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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 1985

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Angottitauruq, Mr. Appaq, Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Ballantyne, Hon. Tom Butters, Hon. Nellie Cournoyea, Hon. Tagak Curley, Mr. Gargan, Mrs. Lawrence, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. McCallum, Hon. Bruce McLaughlin, Hon. Richard Nerysoo, Mr. Paniloo, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Richard, Hon. Nick Sibbeston, Hon. Don Stewart, Mr. T'Seleie

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): I would like to take this opportunity to recognize in the gallery the British Consul-General, Malcolm Holding, and his wife, Pamela, from Great Britain, of course.

---Applause

Orders of the day for Tuesday, March 26th. Item 2, Members' replies. Last call, Members' replies. Nobody playing the waiting game today?

Item 3, Ministers' statements.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Point of order.

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

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, did you indicate that this was the last opportunity to make a reply to the Commissioner's Address and if so, I guess people could be asked and it be clearly indicated to them that this was indeed the last opportunity.

MR. SPEAKER: No. Actually I thought there were going to be some speeches today and I thought that people were trying to outwait one another, who was going to be first and this is why I made my comments. But this is not the last day. It will still be on the order paper tomorrow. Item 3, Ministers' statements. Mr. Curley.

ITEM 3: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement On Employment At NWT Pavilion, Expo '86

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a written statement. A little while ago I mentioned about work on Expo '86 and there were many questions brought forward with regard to employment opportunities. Perhaps the interpreters should read a copy of the statement. Dennis Patterson will be supplementing my comments.

Our pavilion at Expo will be staffed during the life of the world fair by about 100 people. As the fair will be open seven days a week from May 2, 1986, to October 13, 1986, from 10:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. each day, there will be several shifts. No more than 40 or so people will be on site at one time.

Mr. Speaker, five people have been hired to date, and the project is in the process of hiring a further four staff. It is not expected that other people will join the staff prior to Christmas. In January and February a further four will begin working on the project in Vancouver, and the balance, about 85, will start working in April and May of next year. We expect to hire people with a variety of educational, cultural and employment backgrounds. Given the nature of the job, most will likely be single young people. With the exception of perhaps several very specialized positions required for our pavilion restaurant operations, all will be NWT residents.

Recruitment

Mr. Speaker, with respect to the process for selecting the people to work on the project, there has been much consultation with the Departments of Personnel and Education. All positions will be widely advertised across the Northwest Territories. In fact, an initial general information staffing poster is now being circulated. Students attending high school will hear about the job opportunities first-hand, under a program put together by Mr. Patterson. He will provide some details on this and other Expo-related matters at a later time. Those students attending school outside the NWT will learn about the possible employment with Expo through a "mail-out". Those people not attending school but who are interested in working in Vancouver at the NWT pavilion will be able to read about the jobs in their local papers and in community employment posters.

A number of panels will be created to interview interested candidates. These panels will normally be made up of an Expo staff person, a representative of the Department of Education and several volunteers drawn from the public at large. It is most important that the best possible people be selected as they will be our ambassadors to the world. It is our intention, Mr. Speaker, that the majority of our interviewing be completed by early this fall. We wish to let people know this year that we would like to bring them on staff next year. This should provide them with enough time to make their own personal arrangements for being away from their community and home for six months in 1986. I will speak now in English. (Translation ends)

The Department of Economic Development and Department of Education are planning an orientation program for all project staff early in April of 1986. This program will be designed to help prepare the project staff for working and living in Vancouver and will improve their knowledge of the NWT. The staff will be moved to Vancouver in mid-April, at which time they will receive job-specific training from our project staff. The pavilion opens to the public on May 2, 1986.

Rates Of Pay

Rates of pay for all staff will be competitive with those paid to staff working in other pavilions. Further, the rate of pay will reflect the experience of the individual and the fact that the project will provide staff with accommodation, uniforms and transportation. Although work will often be trying and will require some endurance, our fixed budget will not permit premiums to be paid, nor regular rotation for all staff to and from the NWT. We will be searching for talented northerners who would consider it a privilege and honour to represent the NWT on the world stage. Project employees will gain valuable employment experience, have an opportunity to work in beautiful Vancouver at an exciting world fair and receive a fair wage.

The salary and benefits budget for the project is about \$1.2 million for 1986. In addition to the budget for full-time staff, about \$300,000 has been set aside to hire a few additional staff for the 10 week peak summer period, and to hire a number of performers. The performers will be contracted to demonstrate skills or entertain our visitors through song, music or dance for up to two to three weeks at a time.

Mr. Speaker, my final point has to do with the types of positions which we will need to fill. There is a great variety, Mr. Speaker: a typist; finance clerk; a maintenance officer; several audio-visual technicians; a number of contract entertainers; 10 information guides; up to 10 people to work in various positions during the peak summer period; 12 sales staff to work in the pavilion boutique; and 45 to work in the restaurant as waiters, waitresses, cashiers, dishwashers, bus boys, assistant cooks and bartenders. It is my intention that these positions be filled from people living in all parts of the NWT, from both large and small communities, except for MLAs.

