expo '86

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you. The question that I asked was regarding Expo '86. I understand that they will be alternating people for a few weeks at a time. I am not too clear on that. Perhaps the Minister could answer that question for me. If that is the case, then how are they going about it? Are they taking the people out for a few weeks at a time and then bringing another group out? How are they planning to work this out?

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I indicated earlier that I will be making a more substantial announcement on the employment and the number of possible employees that will be working at the Expo site. To be fair, I think what I was attempting to say was that we expect that turnovers will be probably pretty extensive, because we would like students, as many young people as we can, to get involved. We know that they will not be able to be there for the six month period. I am not fully informed of the details, as to how long each individual or student will be involved there because there will be some volunteer work required as well. So once that information is available to me, I will be making a statement in the House, before this session is over. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. The Department of Economic Development and Tourism. Dollar summary, total O and M, \$20,395,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

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

Regulations To Business Loans And Guarantees Ordinance

MR. McCALLUM: I just have one final question, Mr. Chairman. I referred to it on Friday and it dealt with the Business Loans and Guarantees Ordinance. The deputy minister indicated that he would be tabling the regulations to the new ordinance today or tomorrow. It appears that we are going to be finished with this department in the matter of a few moments. I do not want to let the passage of the department go by without knowing from the Minister and the deputy minister that those indeed will be tabled.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, yes, I indicated that we will table this document before this session is over and I think we have at least another week and a half. The regulations have been prepared and I have recommended them to the Commissioner for his final approval. Once that process is done I will be making them available to this House as soon as possible. Likely at the end of this week. Thank you.

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Department of Economic Development and Tourism, dollar summary, total O and M, \$20,395,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Capital, \$4,153,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Does the committee agree that this department is concluded? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): I would like to thank the Minister and his witness. Thank you. Mr. Butters, would you please indicate to the committee how you wish to proceed at this time?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, Mr. Chairman. The agenda is placed on reverse of the order papers. The next one would be Renewable Resources, followed by Information, both the responsibility of the Hon. Nellie Cournoyea.

Department Of Renewable Resources

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Ms Cournoyea, would you like to introduce your department please?

Opening Remarks

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, honourable Members, it is my pleasure to provide the House with some brief comments to introduce the 1985-86 budget of the Department of Renewable Resources. Honourable Members will remember that in Fort Smith last May I outlined my intention to move the department toward the achievement of these broad goals. First to maintain and where possible, enhance the productivity of renewable resources so that we could begin to develop the renewable resources sector of our economy. This thrust is continuing not merely to preserve land-based lifestyles and cultures, which are in themselves important, but also to ensure that the potential and viability of the renewable resources sector of our economy is recognized and supported.

Secondly, in Fort Smith I promised to increase the involvement of northerners, especially hunters and trappers in the management of renewable resources. With the support of my colleagues from the Executive Council a significant advance has been made toward this goal, through the allocation of one million dollars of priority money in our 1985-86 budget.

Finally, in Fort Smith I indicated that we would continue to actively promote environmental protection, recognizing land and sea as a primary source of food for Northwest Territories residents. I believe that we have made progress in this area as well.

Mr. Chairman, honourable Members, the budget which I have placed before the House has been developed to ensure continuing strides toward accomplishing the goals. I would like to provide the House with some detail on our plans for the coming year and in the context of our budget I want to, once more, re-emphasize what I believe is the fundamental importance of the renewable resources sector of our northern economy. A recent draft report prepared under contract to my department with the assistance of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism and my colleague the Hon. Tagak Curley, has estimated the value of country food consumed domestically in 1982-83 to be in the range of \$40 million.

This represents an underestimate because our knowledge is not uniform but if we had to replace this country food with meat brought in from the South and sold at prices current in many of our settlements, we believe the value would more than double to \$80 million. Because of the approximate nature of the data on which the values were calculated, I quote them only to give you a benchmark of the importance of this sector of our economy, if the domestic production and consumption alone, not commercial values, are worth \$80 million annually, when we are dealing with an economic sector worth more to us than tourism, for example. As many honourable Members are aware, because many of the transactions and values in this renewable resource economy are not measured in dollars and cents there is a considerable danger that its importance will be underrepresented when budget dollars are allocated. I believe that my colleagues on the Executive Council recognize these facts in their allocation of one million dollars of priority money to enhance the department's budget.

I will, in future, continue to press for the resources required to enhance the management of this vital segment of our economy. In the highlights of the 1985-86 budget it includes an increase in support to hunters and trappers associations across the Territories to improve their ability to

participate in wildlife and environmental management and to act on their own behalf. This will add over \$672,000 to our budget. Through an increase in support for our outpost camps funding, last year over 1300 persons in 28 permanent and approximately 86 short-term camps were assisted through our programs. Next year I have been able to enhance our program by \$250,000.

---Applause

Funding has been provided for demonstration projects to promote testing and undertaking of renewable resources development projects at the community level. Funding has been provided to enhance our participation and development of an international waterfowl management plan. We have secured the resources to begin staffing regional pollution control positions and hope to have specialized staff in all regions by 1986-87.

Honourable Members, I have recently learned that the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Mr. Crombie, has instructed his staff to proceed with the northern land use planning program. Basic levels of funding have been set aside to enable our participation in that program as well.

Initiatives Of Department In Coming Year

Within the ongoing activities of the department we will undertake the following initiatives in the upcoming fiscal year. We will continue to use our budget and special programs such as the economic development agreement and ARDA to conduct assessments of renewable resources development and management needs. We will begin to develop regional plans for renewable resources development in consultation with communities and HTAs. We will develop management plans for wildlife species and a particular plan for the Bathurst caribou herd, for Dall sheep, and we will continue to finalize our wood bison management plan. We will continue to offset the efforts of the anti-trapping lobby, both directly through the Fur Institute of Canada and through interventions with bodies such as the Royal Commission on Seals and Sealing. We will participate in the DEWline site clean-up, an initiative begun by my colleague, the Hon. Richard Nerysoo, and finally under way. We will continue pollution control efforts and involve the people in communities by offering basic courses in oil spill clean-up. We will actively pursue the transfer of federal authorities in the renewable resources area to include forestry, inland waters, inland fisheries and, also, a heightened profile in environmental impact assessment and resource development decision-making. We will play an active role in land use planning and northern conservation initiatives. We will continue to develop the internal management systems of the department which are essential, recognizing these are times of restraint, to efficient and effective program delivery.

Mr. Chairman and honourable Members, I hope you agree there is a great deal of important work to do to achieve the potential of the renewable resources sector of our economy and to protect our northern environment. I welcome your questions and comments and ask you to join with me in the effort to meet our common goals in this area, to the benefit of the people of the Northwest Territories.

---Applause

Mr. Chairman, I would like to have permission to bring my officials of the Department of Renewable Resources into the witness chair.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Ms Cournoyea, would you please identify your witness for the records.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I would like to introduce Jim Bourque, the deputy minister of the Department of Renewable Resources.