AN HON. MEMBER: Aw.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: By way of a conclusion, I know that there is much interest in these positions right across the Northwest Territories. I expect and look forward to much competition for the various positions. With the active assistance of the Department of Education, the project staff will receive excellent pre-employment training and counselling. Once on site in Vancouver, I am sure that they will find their work satisfying and personally rewarding. Thank you.

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

ITEM 4: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 190-85(1): Replacement Of Hunting Equipment

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Renewable Resources. I have talked to her earlier but I would like to make some comments first. When we met before, I was asking about getting some funding for a hunter and they stated they could -- I know this hunter had some problems. He lost some equipment, that is the reason why I asked. He has been trying to get some help through the hamlet and they have been trying to get in contact with Renewable Resources in Frobisher Bay to see if he can get any replacement for his equipment. They stated that they would not give him any funding for his equipment. That was a shock to me and I think that the wildlife officers in Frobisher Bay are not trying to help any of the people in the community. When he lost his equipment it was a nice day but sometimes you are not sure of where the ice is going to crack and when this arises -- he lost his equipment due to the nature of the weather. They told us that they would not replace the equipment and my question is, I think he should get some kind of funding to replace the equipment. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Ms Cournoyea.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I will take that question under advisement and provide an answer tomorrow when we come back to sitting. Thank you.

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

Question 191-85(1): Low Wages Paid To Seismic Workers

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Government Leader and it is in regard to the News/North article of March 8th. I believe there was quite a number of people that quit from a seismic operation that was going on in the Delta area. The same kind of situation is now occurring down in the Fort Providence area too. I just had a phone call this morning and six of the people that were working for \$4.50 an hour quit and now they are recruiting another six to go back. The same problem will occur over and over again unless there is something done. I believe with regard to Eric Smith's comment -- I guess it is really up to the Legislative Assembly to legislate something in that area so that if seismic companies do come, that employees are allowed fair wages because \$4.50 is all they pay and nothing else. There are no other benefits besides that. I would like to ask the Leader of the House whether anything has been done since that incident in the Delta and whether he might be able to find some answers for the same kind of situation that is now being created in my home constituency?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 191-85(1): Low Wages Paid To Seismic Workers

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The present legislation does indicate that the minimum wage to be paid to anyone over the age of 17, I believe, is \$4.50. We have to remember that that particular minimum wage limit affects small businesses as much as it affects large businesses and that any kind of legislative change must recognize the ability, particularly of the small businesses, to pay individuals the kinds of salaries that some individuals really are now taking for granted because of previous experience of the work on the pipeline, the work with the larger oil and gas companies and it is not the norm in many circumstances, that those types of wages are being paid. I believe that to increase the wage minimums at this time, beyond the capacity of small businesses and even organizations and governments might cause serious difficulty in the economy and the ability of small businesses and organizations to continue providing the kind of service that they are now providing. I will, however, Mr. Speaker, take the additional request for further information as notice and provide a further response to the honourable Member as quickly as I can.

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

Question 192-85(1): Changes To Minimum Wage Rates

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Government Leader if by saying what he has just said that he is, in effect, ruling out any change to the minimum wage?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 192-85(1): Changes To Minimum Wage Rates

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, I am not ruling out any change but I think that one must consider that any changes have to be reflected in any kind of arrangements that are made, even at the community level, between the band councils and their staff, between small community projects that are instituted for Canada Works or community works, summer projects. Those have to be addressed in any kind of legislative change that takes place. Also, the effective date is important. But one has to also recognize the ability of the small business community to address that as well. I am not ruling out for one minute the possibility of a change but I just suggest to you that the kinds of wages that are being paid, particularly by large industry are not necessarily the norm that is associated to people being able to work. The reality is that there are more people being employed by the small business community at this particular time in the NWT than in any other business enterprise. So I suggest to you that when we look at those kinds of minimum wage changes, that we have to ensure that we take into consideration the effect that that might have on those particular sectors of the NWT economy. But that does not, as I indicated, mean that I am ruling out the possibility of change. I indicated earlier that I would respond further to the honourable Member for Deh Cho, to his concern about what options there are and what are the issues that are related to the situation that now exists.

It is very difficult, Mr. Speaker, to compare the kind of wages that were paid during the pipeline construction to the kind of work now being carried out by seismic operations. I believe that more research is required to ensure that any changes are reflective of all sectors of the economy of the NWT and certainly my colleague on the Executive Council who is responsible for the whole issue of the economy of the NWT, Mr. Curley, would certainly have an influence on making any recommendations on behalf of the business community to the Executive Council. It is still my responsibility, Mr. Speaker, to bring forward any changes that would be reflective in any kind of legislative change. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. I would hope that both the questioner and the person replying would minimize their questions and answers. We are getting into very long tirades on these. If they can be handled in a faster manner, I would appreciate it. Are there any further oral questions? Mr. Angottitauruq.