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

Issues Outstanding From SCOF Meeting

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister will recall during her appearance with her department before the standing committee on finance that I had asked a number of questions ranging over a number of areas. I do not want to get into too many specifics but regarding some of the things that were asked at that time it was indicated that we would be hearing something back from them. Perhaps it is best if I relate those again to her and try to determine whether in fact anything has come about as a result.

The Minister will recall I was querying about the Mackenzie River Basin issue and the position of the government of British Columbia. The Minister indicated that she would be attending a meeting in Ottawa and would then come back and report but was not able to do so. That is one of the areas that I would like to talk about.

I talked about the department attempting to set up some kind of arrangement with the people of Fort Chipewyan as regards getting into an agreement for hunting and the sale of caribou. It was indicated then that the department would be looking into it and I wonder if there has been anything done about that.

I asked as well I think at the time, about the request for the additional person year for the department and about what would be required at that time. It was indicated that that was dependent upon how the department would receive federal funding. I wonder if there has been anything further on that particular issue as well.

Mr. Chairman, as well I asked a question of the Minister of Education in the House and I am not sure whether it was the beginning of this session, and it may very well have been back prior to Christmas about the possibility of the renewable resources program which is contemplated being started up in the Eastern Arctic. I would like the Minister to comment on that program as it relates to her responsibilities.

Perhaps I could have some comments from the Minister about the status of the plans for the setting up of a second herd of wood buffalo bison. What arrangements are there for the bison that will be coming from the federal government or wherever they come from, and what is the status of that whole concept?

So I recognize, Mr. Chairman, that I have asked about a number of things but these were requests that were made during the meeting of the standing committee on finance. I recognize that there may not have been enough time but I would like to have some comment from the Minister on those issues, if I may.

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, forgive me if I have not got all those questions down and perhaps the honourable Member will repeat if I have not answered all the questions.

Inter-Jurisdictional Agreements, Mackenzie River System

In the matter of the meeting with the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs and the series of meetings with the Minister of Fisheries and as well, with the forestry people in Ottawa. They were very favourable in that we move ahead particularly in the area of inland waters. However, they had requested that we come back to them after they had settled down and tried to outline just exactly what we wanted. As you know and certainly it has been well recorded, the negotiations for the use of water between the various western provinces are still waiting for Alberta and British Columbia to get together. So as it is, we continue to deal and make known our interest to the Minister of Indian Affairs.

If that does not satisfy the honourable Member he can ask a subsequent question. But as it stands right now and as he probably knows, at these times matters dealing with the federal relationship are going through a tremendous amount of change. The political establishments are trying to gain their foothold in making these decisions. As well, there is still a great deal of the older bureaucracy left within the system that still may have a great deal of questioning as to whether it is viable to change these responsibilities to the NWT. However, we are continuing to pursue that.

Renewable Resources Training Program, Eastern Arctic

In the matter of the renewable resources training program. In visits to the eastern Kitikmeot and Keewatin Regions, there has been a great deal of interest and they would like to see more members of their communities continuing with that training. Particularly in the Keewatin and Baffin Regions, there is a great deal of interest that that program be established there in order for us to train people from that direct region. We have had some difficulties with some of the trainees from the West coming out of that program and not really wanting to go where there are no trees. They are looking for employment in the area and they have been successful, not only in the Department of Renewable Resources but in the federal agencies as well. There is a need to train more people who speak Inuktitut and who care to live in that particular area. Our ability to bring them to Fort Smith has not proved as successful as we wish. However, in the decision with the Department of Education the board of governors are still pursuing that issue.

In regard to the talks with the Chipewyan and their desire to hunt in the NWT. I leave that to the deputy minister, as well as the continuing negotiations on wood bison.

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

Reciprocal Hunting Rights Agreements

MR. BOURQUE: Mr. Chairman, regarding the discussions with Alberta and the search for people in northern Alberta that have hunting and trapping rights in the Northwest Territories, that work continues. We have developed reciprocal hunting rights with the province of Saskatchewan, the province of Manitoba; we have discussions with the province of British Columbia in the Liard area and the discussions are ongoing with the province of Alberta.

Wood Bison Project

In the matter of the wood bison, the project is still moving. It is not moving as fast as we would like to see it move. However, the hunters and trappers association just received an EDA grant to do a feasibility study and a cost benefit study. This study is under way. We have assisted the hunters and trappers association of Fort Smith to identify funding sources such as the Native Economic Development Fund and as soon as the feasibility study is done, we will assist them in any way we can to proceed with the project.

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

MR. MCCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a comment again on the idea of the Mackenzie River Basin and with Ottawa I recognize and appreciate that things there within the federal government may be difficult to move at the present time. I would hope that we as a government and the Minister's department would be able to put forth the position that it is vital for this government to be concerned with what is going on regarding inland water. I have referred to that specifically. I know there are other areas, the submission that you have regarding land use planning and your proposal to the federal government for that, but it is in relation to the latter that you are looking at about seven person years for it. I realize that there may be some reluctance because of the federal government, because of the concerns that may be voiced in different parts of the Territories regarding this total business of land use planning. But just to go back to the Mackenzie River Basin because that is the transportation area if you like of that river and all its water that flows into it and because even in the basin itself it holds a great importance to people of the Territories, the Minister will make sure, or attempt to as much as possible within the responsibilities that we have, that it is put forth to the federal government and to the other partners in it -- that would be other areas, the western provinces especially -- that it bears a great deal of worth and there are concerns that people of the Territories have regarding any kind of decisions made with it. Because of its importance the decisions cannot be made by those people of other provinces and the federal government to the exclusion of this government.

Additional Training Program, Not Relocation

Just to go on to the renewable resources program, I understand full well the difficulties of eastern people who want to take the program, as well as people from the West who graduate from the program and moving back and forth. My concern is that we are not talking about replacing the program that is in place now but that you may, if it is feasible and if it is properly done, start

the program in another area but that you are not going to take away from what is now a good program that does graduate people albeit they may be reluctant to move into a treeless area and vice versa. There may very well be a number of people from the East who want to get into this program and it may be much more feasible for them to take it in an area that they feel comfortable in and obviously that they would be working in upon graduation. I just want to get it straight whether we are talking about an additional program similar to the one that is now at Thebacha College rather than to take the program from Thebacha College and move it somewhere else. If you do the latter I think you will run into the same problem that you possibly have now of attracting easterners to the West.

Agreement With People Of Fort Chipewyan

In terms of the arrangements with the province of Alberta for the people of northern Alberta, I have had discussions with one of the chiefs, Chief Waquam, of Fort Chipewyan who very much wants to get into an arrangement between this government and other parts, similar to the arrangement that is done in other parts of the western provinces. I suspect that Chief Waquam's concern or the favourable ideas he has about getting in that is shared by the other chief and the other people of Fort Chipewyan because of the movement of people from Fort Chip into the Territories. A lot of people from Fort Chip live in Fort Smith, they visit, they have relatives. There is a continual movement of people back and forth. They would like to be able to get a similar kind of arrangement and I hope that they would continue and that very quickly there would be a resolution to that concern that they have. They can go in to hunt but they would like to be able to purchase food as well.

May I ask one further question with regard to the wood buffalo bison, the second herd being set up, has it been determined where the location will be to settle this herd and is the herd coming from the Providence area, or are you getting them from Wood Buffalo Park? Where is the herd coming from and what are you talking about in numbers of animals? I recognize that the local HTA have received an amount of money to set up this feasibility study. Are those questions that I have asked part of this feasibility study?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, as the deputy minister indicated, it is in a feasibility study stage and the numbers and the details of that arrangement have not been concluded at this time but I believe that the deputy minister has an idea where it is proposed the herd would go.

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

MR. BOURQUE: Mr. Chairman, the latest proposal from Fort Smith is that they establish a herd in the Salt Flats Grundy-2 area. Now, as for where the buffalo are coming from, it would all depend on what Fort Smith decide they want to do. If they want to ranch buffalo as a ranch with very little input from the government they could get the bison from outside the Territories or the Wood Buffalo Park, the original prairie bison. If they want bison to be more free roaming such as a provincial herd, then we could get bison from a provincial area but that is not determined yet. That will come out in the feasibility study.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. We will take a 15 minute coffee break.

---SHORT RECESS

The committee will now come to order. We are under general comments. Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to remind the Minister because she knows our concerns about -- even though we cannot give out money to all the people that want it, I am sure she is trying her best.

There is a priority list and I was trying hard for that -- to get a secretary for the Renewable Resources wildlife officer in my community. In the fall when the BRC met in Pond Inlet this was mentioned at the meeting. During the BRC meetings in Pond Inlet they had mentioned that there was support for a secretary for the hunters and trappers in Sanikiluaq. And BRC is way ahead of us in informing the Baffin Region. At the present time our budget is just about to come up. For example, it seems like there are more of -- the BRC members have more MLAs than us. But, however, I would like to -- this is just a mistake, however, I would like to thank them for this.

Loss Of Hunting Equipment

I would like to ask the Minister or the deputy minister -- not too long ago in my community somebody lost his hunting equipment even his skidoos, and dogs, and his guns. He lost all of his hunting equipment and the price ranged from \$5000. The hunter had capsized in the water, however the hunter survived. I was informed quite a few times from Frobisher Bay Renewable Resources that they were going to be dealing with this. I would like to ask if you had heard of any incidences like this, about a hunter losing all of his hunting equipment. I was wondering if you are aware of it? Thank you.

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, yes, we are aware of the circumstances that surround many disasters when people travel in very touchy conditions. The Department of Renewable Resources has a fund for helping for occurrences of that nature and we have done that before. The process is to deal with the superintendent who forwards the application to the office here in Yellowknife. The maximum to my recollection that we go up to is \$4000. The circumstances have to be outlined mainly because we do not want to get into a situation where somebody with a 15 year old skidoo dumps it in the river and wants to make a claim. There has to be a little bit of paperwork to determine the claim. There is such a policy and we entertain applications regarding that type of disaster when it happens to a hunter when he is travelling in those areas. The superintendent would have to do a bit of paperwork before it is forwarded on to the office here in Yellowknife. If he has indicated that he would be doing that I expect, knowing the superintendent of the Baffin Region, that he has proceeded to do that. Thank you.

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

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you. I just want to explain some more. I do not think I would do this, dump a 15 year old skidoo in the water. However, Sanikiluaq residents had benefited a lot from the renewable resources and they have adequate hunting equipment. That is the reason why we have been working very hard toward this. I would not want to talk about a young person dumping a skidoo. I was just so concerned about the other hunters. Thank you. I just want you to work very hard toward this.

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

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Department of Renewable Resources is I guess another department that is important to us. I was not long ago looking at the NWT Data Book. It is put out by a group named Outcrop Ltd. -- the publishers I think. One of the statistics I looked at in there was income that came from renewable resources and I was pretty surprised to find that in all of the NWT the community of Fort Good Hope had the highest income from renewable resources. The only other place that listed a higher income from that was the town of Inuvik. As I looked at all the different communities I found that many of the Dene communities had really a high income and I guess it mainly comes from trapping. In terms of people saying that that part of the economy of the NWT is either dead or dying, it strikes me that that is not really true. There are many people that are still doing it as their main kind of livelihood.

Water Pollution Affecting Fish, Norman Wells

The other thing I would like to comment on is with regard to the expansion of Norman Wells where the six artificial islands have been built on the Mackenzie. I know that the communities downstream on the river have expressed concerns about water pollution and the pollution of fish and there have been stories in some papers. Just very recently there were some stories coming out from the Water Board hearings held in Norman Wells. Some of the people have caught fish that are not the same as they used to be. People are blaming it on the Norman Wells expansion.

We are told by the federal Department of the Environment the Department of Fisheries and Oceans cannot say for sure whether it is related to the Norman Wells project. I have told people that but they mostly say that that is nonsense, that the fish never used to be like that. The scientists say that they can't say for absolutely sure, that we can't trace it to Norman Wells. Then the common people say, "Why are you not hearing the same stories about fish that are coming from the communities that are above Norman Wells, on the river?" That seems to make a lot of common sense about tainted fish. I would like to know what Renewable Resources is doing in connection with the expansion and the whole problem of fish pollution.

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I do not know how I would answer that question because I fully agree with what these statements from the honourable Member contain. Regarding the involvement of the Department of Renewable Resources, when the decisions are being made on the whole development aspect, it is generally handled through the secretariat and we have an involvement in that, talking about how we feel the environment and renewable resources should fit into a development project of that magnitude.

I am aware that the Water Board has been asked to try to deal with that, in terms of the quality of the water. I have talked to some members of the Water Board in that regard. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans have been contacted within their federal responsibility. However, I certainly expressed some surprise that the various associations did not directly and formally ask the Department of Renewable Resources to try to forward their complaints and give them a little more back-up in their negotiations or communications with the Department of Fisheries and the NWT Water Board. Certainly there was an overture for us to begin dealing with that at a territorial government level. It is certainly within our concern, that the downstream users be protected and their environment and wildlife and fisheries are kept intact for future generations. I certainly cannot say anything more than what the honourable Member has said and we invite any kind of representation for us to carry the territorial government responsibility to support what has been done already by those communities. Thank you.

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

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (Translation) I have Gjoa Haven, Spence Bay and Pelly Bay in my constituency. (Translation ends) I have three settlements in my constituency. I will first of all ask the Minister whether her department is working closely together with the local hunters and trappers, then I will ask my question.