Question 193-85(1): Name Change In Common-Law Marriage

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is going to be directed to the Minister of Justice or to the House Leader. I do not know exactly which but it is the same person. I was talking to an ex-minister one time and he was concerned about common-law people who have the same names even before they go to a judge or a priest. I agree with his concern because if you are not married, you cannot have your common-law spouse's name. So, therefore, I am asking the Minister whether there is something developing toward the name changing automatically when you have a common-law husband. Is there a new law that is being introduced to Canada or the NWT regarding that? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

Return To Question 193-85(1): Name Change In Common-Law Marriage

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, no, there is not any law that is being introduced.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo.

---Laughter

Are there any further oral questions?

MR. McCALLUM: Short enough for you now?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: I could have said "No".

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Angottitauruq.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Why?

---Laughter

Supplementary To Question 193-85(1): Name Change In Common-Law Marriage

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since there is no legislation developing -- it is not unusual but it seems quite serious with respect to government documents and other sources and even with the elected bodies in the communities since they have sometimes something to do with the names. It seems quite important that the government should be looking at this very closely because it also applies to government services of some kinds. I am asking the Minister whether there is going to be something done or some arrangements to try and do something about the whole area of changing the common-law spouse's name permanently or change it. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 193-85(1): Name Change In Common-Law Marriage

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will take the honourable Member's advice and see what type of options would be available to us to reflect either in legislation or in policy the concern that the Member has. Thank you.

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

Question 194-85(1): Registration Of Inuit Names

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Regarding my Question 34-85(1) on February 11 to the Government Leader -- I will ask that question again. In Igloolik the Inuit Women's Association had a meeting. I was present at that time and they had a concern on how the Inuit names in the communities were registered in the Baffin Region. Right now some of the people are deceased prior to receiving their pension. They reached the age of 80 and they died. I was asked if the documentation of that can be amended. I feel it would be appropriate to amend the documentation. I do not want to have to go back to the communities without any reply to these concerns. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult to respond directly to the question that the Member asked until I know the circumstances under which the incident happened. Further, that responsibility also is a shared responsibility in those particular kinds of situations with, I believe, the Minister of Social Services and Health so we have to work out the concerns. I will take the question as notice and provide a further response in conjunction with the Minister of Social Services and Health.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. You are taking the question as notice. Mr. Gargan.

Question 195-85(1): Status Of Hay River Reserve Egg Production Quota

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. I believe it was reported last week in News/North that the farmers' association of the NWT supported the whole initiative of the egg production on the Hay River Reserve. I would just like to ask the Minister -- I guess it has been about six weeks since I asked the same question -- is there any favourable response from the federal government with regard to gaining a quota for egg production on the Hay River Reserve?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 195-85(1): Status Of Hay River Reserve Egg Production Quota

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I regret again not being able to make an announcement on this matter. I do not know what it takes to communicate with the government in Ottawa but I would only think that you have to wear the right colours to get a proper response. Anyway, I am expecting to meet with the Minister sometime next week when I am in Ottawa, during the various meetings that we are having as well as the Constitutional Conference and I have made an appointment with the Minister responsible for Agriculture and he will be dealing with this subject then. But there are really fundamental problems involved with that because the regulations presently do not allow NWT to have a quota and because all the other regulatory bodies which consist of some 30 odd signatories are required to make the appropriate changes in the Canadian Egg Marketing Corporation. There is quite a lot of work required to make the change so what I am hoping to do is to get, at least from the political level, some indication from the federal Minister and then proceed if at all possible to try and get a negotiated settlement to this problem. Once I have some indication I will again be making a public statement in the Territories. We hope to conclude this situation before too long but I know that your constituents and the people of the Northwest Territories are anxious to see a breakthrough in this regard. Thank you.

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

Question 196-85(1): Increase To Power Rates In Small Communities

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister responsible for Energy whether or not the power rates in small communities will be increasing on April 1st?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 196-85(1): Increase To Power Rates In Small Communities

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I know there has been quite a lot of publicity with respect to NCPG and the National Energy Board hearings throughout the Territories and the Yukon. I would like to say that at this stage I will be, again, dealing with that matter on the EMR Secretariat and Public Utilities Board estimates today, but as far as I know the National Energy Board will not be concluding its report for a long while yet. They have concluded the hearings but as far as the proposed rates are concerned I have received some indication from the federal government that they will not be implementing the proposed recommendations as recommended by NCPG. If the rates are not put in force there is some indication that there might be some increases but they would not be more than a four per cent range. That is the most that the federal government would allow this coming fiscal year. Once that has been formalized then we will be making a public statement but it looks like the federal government will be recommending some increase but it will not be over four per cent. Thank you.