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, not too long ago, the deputy minister and I travelled to those communities and met with the hunters and trappers associations. Certainly the department has a direct responsibility to the hunters and trappers associations.

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

Qualified Auditors To Assist HTAs

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Since your department is associated closely with the hunters and trappers and looking at the hunters and trappers in my constituency and I think some others across the Territories are having similar problems -- these hunters and trappers associations in a way are really supporting the hunters and at the same time they are really giving service to the local community which they serve. It seems to me that there is a lack of qualified managers to manage their moneys. I guess most of all what is lacking is a qualified person to audit their books, to give financial statements. I think that is one of the main things that they require at this time. The local hunters and trappers say they have no money. The people in the settlement want to buy some fish from the hunters and trappers and at the same time they keep saying that people who catch these fish have to sell them to the hunters and trappers. Every time they do that, people start trying to bring what they are going to sell. The hunters and trappers turn around again and say that they have no money.

I guess they really do need auditors to find out exactly what is happening to their money. Without any auditors, somebody may do their books but it does not apply to their status of how they are doing, when you hear people say that they have no money. If they were properly managed, I am pretty sure a lot of hunters and trappers across the Territories could have a successful business. What I am trying to find out is whether your department could find a way to have their books audited so that they could operate their business a little better in the future.

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the question that has been put forth by the honourable Member certainly is a question that has been put forth every year by Members who are concerned about the hunters and trappers ability to work and to take part in supporting their communities. I would hope that the increase that is going to be made available, if this budget passes, from \$12,000 to \$15,000 for each hunters and trappers association, would help and give an ability to the hunters and trappers to carry out their business a little more efficiently.

Educational Process Needed

As for an audit requirement I believe sometimes it is thought that that audit requirement is such a high standard but we will have to do some educational work in that area. We are not asking for a full audit requirement to hunters and trappers. We will be doing some educational process on that.

As well, I have continued to talk to the Minister of Education to see if there is some possible way once these hunters and trappers are funded that they can receive a course in their region to allow them to learn about other areas where there are fundings that are available to them. So, with all this concern in mind as to how hunters and trappers function in the very important communications and support they give to communities, I hope that to some degree it would have been addressed with the fact that they will be getting \$12,000 to \$15,000 a year to operate their organization.

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

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think you have already mentioned this, however. The hunters and trappers are going to be allocated \$15,000. That is what we are aware of. I was wondering if that is going to be the actual fact in the year 1985-86.

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, if the budget passes. The budget indicates that and that is what we proposed to do when the priorities exercise came up in the territorial government. There were many areas that were of concern to hunters and trappers but the decision of the department was to take any money allocated and make sure that it goes directly to the communities. This allocation is scheduled in our budget to go to hunters and trappers associations. As well, the remaining funding that we got is going to the outpost program. So any money that we were able to gain through the budget process is going to the hunters and trappers directly. Thank you.

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

Use Of Government Equipment

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I will elaborate on my question first. The hunters and trappers in the communities have two skidoos in the communities and they have two boats. However, even when we request to use either one of the boats or skidoos -- I think it would be appropriate or it would be better for the hunters and trappers associations to be able to use the older equipment. There are some problems occurring in the communities when it is like this. And also their smaller equipment is not allowed to be used. But the heavy equipment can be used by other people but they would not allow it to happen. Renewable Resources have not indicated to us which equipment cannot be used. Perhaps you can inform the communities clearly about this, telling them which equipment can be used or cannot be used. I think I will use an example. Like for example, brooms or an old boat. Which one is not allowed to be used by the public? Thank you.

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the deputy minister is in charge of old brooms, boats and larger equipment. So I will ask him to answer that question.

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

MR. BOURQUE: Mr. Chairman, we have a long-standing government policy that government equipment should remain in government hands and be used by the government. That is larger equipment, like canoes and outboard motors and skidoos. As for brooms, I think the honourable Member could have the broom.

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

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have seen some problems arising -- the hunters can use the nets, however they cannot use the ice augers. So that is where we got confused and I think I misinterpreted that. Thank you.

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

MR. BOURQUE: Mr. Chairman, the difference between a net and an ice auger is that a net is an expendable item and an ice auger is on inventory. We will review the policy. We certainly do not want to place any HTA or community under any particular hardship. If there is equipment in a community that is not being used by our officers, I will be in touch with the regional superintendent of the Baffin Region and we will deal with it.

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

Interest Groups' Access To Position Papers

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to ask the Minister a question about the role of this department in providing support to the work of the Aboriginal Rights Secretariat in its land claims negotiations related to renewable resources. I wish to ask a question of this Minister similar to that that I asked of Mr. Curley last week. The Minister may be aware that there are concerns expressed by certain organizations or groups of outfitters, sport hunters or sport fishermen about getting information on those negotiations, that they somehow get access to, perhaps, the position papers of the main participants of the negotiations, those being the federal government on the one hand and the Dene/Metis negotiating secretariat on the other hand. I know that the Minister has, in some correspondence with some of these groups, confirmed that an essential ingredient in wildlife management in any jurisdiction is an informed and supportive public and that it is important for the department to encourage and provide for public participation in wildlife management decisions. I believe the Minister has also confirmed the department's awareness of the importance of this particular sector and is aware of the economic benefits that can be arrived at from that particular use of resources. Would the Minister therefore see it within the mandate of her department to obtain some of this information from the parties to those negotiations and provide some of the position papers to these sport groups or outfitters associations so that they can comment publicly and participate as members of the public in the formulation of some of these policies? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, when requests from the various sport organizations come to my attention, this is generally directed to the department as an issue arising or a concern that should be addressed within the negotiations. We have a person within the Department of Renewable Resources who is in the Aboriginal Rights Secretariat when the negotiations on wildlife arrangements are going on. Certainly, as Minister, I try to ensure that all matters that come to my attention are directed through the deputy minister to this individual. As for my mandate to agree to pass this kind of documentation, I believe that really it would not be within my jurisdiction to make that decision. To tell you the truth, I believe that how that would come about would probably have to be an Executive Council decision or a decision reached by speaking to the federal parties or the other negotiating parties. I do not think I have the mandate to do that. However, I would like to assure you that any matters that do come are transferred to the person responsible for carrying out the concerns of the territorial government which I believe includes all people whether it is Dene, Metis or non-native people and non-native groups when they are putting forward the concerns that would come from the general public but I just do not have the mandate to do that. Thank you.

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

Funding For Outpost Camps

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not see any problem with Renewable Resources. Since I became an MLA, I can see the progress in this department. The present ones have been set up better than before. I am very thankful that they are doing their job. Also, the hunters and trappers in the communities are getting more power and they are starting to operate on their own. But I think there have been some problems arising within the outpost camps. They usually wait for a long time for their assistance. They would wait for a long time and they cannot really operate without any funding. For those outpost camps who only get service through the airplanes during the wintertime and also by skidoo, it is really awkward to travel by boat, especially in Grise Fiord, and they cannot transport any gas or food by boat because the ice is always moving. I would like to ask a question of the Minister. Could these fundings allocated to the outpost camps be sent to them sooner than they are, maybe for example in the summertime. I am just wondering if the fundings that we agreed upon can be allocated sooner. I think that would be the best way for outpost camps. Thank you.