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

Question 197-85(1): Housing Association Rental Rates For Staff

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I was going to direct my question to the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation but unfortunately he is not here. I was wondering whether I might be able to direct my question to the Leader and get, possibly, an answer by tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister whether it is standard practice for members of the housing associations to set their own rates with regard to the employees that they hire, as well as management. For example, in Fort Providence, I know that the association, the housing manager and the housing maintenance people, are charging themselves \$150 a month rent. Is that standard practice? This is something that I wanted to find out.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will take that question as notice and on behalf of the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, provide an answer by tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Oral questions. Item 5, written questions. Are there any written questions for today? Mrs. Lawrence.

ITEM 5: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question 198-85(1): Employment Opportunity At Stanton Yellowknife Hospital

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question to the Minister responsible for Health. I have been made aware of a situation where a Yellowknife resident applied on a position at the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital which was advertised in the local paper. The closing date for the position is March 27th, 1985. She applied on this position on March 22nd, 1985, after reading it in the paper and was told that this position was an internal competition and she could not apply. She speaks a native language, as well, which would contribute to the numbers of natives employed at the hospital. Could the Minister check into this matter and ensure that the applicant is given the opportunity she is entitled to when applying on an open competition and find out why she was told the position was an internal competition when it was not. Mahsi cho.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Written questions. That appears to conclude written questions for today. Item 6, returns. Mr. Nerysoo.

ITEM 6: RETURNS

Return To Question 180-85(1): Norman Wells Benefits Evaluation

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to written Question 180-85(1) asked by Mr. T'Seleie with regard to Norman Wells benefits evaluation.

Mr. Darryl Bohnet, the territorial co-ordinator for the Norman Wells pipeline project in the Regional Operations Secretariat, Department of Executive, has been directed to co-ordinate an assessment of the Government of the Northwest Territories experiences related to the Norman Wells project. To assist him in the evaluation exercise a small steering committee has been formed, consisting of key GNWT staff from headquarters departments and from the two regional administration centres, Fort Smith and Inuvik.

It is anticipated that the evaluation exercise will identify major issues and summarize lessons which have been learned. The report is being prepared over the next two months and will be presented to the Executive Council in June 1985. I will be pleased to table the report before this House at the earliest opportunity after Executive Council review.

In addition to our GNWT review, I am aware of reviews being conducted by industry, the Dene Nation and the federal co-ordination office. Our review will be included in the overall review exercise currently scheduled for September 1985. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Item 7, petitions.

Item 8, reports of standing and special committees. Mr. Sibbeston.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I would like unanimous consent to return to returns. It slipped by me.

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being requested to return to returns.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Any nays? Proceed, Mr. Sibbeston.

REVERT TO ITEM 6: RETURNS

Return To Question 178-85(1): Water Trucking Equipment, Hall Beach

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I have two returns. Both are actually to Mr. Erkloo. The first concerns Hall Beach water truck. On Saturday, March 23rd, Mr. Erkloo asked, in Question 178-85(1), whether the hamlet of Hall Beach could be provided with a back-up water truck for use when their main equipment was broken down. I wish to advise that there is a new water truck for Hall Beach in the department's 1986-87 capital plan. The hamlet will be able to retain their present truck as a back-up vehicle.

Return To Question 184-85(1): Travel Funding For Volleyball Tournaments

I have another reply to Mr. Erkloo's Question 184-85(1), concerning sports teams and funding of them, which he asked yesterday. The Department of Local Government makes an annual grant to Sport North which uses this money, along with revenue from their lottery operation, to support 23 sport governing bodies across the NWT. Last year the NWT Volleyball Association received \$19,700 which they used to operate coaching and refereeing clinics, as well as competitions in Yellowknife and Frobisher Bay. Obviously this amount of money is insufficient to pay the full cost of attending tournaments. The remaining funds are raised through the voluntary activities of groups and individuals interested in the sport. The travel costs of the tournament to which the Member referred totalled \$40,000 of which \$30,000 was raised by volunteers. The remaining cost was paid by the participants themselves.

Assistance in carrying out fund-raising activities may be requested by sports groups from the department's regional recreation officer or from recreation workers employed by community governments. This assistance will be in the form of advice and suggestions for organizing their own fund-raising activities. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Are there any further returns? Item 9, tabling of documents. Mr. Nerysoo.

ITEM 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my pleasure to table Tabled Document 67-85(1), a discussion paper relating to the 1985 First Ministers' Conference on Aboriginal Rights, entitled Discussion Paper, 10th Legislative Assembly, 1985 First Ministers' Conference on Aboriginal Rights, March 25, 1985. As Members are aware, the purpose of the First Ministers' Conference is to resume the process of identifying and defining aboriginal rights to be entrenched in the Constitution of Canada. As has been the convention of this House in the past, such discussion papers have been tabled prior to the First Ministers' Conference to inform the honourable Members of the outcome of ministerial and official meetings on aboriginal rights in the preceding months and to obtain direction from the House on the recommended proposals of the discussion paper.