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, we have just recently concluded the new policy for distribution of funds to make it a bit more efficient to respond to hunters and trappers and outpost programs. In this new funding arrangement, the funding for outpost programs will be going directly to the region. The region will be able to respond much more quickly rather than going through the process of going to the hunters and trappers, going to the region and then coming here. So the block funding will be given to the region and they would be able to respond much more quickly knowing the area and the people they are dealing with.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Directorate, total 0 and M. Mr. McCallum, do you wish to make a comment?

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I did not know you would move to the directorate. I thought you were still on general comments.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Just for the information of Members, the typical procedure in this committee is that we do deal with general comments. However, when there are no general comments, then we immediately proceed to the budget detail. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: I should but I won't.

---Laughter

Well, since we have proceeded directly to the directorate...

MR. RICHARD: Immediately.

MR. McCALLUM: ...immediately, I beg your pardon, Mr. Richard and Mr. Chairman, I would like to have some indication regarding an objective for the next year regarding the framework and schedule for the transfer of the remaining provincial-type responsibilities in the renewable resources field to the Government of the Northwest Territories. What is the framework that you envisage? What kind of schedule and really what responsibilities are we looking at?

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

Transfer Of Responsibilities To GNWT

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, there are two items that I suppose are the closest at hand. The first is the land use planning and we anticipate once this budget is approved that we will be able to proceed with that.

In terms of the forestry transfer, what has been requested is that we provide a set of principles in that transfer with the new government that is in place now. It has not been sent to the Minister yet mainly because the meeting that I had with the Minister of Indian Affairs and the Minister of Forestry happened just the week prior to Christmas, and we had taken this time to develop those principles that would be sent so this would begin the negotiation process.

We had initially last year hoped that we would be probably six months along from this date. However, with the new Members in the government we required that new time to make contact with the new actors in that area. So we hope that in the next little while we will have a meeting with Minister Crombie -- I believe within the next month -- to talk about that one area of forestry transfer. What he had required was that we develop those principles so he would know where he would begin approaching that particular removal of federal responsibility to the Territories.

I am also aware that within the Department of Indian Affairs within the NWT in their meetings that have been held from time to time here in Yellowknife, they have discussed that among the employees and the people who presently carry out the responsibility. My understanding is that there is a bit of reluctance on the part of some members within that department within the NWT. And there is also a bit of reluctance within the bureaucracy of the Department of Indian Affairs to move ahead very quickly. However, we feel with the initiative taken by the Minister's request to provide those principles that this would evolve very quickly. That is our hope anyway. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): General comments. Mrs. Lawrence.

Issuing Of Land Use Permits

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to question the policy on land use, the land use policy. Is it a territorial responsibility to give permits for any land use whether it is development of the pipeline or any kind of development?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the basic answer to that is, no. The land use permits are handled through the Department of Indian Affairs. When those permits are applied for, the applications are supposed to go to the hunters and trappers of that particular region. Sometimes they reach the hunters and trappers association in time. However, we realize there are some complications in that. Through the Department of Renewable Resources we do have an input but we do not have a say or a veto over the issuance of land use permits.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Any further general comments? Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Regarding the land use policy. In some cases they do not get to the hunters and trappers and if they do get to them it is usually after the fact. I was just wondering how we can correct that. They should consult hunters and trappers before they get the land use policy licence.

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I fully agree with the Member that there is concern and that the hunters and trappers are the ones that are most directly affected by any type of development that goes on. In the long-term interests of the wildlife and the environment, we can certainly continue to try to press for a different process to handle the application of land use permits. However, certainly in my experience many organizations and hunters and trappers associations and regional hunters and trappers associations have endeavoured to convince the federal authorities that the way these applications are handled is very cumbersome. Mainly because from time to time when the applications come forth, people are sometimes not in town and it is an inconvenient time. There has been some suggestion that these applications should be handled twice a year. However, there is some reluctance on the part of the companies to do that. Certainly we will continue to make efforts to support hunters and trappers asking for adequate time to deal with that particular concern.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the objectives there is a comment made here to implement the Canada/NWT land use planning program. What does that involve?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the land use planning is a venture with the federal government, with the native organizations to identify critical areas, and lay out various processes that are acceptable to the people who live off the land and their input to total land use planning for the whole NWT. So this is a venture that we are taking part in with the federal agencies plus the native organizations.

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

GNWT Compensation Policy

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask some questions about the GNWT compensation policy. I think this concerns the possible conflicts between renewable resource users and exploration companies, oil companies, those kinds of activities. Only recently have I myself heard that there is such a compensation policy. I wonder if the department could -- maybe you are already but I wonder if you could advertise the fact that this government does have a compensation policy in place so that those people that somewhere down along the way could get affected by industrial development would know that they have some kind of recourse to be compensated for what they lose. I think it becomes more and more important that this government has a stated policy because we are faced in the next few years with possibly another pipeline to the Beaufort. For sure there are going to be conflicts over this. That is my question.

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, perhaps the reason why it has not been published as something that is accomplished is because it was only just before Christmas, I believe on the 22nd or 23rd of December, that we got the full commitment from the Minister of Indian Affairs that he would be in support of the compensation policy that was drafted by the NWT government rather than having the Department of Indian Affairs provide their own program. It was just prior to that that the oil and gas companies agreed to co-operate. However, the development of that policy has been in the making for a couple of years. Perhaps people waited so long they thought it had disappeared. We will make an effort as the Member suggests to bring to the attention of the communities that it is available and try to make it known to them maybe in a better way. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): General comments. Mrs. Lawrence.

Status Of Transfer Of Forestry Responsibilities

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to ask a question. I do not see it in here but maybe it is somewhere. Regarding forestry, they were working on transferring that forestry program to the territorial government and I wonder what level it is at now or what is happening with that?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, we had been moving quite quickly with the previous government, however things came to a bit of a standstill in the change-over and as I indicated earlier, we have developed a set of principles to guide us in the turnover of those responsibilities, which will be presented to the federal Minister very shortly. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): General comments? I would be prepared to go into detail now. Are we agreed to go into detail now?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

Directorate, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Agreed? Thank you. Directorate, total O and M, \$698,000. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, since we got back into detail, just to follow up on what Mrs. Lawrence was saying, and that deals with the whole area of forestry, is the Minister indicating that there has been nothing, no agreement with the federal government in terms of even the fire suppression? She is talking about forestry and having to go back because of the new people but it was my understanding that we were awfully close to getting something in terms of taking over fire suppression. I know there are other aspects to the land use and the whole business of forestry but where do we stand in terms of having the territorial government look after the fire suppression?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I certainly hope that the work that was accomplished before has not been forgotten in the bureaucracy. However, I cannot 100 per cent assure you that it has not or whether it was totally acceptable. Certainly, the past Minister was very supportive of a certain aspect of the turnover of forestry. With the new Minister, we have indications that he would like to talk about the total program, not only fire suppression but also management as well. That was the desire of the government at the very outset and we intend to pursue both at the same time and perhaps the work that was done before would not be lost but would complement what we are doing now. Thank you.