The First Ministers' Conference for this year is going to deal with principally four topics, namely: self-government for the aboriginal peoples; sexual equality rights; mandate for continued discussions; nature of accord. The discussion on these subjects before this House will therefore perhaps not take too long. However, accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I seek the indulgence of the House through unanimous consent to move the discussion paper into committee of the whole for discussion at the earliest opportunity. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being requested to deviate from the rules by moving a tabled document directly into committee of the whole. Do you understand the position? Are there any nays?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any nays? Then your tabled document has moved into committee of the whole on today's order paper. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, just to indicate to the Members in the House that the document has been translated into Inuktitut as well.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. I presume that we should actually go by way of motion that you are moving this tabled document into committee of the whole. You have unanimous consent now to do that. Would you do that with a seconder, please?

Motion To Move Tabled Document 67-85(1) Into Committee Of The Whole, Carried

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that Tabled Document 67-85(1) be placed on the agenda as an item for consideration in committee of the whole.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I second that.

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

---Carried

Tabling of documents.

Item 10, notices of motion.

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

Item 12, motions. Item 13, first reading of bills. Mr. Butters.

ITEM 13: FIRST READING OF BILLS

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, might I have unanimous consent to give first reading to Bill 11-85(1), the bill which I gave notice of yesterday?

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being requested. Are there any nays?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Proceed, Mr. Butters. You have unanimous consent.

First Reading Of Bill 11-85(1): Vehicles Act

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Bill 11-85(1), An Act to Amend the Vehicles Act, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: To the motion. Ready for the question. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried. Bill 11-85(1) has had first reading.

---Carried

First reading of bills. Mr. Butters.

First Reading Of Bill 8-85(1): Financial Agreement Act

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, that Bill 8-85(1), An Act Respecting a Financial Agreement Between the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried. Bill 8-85(1) has had first reading.

---Carried

First reading of bills. Mr. Nerysoo.

First Reading Of Bill 5-85(1): Council Act

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Aivilik, that Bill 5-85(1), An Act to Amend the Council Act, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Ready for the question? All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried. Bill 5-85(1) has had first reading.

---Carried

MR. SPEAKER: First reading of bills. Item 14, second reading of bills. Mr. Butters.

ITEM 14: SECOND READING OF BILLS

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Bill 8-85(1), please.

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being requested for Bill 8-85(1) for second reading. Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Butters.

Second Reading Of Bill 8-85(1): Financial Agreement Act

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kivallivik, that Bill 8-85(1), An Act Respecting a Financial Agreement Between the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to authorize the Commissioner and the Executive Member to enter into an agreement with the Government of Canada providing for the payment of a grant to the Government of the Northwest Territories for the financial period from April 1, 1985 to March 31, 1988, and any further period as may be agreed upon by the Government of Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories and related matters.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the principle of the bill. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I have no comments now but I will be making a short report to the House tomorrow in reports of standing and special committees on this particular bill.

MR. SPEAKER: To the principle of the bill. Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 8-85(1) has had second reading.

---Carried

Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, may I have consent to move second reading of Bill 11-85(1)?

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being requested to deal with second reading of Bill 11-85(1). Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Butters.

Second Reading Of Bill 11-85(1): Vehicles Act

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Bill 11-85(1), An Act to Amend the Vehicles Act, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Vehicles Act to allow regulations to be made respecting the powers of officers to inspect, seize and detain vehicles to enforce the act and the regulations; respecting permits to allow exceptions to the regulations; respecting limitations, restrictions and conditions on the weight and dimensions of vehicles; respecting the establishment of weigh scales and the weighing of vehicles; respecting the closing or restrictions on vehicles using highways outside municipalities; and respecting evidence for use in prosecutions under the Act and regulations.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the principle of the bill. Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 11-85(1) has had second reading.

---Carried

Second reading of bills. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to seek unanimous consent to proceed with second reading of Bill 5-85(1).

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being requested for second reading of Bill 5-85(1). Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Nerysoo.

Second Reading Of Bill 5-85(1): Council Act

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Aivilik, that Bill 5-85(1), An Act to Amend the Council Act, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to provide for new salaries, indemnities and allowances for Members.

MR. SPEAKER: To the principle of the bill. Ready for the question? All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 5-85(1) has had second reading.

---Carried

Previously today we had Tabled Document 67-85(1) and now Bills 5-85(1), 8-85(1) and 11-85(1) are ordered into committee of the whole on today's order paper. Item 15, consideration in the committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Bill 7-85(1), Bill 3-85(1), Bill 9-85(1), Bill 10-85(1), Bill 1-85(1), Bill 4-85(1), Tabled Document 67-85(1), Bills 5-85(1), 8-85(1) and 11-85(1), with Mr. Gargan 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. Gargan): The committee will now come to order. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, if we are to avail ourselves of Mr. Curley's presence for examination of the Energy, Mines and Resources Secretariat and the Public Utilities Board, I would recommend that we do those two items immediately and then follow up with Social Services after they have been completed. Mr. Curley and his witnesses are ready to proceed on both those items.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Is it agreed by the committee? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Curley.

Energy, Mines And Resources Secretariat

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Very quickly I think I will just make some introductory remarks to the House. I thank the honourable Members for their co-operation and...

AN HON. MEMBER: Any time.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Amazing. You know I never thought this was possible.

MR. MacQUARRIE: All things are possible.

Opening Remarks

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would just first of all like to highlight some of the activities that the Energy, Mines and Resources Secretariat carried out this year, as well as the Executive Council, on energy related matters.

First of all, the highlight that I would like to indicate is with respect to the Bent Horn oil production project, as proposed by Panarctic, as being approved. As Members may already know through the press, this was one of the significant developments that occurred which was jointly and co-operatively negotiated and implemented, as far as the terms of conditions are concerned, by both federal and territorial governments. Again, prior to this there were extensive community consultations that took part. Many of the High Arctic communities did very well in contributing to the points that we wanted to raise to the federal government prior to approval of the project. So, I am pleased to indicate that that consultation was effective in my point of view.

The Government of the Northwest Territories did participate in government-to-government negotiations in terms of recommending and dealing with the terms of conditions that would apply to the Panarctic project. Mr. Chairman, I feel that the process resulted in a set of terms of conditions which we are satisfied with. So, the Panarctic Bent Horn review has been a first step, I think, toward greater involvement of the territorial government in the resource development initiative. I know there is a lot of room for improvement but I think we have a very useful experience to build on.

In addition, Mr. Chairman, during my discussion with the Hon. David Crombie, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, I have received a commitment that our government would receive its fair share of resource revenues from the Bent Horn project and Cameron Island. As well, the Hon. David Crombie has made a commitment to discuss the broader issue of resource management and revenue sharing on a territorial-wide basis with his cabinet colleagues. The Executive Council has recently approved broad principles which now form the basis for initial discussions with federal government at the officials level. Further, Executive direction will be sought throughout the process of negotiations to ensure that consensus on resource matters is maintained.

Turning specifically to the resource management side of negotiations, Mr. Chairman, I intend to meet with my colleague, Hon. David Crombie, on April 2nd or thereabouts in Ottawa, at which time we hope to be discussing the resource management issues and the transfer of resource-related authorities to the GNWT. As well, I think it is a point of interest for the Assembly here that the Senate committee on energy and natural resources has been carrying out consultation with the industry in reviewing the broad issue of Canadian energy policy. I will be appearing before the Senate committee in carrying out the territorial government's set of recommendations with respect to the energy policy, particularly issues related to the national energy program which is actively under review by the present government.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Is there a possibility of...

Northern Canada Power Commission

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: If they are still there, I will. There have also been positive involvements concerning the transfer of NCPC to the NWT. This House has always led a strong support for the position that NCPC should be divided into two separate companies and moved North so that NWT residents could own and control their own utility. It is now almost four years since our position was put to the federal government. Since that time we have been through two National Energy Board hearings and a presentation to the parliamentary committee on Indian affairs and northern development. I have written many letters and have attended many meetings and I would like at this time to congratulate many of the interest groups, chambers of commerce throughout municipalities who have also given strong support to our case when dealing with the issue of NCPC and other matters. At one point the government even considered initiating a legal action.

As you are aware Mr. Chairman, in the past there has been a firm commitment that NCPC would relocate its head office to Yellowknife by 1987. Further, the question of regulation by the NWT Public Utilities Board would have been reviewed at that time. I say this because the previous Liberal government did indicate that they would prefer to review or hear about that time, the NCPC and Public Utilities Board's side of the issue. However, Mr. Crombie has indicated to the Government of the NWT that he is willing to discuss now, all the questions related to NCPC and not wait until 1987. I can assure Members that I will take this opportunity to press the Minister for the division, relocation, refinancing territorial ownership and refinancing and territorial regulation of the NCPC. So I think Mr. Chairman that any comments that the Members could offer on these issues are welcome at this time.

Resource-Related Legislation

On another point, I will be presenting to my colleagues, the Executive Council, a proposal to develop resource-related legislation. For a long time now the Executive Council has been committed to securing greater control over resource activities in the NWT. Again we have considered reaching this control through transfer of authorities from the federal government to the NWT and as well through GNWT action in policy or legislation. As part of an overall strategy to gain greater control over resource management and assure northerners benefits from development projects, in 1982 GNWT announced its resource development policy. The policy emphasizes three aspects of resource development: assessment and review; monitoring; and community consultation.