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

Transfer Of Fire Suppression Responsibility

MR. McCALLUM: I guess, Mr. Chairman, that was what I was getting at when I asked the question about the framework and the schedules for the transfer of these remaining responsibilities. I was under the impression that we were going to do it in a step by step process; that we were looking at

the whole ball game as it were but in order to get somewhere we wanted to take it step by step. It would seem to me that what was said was that we would try for the most obvious one, first and foremost. I say "obvious" because of the capability that is evident in the Territories, certainly in the West, because I guess that is where most of the trees are, whatever is left of them, that we would be able to deal with the fire-fighting aspect, the suppression or even the initial attack aspect of it, as parts of the federal government do now specifically within Wood Buffalo Park.

There have been fire-fighting crews doing things on contract I think in various parts of the Territories. But it was my impression that the government was going to do this on a scheduled basis bit by bit and it seemed to me at that time recognized this as being the most appropriate first step to take with fire suppression. I appreciate what the Minister is saying and I certainly echo her concern and hope what has gone on in the past has not been forgotten. Most of the players are there other than the political people. When I asked what the schedule was for the transfer of the remaining provincial-type responsibilities, that in fact is what I was referring to, trying to get something going. We have the expertise; people in the Territories have been doing this kind of work for X number of years. There are those who have been in the employ of the federal government over the years and now are in the employ of this government or are out looking after their own businesses. There are bands around through the, I was going to say the south Mackenzie, but certainly from the south Mackenzie all the way through into Liard and other places up the valley that have first-hand experience and have trained people who have been put out by the federal government to places...

AN HON. MEMBER: Take it easy.

MR. McCALLUM: My God, I might have known. Foul up a church picnic.

---Laughter

...people who have been taken and sponsored by the federal government to attend fire-fighting courses. That was always the difficulty with it; they went out, sponsored by the federal government to take these programs, came back in and the federal government in their wisdom would not give them the increased responsibility even in terms of crew chiefs to fight fires. I hope that the Minister will recognize that there is a wealth of knowledge in fire suppression in the Territories and specifically along the valley, that she will recognize this in her renewed efforts with the federal government, that she would embark upon this business of a step by step approach. I would suggest to her that that is one of the first areas that should be taken over by the territorial government. I hope that that plan has not been changed and if it is I would like to know. I am sure that other people who live around the valley would like to know as well because bands have been doing some of this work on a contractual basis for some time.

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I guess I misunderstood the Member's initial question. I said we are going after both of them. That is true, because in the end we would like to see both of them transferred to the NWT government. Yes, the process of going after suppression first is in the time frame. I apologize if I did not understand the question properly.

Directorate, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Directorate, total O and M, \$698,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Wildlife Management Division, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Wildlife management division, total O and M, \$2,214,000. Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to talk about the study on the polar bear. This winter in my constituency there are a lot of polar bear which have been hunted that have marks on their bums. It is impossible to sell the polar bear skins that have marks.

These are some of the concerns that came from my constituents. Whenever they send out these polar bear skins with marks, it takes a long time for them to get their money back from the government. That is for those skins that they cannot sell to the Hudson's Bay store.

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I understand the question is, why do hunters and trappers not receive payment for marked polar bears as quickly as can be achieved or to the satisfaction of hunters and trappers? The Department of Renewable Resources does have a payment on polar bears that are marked as we understand that they cannot be sold or they do not receive a good price in the market. Perhaps I am going to answer the question wrongly and that is not the area you are talking about. I am not aware that it has taken a long time for this government to produce the cheques to hunters and trappers who bring in the bears. Certainly I am willing to discuss that with the honourable Member if there is a particular problem in his community. It should not be taking a long period of time to compensate the hunters and trappers. So I am willing to discuss that if that is a concern in his particular community to see how we can expedite that. Certainly if the new budget is passed, there will be a game officer in Sanikiluaq who probably would have that overcome because I realize that community is served by Cape Dorset and that is a long way away and that might be part of the handicap. Thank you.

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

International Agreement On Migratory Birds

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am going to talk about the birds. There is an agreement between the Canadian federal government and the US federal government on birds. There is a problem in my community about the hunting season of the birds. Whenever they migrate up to the North, the hunting season is closed and whenever they go back to the South, that is when they open the hunting season. I am sure you have looked into this. So I would like to find out what has been happening about the agreement to date. Thank you.

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I do not know on whose behalf I should apologize because I know this is a long outstanding issue from the aboriginal people, particularly in the High Arctic and in the NWT regions where there have been several attempts to legitimize the spring hunt. The negotiations are continuing between Canada, United States and Mexico to try to get this issue overcome. Unfortunately at this time I cannot offer you a great deal of optimism about how soon that will be agreed upon. These negotiations are continuing and we are having a difficult time getting the understanding of the other parties to the international agreement to allow the spring hunt to occur legally.

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

MR. MCCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In this particular activity we have two new man years and we are talking of bird biologists. Where are these two biologists to be located -- at the headquarters level? Do you have bird biologists in regions as it now stands? Along with that I know that there is an increase of about \$140,000 in salaries and wages but there is a reduction in terms of other O and M for the same group of people.

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I will let the deputy minister answer that particular question.

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

MR. BOURQUE: Mr. Chairman, the two bird biologists will be located in Yellowknife and will take on the negotiations that have been started between Mexico and the United States. They will also develop a waterfowl management plan for the NWT.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Wildlife management division. Total O and M, \$2,214,000. Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: In this division it says that the department collects information on moose, sheep and caribou. I would just like to know why the department does that.

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

Importance Of Data Collection

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, in regard to the collection of data I guess there are various reasons why we would try to have that information available. I believe one of the more important reasons for having that available is to allow the hunters and trappers if it is in terms of caribou -- sometimes caribou do not really go to one region and the population is heavier in other regions for various reasons. If we are going to make agreements between various users of caribou, it would be important for each of them to know how and where those caribou interact within those various areas. Certainly with the Kaminuriak caribou agreement, it was important because we were dealing with the provinces as well. I realize in the past the data has not been very accurate and at times when people become concerned there may be a requirement for a quota. With these arrangements it is often important to have information to give to various communities so the communities can make an educated decision.