Mr. Chairman, there are a lot of other energy-related issues which I am sure Members will be asking questions about. I think at this moment we are prepared to deal with the item before the committee of the whole and seek further direction from you. On the broader issue of the resources, presently there exists an interdepartmental committee which has been examining the legislative options available to GNWT for resource legislation. I will be frank with the Members here, that this particular working document has not gone through the Executive Council yet and therefore is not formally finalized, the actual putting forth of effective legislation to deal with resource development. Further consultation I am sure will be required with the federal government once a decision has been made by the Executive Council to see in what areas the territorial government can begin to take more influence over the resource development.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank the Members for allowing me the opportunity to make the introductory remarks. I have with me the secretary to Energy, Mines and Resources, who will be appearing with me. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Does the committee agree that the Minister bring in his witness?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is the secretary of the Energy, Mines and Resources Secretariat, Mr. Al Zariwny.

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

Negotiations On Resource Revenue Sharing And Management

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister for more detail about the Bent Horn project. I think it is a very interesting project and I can see that whatever sort of agreement that we can make with the federal government regarding resource management and resource revenue sharing could be a prototype for how we go in the future. How far along are we with specific proposals or how close are we to an agreement with the federal government on resource revenue sharing at this point in time?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would like to again point out to the Members that the federal Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development did agree that he is prepared to negotiate with us on a resource revenue sharing and resource management concept of this nature. Since then there have been official discussions in trying to set a process toward that. As for the overall negotiating points, we have communicated with the federal Minister and put forward the broader principles. Again, in view of some of the changes that will likely be required once we get to the table, I have one or two points that I will be bringing forward with the Executive Council for further consideration. But I would like my secretary of the Energy, Mines and Resources Secretariat to give you the run down of the official contact so far because there have been communications in trying to put the best possible process toward the broader negotiations.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Zariwny.

MR. ZARIWNY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The starting point for describing where we are with the federal government would be with the announcement made by Mr. Crombie and Mr. Curley. After that announcement was made, we then conveyed to the federal officials further explanation of the principles, noted in the resource revenue sharing and resource management document, that were included with the terms and conditions. The step that followed was one which the federal officials initiated and that is one of developing a mechanism by which royalties from the Panarctic project can be reviewed in light of an overall project of resource revenue sharing applying to the entire NWT. Presently, that is where we are.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: I am for one quite interested in this process, and I would ask the Minister if he could keep us up to date on that. I think it is an important process. But in a more general sense, as I understand it, the philosophy of the Minister and of this government is to take over

resource management and resource revenue sharing rather than going the major step of trying to attain ownership, which would obviously be a long-term and difficult step. It will be possible to take over certain resource management responsibilities without any major changes in federal legislation. Obviously different federal departments are responsible for various aspects of resource management. There is Energy, Mines and Resources and I am sure the Department of the Environment and other departments. Would it be necessary to reach some sort of bilateral agreement with each one of these departments or could we do it all through the Indian and Northern Affairs department to achieve our ends?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Role Of Department Of Energy, Mines And Resources

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I think again to point out the approach that we have taken, we have kept the Energy, Mines and Resources Minister at the federal level fully informed of our position. She is definitely a party to all the documents that we sent to the federal Minister of Indian Affairs on resource development and related matters. As well, we had our Leader communicate directly with the Prime Minister so at least there is that awareness of the territorial government's interest in resource revenue and resource management issues.

As to how they are actually going to deal with that remains to be seen. As we know the federal minister of Indian Affairs is taking the lead role in co-ordinating with the territorial government and he has engaged a group in his office, at this very moment, starting to get it more formalized so that we do not lose too much time in trying to set an effective process toward negotiations. But as to how the federal government is going to react I really do not know but at every level I am communicating with both of them, so they are fully involved and do not waste any time in trying to keep tab of what is happening. So, our position is that I think to keep them informed jointly is all the better. Thank you.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: I guess my concern with an issue as complex as resource management and resource revenue sharing is that it is obvious that other departments have responsibilities and authorities outside of the authority and responsibility of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs. Mr. Crombie is supportive of the turning over to this government certain responsibilities in resource management and revenue sharing. Is it the Minister's feeling that other federal departments who have jurisdiction in the North are equally as favourably disposed toward turning over those authorities and revenues to this government?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, it is a bit early at this stage to get any real indication from the individual Ministers at the federal level. I did receive an acknowledgement, though, from the federal Minister of Energy, that she has received our communication to Mr. Crombie. At least that acknowledgement is there. But since we have not approached her separately it remains to be seen as to how supportive she will be. I can only hope that there is no disagreement at the federal level. So far Mr. Crombie has not indicated any major problems. He did indicate he has to deal with the cabinet though, publicly. Thank you.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Yes, the federal Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources has been so busy negotiating with the provinces in the last few months, she probably has not had much time to look at it. But if I can go to another question. The question of NCPC. I know this House took a position a number of years ago. They would like to see it divided, the headquarters move north and in fact the territorial government would take it over. But when the Minister is making his presentations in Ottawa, has the Minister emphasized the point that we would definitely consider taking over responsibility if in fact they forgave the debt of NCPC and gave us adequate financial capability to do it? Because I think the last thing we want right now is to have this government take over responsibility of NCPC in its present financial state.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I welcome the Member's support to move the NCPC headquarters to the Nunavut territory and I think that is a very good kind of support that he just gave me.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I think the Minister did not hear me. Perhaps if the rates are quadrupled in the East it might be an appropriate place to put the headquarters. What I was talking about though is not the actual moving of the headquarters. It is that we as a government, either east or west or together, would not want to take over the responsibility of NCPC until it is financially in good order. Which it is not right now.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, that is well-taken as a very strong point. I know the refinancing of NCPC is very much a factor in making the deal. I would only like to say at the moment, now, that the federal Minister of Indian Affairs has sent a communication to us very recently that he is prepared to undertake a very active review of NCPC, that these negotiations or communications are going to increase with the federal government on the matter. And I think your support in that regard is very much welcomed.