As well, the other area that is important for us to be aware of, is the need to back up the knowledge of hunters and trappers and community people who know basically about the populations. There is a great deal of pressure being put on the NWT and harvesters in general that perhaps it would be best to leave the animals alone. So if this department is going to try to protect the interest of the harvesters, we would have to be able to sustain the argument that people are properly managing the species, that people are indeed aware of the populations and the habitat requirement to support those populations. Because this issue is becoming much more critical because of the pressures from other areas where they possibly have not looked after their wildlife very well, these questions have been asked continually of this government. We would certainly have to have that data to back up the harvesters. As well, in terms of some of the species that are being designated for international restrictions, in order for us to sustain the ability of the harvesters to harvest we would have to argue the case in the manner of proper management and sustained population.

So there are various reasons and I would assume as well that the average hunter and trapper would like to know what the basic population is in areas, especially in a joint use of animal population, how much is used in each area and how much is harvested and what people do. There are various reasons that these population counts are important. As well, if people are arguing about the value of the resources, the renewable resources against major development projects, it is often not known by the developers how important those resources are, how abundant they are and to what degree people rely on those resources in the long term. I would say that most of the reasons why you would have to take those counts is to establish the view of the harvesters and the aboriginal people in their right to continue to harvest. Thank you.

Wildlife Management Division, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Wildlife management division. Total O and M, \$2,214,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Field Services Division, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Field services division. Total O and M, \$7,636,000. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In our discussions with the finance committee, the Minister indicated that the allocation of grants and contributions had not been determined at that point in time and that the FMS had requested a policy for grants and contributions to be developed. Can you tell me if the allocation at this point in time has been decided and have you in fact put together a policy for grants and contributions?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the policy for grants and contributions is now available. I apologize for it taking a little longer to develop but it is available for the Members at their request.

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

Allocation To Hunters And Trappers Associations

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just along the same line, I understood the Minister to say earlier that HTAs were getting a \$12,000 increase or is that the total that they have? My concern is, under "other O and M" in this particular activity, there is pretty near a doubling of the amount of money given or contemplated to give out. I know it is not all for HTAs. Could you give me some idea of how much of that two million dollars is going to HTAs? How many HTAs are there? What is the per capita being allocated to an individual HTA or do HTAs get a different allocation of money depending upon their size or whatever?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the criteria does allow a fluctuation, depending on various criteria, on what an HTA gets so it is not definitely \$12,000 to \$15,000 straight across the board. The policy identifies the criteria laid down and that will be judged according to how much each organization would be allowed to put into their resources to run their organizations.

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

MR. McCALLUM: Would one of the criteria be the size of the HTA?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, yes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. McLaughlin. Sorry, Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Gargan.

---Laughter

AN HON. MEMBER: We all look the same.

MR. McCALLUM: Don't we all? Can I have an indication from the Minister, how many HTAs are we talking of here?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, 54.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Field services division. Total O and M, \$7,636,000. Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I know there has been a lot of requests for game officers in different communities. I wonder if this is the division that takes care of that and are there any plans to provide additional game officers?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. There are plans to provide additional game officers as well as the transfer of some officers from communities that have more than one person working there.

Field Services Division, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Field services division. Total O and M, \$7,636,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Pollution Control Division, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Pollution control division. Mr. McCallum.

MR. MCCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, in this particular activity, there is an increase of 3.4 man years. I understand that is because of the transfer of the responsibility from Justice and Public Services. My question is, does the Minister know if not only the responsibility was transferred from Justice and Public Services but were the man years transferred from Justice and Public Services along with the O and M salary and other O and M of \$280,000? Or could the Minister tell me whether Justice and Public Services still retains those man years and puts them to other uses?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I do not know what Justice and Public Services is doing but these man years I believe are 2.5 man years that were developed within the department and we are seeking additional funds to take care of that responsibility. I am not aware, I am sorry to say, whether anything was transferred but this was a need that was identified in an area where we felt that Renewable Resources had to move because of the various programs and issues that arose in handling of dangerous goods and transportation of dangerous goods. That is an extra requirement that we basically have been, ex officio, trying to look after. So we would like very much to provide a better service and a more efficient and adequate service to handle that responsibility. I am not aware that there was a transfer of person years or budget. This was identified as a need from our department.

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

Transfer Of Man Years With Transfer Of Responsibility

MR. MCCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I have no difficulty with the transfer to this particular department of that responsibility, that is for the transportation of dangerous goods under that particular ordinance, if now the responsibility for ensuring that that ordinance is carried out is transferred. The Minister made a statement, I think on Friday, that the department has embarked upon a clean-up of PCBs or the effects of them as well as the long-range plans for getting rid of waste material such as the oil drums and everything else that she enunciated on Friday.

Given that there was a transfer of the responsibility and that there are 2.5 man years and another three quarters of a man year that would be required for support of work in this particular area, my concern is that not only was the responsibility moved over from Justice and Public Services but if they were doing the job they must have had a number of people looking after it as well. I note that in the Justice and Public Services budget there is no reduction in that department of man years. They have the same number of man years coming this year as they had the previous year. But they are not doing the work to implement the transportation of dangerous goods under the ordinance. There is approximately \$300,000 in salary and 2.5 man years from that department. You assumed the responsibility for doing it but I understand from what it says here and from the comments I have heard from the Minister that it was just a transfer of the responsibility and there was no related reduction or transfer of man years.

Perhaps I should more accurately ask the question of the Minister of Justice and Public Services but it would seem to me that if this department was negotiating with another department in government for the transfer of a responsibility then obviously those that were concerned with it should have come with the transfer of that responsibility. Otherwise, Justice and Public Services have 2.5 more man years to do what they were normally doing with 2.5 less because now they are doing less work. I would have thought that if your department was looking after the transfer of it that there would have been a transfer of man years rather than looking for an increase in your own man years. I am not arguing the point that you have to have it. Once you get the responsibility you have to have the personnel to carry it out. I would have thought that somewhere along the line either with your department or with the Financial Management Board that there would have been a look-see into this to ensure that those man years came with the transfer. Perhaps, Mr. Chairman, if the Minister cannot comment on that then I would raise the question during question period of the chairman of the Financial Management Board.

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

Extra Funding To Meet New Federal Initiatives

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the only comment I can make is that it was my understanding that the people who were working in Justice and Public Services, in addition to other responsibilities such as building inspection and other areas like that were also trying to do the job of this division that we are talking about now. The federal government is instituting new legislation on the transportation of dangerous goods and we are at this time trying to feed into that process where this new legislation is going to be put in force and in doing that we are also anticipating that we are able to secure extra funding to carry out that responsibility. We realize that in the past in the area of environmental concerns in particular in roads and in transportation of material there have been some accidents and certainly as a department we have tried to respond to that. At the same time, with the federal government initiating this whole new regime to take into account transportation of dangerous goods, we feel that we would not be remiss if we continue our negotiations with them for additional funding to take care of this responsibility. So, Mr. Chairman, I can only say that the responsibility that has been done in the past has been carried out with all the other additional responsibilities of those particular people. We can only respond to the need that arises at this particular time.

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

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, at the risk of offending the public service and I do not want to do that so I will just lay it aside. Put that out first. I do not want it misinterpreted because I know how they perform their duties but I cannot believe that there is anybody in the public service of this government or in most other public services of any particular government that is overly taxed in the execution of their duties, be it an individual or a department. Now, I know that there are very industrious, hard-working, long-serving and long-suffering...

AN HON. MEMBER: Be careful.

MR. McCALLUM: ...long-serving and long-suffering members of the public service and I have the utmost respect for those people.

---Laughter

And I truly support anything that they are doing.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Long live Fort Smith.

MR. McCALLUM: Oh no, they are all over the place. But I cannot for the life of me understand why when this government changes or moves a responsibility from one department to another and places on a receiving department the responsibility for carrying out legislation or the regulations of that legislation, why when the movement is made of the responsibility why there is not a corresponding movement of the bodies involved. Or at least the person years.

AN HON. MEMBER: You must know how government works.

MR. McCALLUM: I know only too well. I have tried it over the years and I always got slapped on the wrist and could not get any.

---Laughter

But times have changed apparently.

AN HON. MEMBER: Oh, they have.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, since the Minister responsible for the Financial Management Board has been listening intently to this particular...

AN HON. MEMBER: Speech.

MR. McCALLUM: No, discourse. He will know that I will intend to ask him in question period on another occasion why this is obviously so. I do not have anything against the Department of Renewable Resources taking on a responsibility that obviously in the wisdom of the government or

the Executive Council should have that responsibility. And obviously the Minister would require getting the proper number of personnel to do it. But it is the principle of the transfer that I am concerned with and I only raise this because I note that there are 2.5 man years and \$300,000 in salaries and O and M that are now in her department and she then has obviously had to work to get 2.5 more person years. If it is done very quickly like that, she obviously knows how to go about it. Amen.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): I gather that is a comment that you have just made.

MR. McCALLUM: Take it for whatever you want then.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Order, please. Mr. Ballantyne.

Program For Transportation Of Dangerous Goods

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think Mr. McCallum made his point. I wonder if the Minister would just explain that in developing a program to administer the transportation of dangerous goods, exactly what is involved in that program that you are developing? What do you look at the department actually doing to administer this particular ordinance?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, the intent of these additional man years is to put one man year in Hay River and one in Inuvik. We are endeavouring to respond much more quickly to the areas of environmental concern when we talk about transportation of dangerous goods. I hope very soon to try to put together our own legislation in that area and put through the policies with regard to that or the regulations. We had moved fairly quickly earlier on that and then somehow or other we drew back for a number of months. If maybe the deputy minister wants to more clearly proceed with an explanation on our plans to try to get much more overall environmental monitoring regulations set out, if there is more comment required than that, I believe that the deputy minister could respond much more in detail.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Ms Cournoyea. We know there have been some problems on the Ingraham Trail and on the winter road that goes to a couple of mining operations but I was going to say that Mr. Wray has responded to try to improve that road and we appreciate that. What is the process right now if there is a spill, for instance on that road? How does your department get involved and what is the process for an investigation to take place? It goes from your department, how do you interface or interact with the federal government and make any recommendations to ensure that that sort of thing does not happen again?

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I will refer to the deputy minister.

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

Negotiations With Federal Government

MR. BOURQUE: Mr. Chairman, as the honourable Member knows, the territorial government has the responsibility for environmental protection on Commissioner's lands and also on our highway system. A winter road is still the responsibility of the federal government. I recently had a discussion with Mr. Beaubier and we are going to establish a memorandum of understanding on how we should approach say, for instance if an oil spill should occur or a truck roll over, whereby we could be supportive to the federal government on federal land where it is their responsibility and where they could be supportive to our department where we have the responsibility. This whole program of transportation of dangerous goods is a new program and the kind, of things our officers and inspectors will be doing is checking loaded trucks to see if the dangerous goods are properly identified or packaged in proper containers and that sort of thing.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Do you see a time when for instance our government, perhaps through your department, could actually issue licences to trucking companies for instance and if they do not follow certain acceptable standards that you could withdraw those privileges? Do you see that ever getting to a point where you would actually have some real teeth and you could really enforce the legislation?

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

MR. BOURQUE: Mr. Chairman, I hope that we had reached the stage where we could enforce regulations on transportation of dangerous goods. This will probably happen a lot sooner on our highway system. I think that there will be ongoing negotiations as part of the program transfer, to deal with areas where the federal government have issued land use permits. For instance the winter road to Lupin Mine -- that is still an area that we have not got the mandate to deal with and we are working together in those areas. Eventually I hope that we will receive that mandate.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: I will just ask one short question. Is the federal government well disposed toward that idea? Do you think in the foreseeable future they would give us those responsibilities in part, for instance on the Lupin winter road?

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

MR. BOURQUE: Mr. Chairman, this is my own perception but I would suspect that sort of activity to get responsibility to directly deal with crown lands would be probably the last responsibility transferred to the territorial government.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): The Chair will recognize the clock at this time and I rise to report progress. I would like to thank the witnesses. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wah-Shee.

ITEM 16: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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

MR. WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been more rowdy than usual. Your committee has been considering...

MR. McCALLUM: An easy chairman.

MR. WAH-SHEE: 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

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

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Announcements from the floor. Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we first started the meeting this afternoon, it was kind of misunderstood. In 1985 during committee of the whole, the deliberation of Tabled Document 23-85(1), Report of the Constitutional Alliance of the Northwest Territories, this matter was not concluded by the resolution of committee. The chairman only reported a loss of a quorum. I request under Rule 77(3) which reads: "The chairman shall maintain order in the

committees of the whole Assembly, deciding all questions of order subject to an appeal to the Speaker; but disorder in a committee can only be censured by the Assembly on receiving a report thereof." As this state of disorder exists, I request a point of order where there was an obvious dispatch from the customary modes of procedure of this Assembly and the House did not return to committee of the whole to conclude this deliberation on the report. I therefore request in this point of order a full report of proceedings in committee of the whole that day and formal motion put forward by Mr. MacQuarrie, Motion 8-85(1). Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Did somebody call a point of order?

AN HON. MEMBER: I don't know, did they?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Announcements were called.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pudluk, I will study your statement and I will give you a reply tomorrow. Are there any further announcements? A little less complicated please.

AN HON. MEMBER: Any further points of order?

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Pardon? Oh yes, any further points of order.

---Laughter

Mr. Clerk, announcements and orders of the day.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Announcements, Mr. Speaker. There will be a caucus meeting tomorrow morning at 9:30 a.m.

ITEM 17: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Tuesday, March 19th, 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
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. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Tuesday, March the 19th, at 1:00 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT

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