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

Development Of Formal Position On Resource Revenue Sharing

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was distracted momentarily earlier and I may have missed this but just to clarify, do I understand that the Minister of Indian Affairs is having his staff actually prepare a formal position to take to cabinet in order to see whether cabinet will entertain resource revenue sharing with the GNWT?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, the Executive Council did communicate earlier in the year when Mr. Crombie was appointed, on the principles for negotiations, as well as GNWT introductory remarks to the resource revenue and resource management proposal. Since then they have someone working full-time in responding to our proposal. So they are formulating their negotiating position I would say and we will be intensifying that contact I am sure. So far they have not formally communicated to us as to what they are prepared to offer but we do know that they are interested and they do have someone preparing the response to the territorial government. It will be a matter of time before we finally do get a formal response on our proposal.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: So the idea then, Mr. Minister, would be that the Department of Indian Affairs and the GNWT would try to reach some agreement as to what shape a resource revenue sharing agreement should take and then the Minister would be prepared to take that to cabinet to try to get cabinet approval.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I think that would be the case. He did indicate publicly during the press conference with Panarctic that he has to deal with the cabinet on that matter. I believe what he is trying to do is put forward or formulate a position that would be -- I think Mr. Crombie would want to find if it is acceptable before he communicates that to the cabinet. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Just a final one then. Has the Minister a time frame in mind when he would like some of this to happen? Will he be pressing the Department of Indian Affairs for a response within a period of two or three months or what?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: With the number of reviews that we have at the moment, it is likely going to take a little while. I am sure more than three months. But I would think the federal Minister will also offer his own time frame and until we get that communication, I think it would be too early to suggest a time frame on our part. Thank you.

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

Revenue From Norman Wells Project

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, just on the whole aspect of resource revenue sharing. It is my understanding that the oil from Norman Wells to Zama, Alberta, will start to flow sometime in April. It has been announced as such. Are these resources to be included in the resource revenue sharing program that the Minister is talking about? It is my understanding that we cannot tax or get anything out of the product itself, but certainly the line is being filled up, according to IPL and I expect that oil will now start to travel from the Territories down into Zama, Alberta. I am wondering, is there consideration being given to the amount of oil that will now be travelling out of the Territories and will this form some type of basis for resource revenue? Is there some way that we monitor it or can monitor the amount that travels through? Perhaps I should not be asking you the question, Mr. Minister, but I think it comes under it all. I wonder about the taxation of the line as well.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I think that my colleague the Minister of Finance could take these related questions. I may ask him to get an update on the property side of taxation because I will be prepared to respond now but I will pass it on to Mr. Butters for other matters. On the resource revenue side, I think our approach has to be on all aspects of the energy projects and oil and gas activities that are shaping up. Hopefully if we do get an initial reaction, I would likely be in a clearer position to make the announcement to the Legislature in the June session if we did get a response. But as far as the resource revenue sharing, the broader issues are concerned, we do have to take into account all aspects -- pipelines, tanker routes, and so on. In effect I think we are trying to work out an energy deal with the federal Minister so that the territorial government can eventually receive moneys to build the infrastructures required in the Territories. That I think is how broad it is at this time. But on the other taxation matters, I would like Mr. Butters to respond to that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was just responding to a little note from Mr. McCallum and I was writing to him as follows: "The assessment formula currently in use requires revisions and, yes, we are able to tax pipelines but changes are required to the current assessment arrangements to bring the Government of the NWT into the same general taxation arena as currently is in practice in the provinces." So if the Executive Council has this under consideration and if it is acceptable then this is the direction that we will probably be moving in. There are two methods by which taxation can be levied. One is through assessment and one is through a throughput tax. But throughput is not in use very generally and it has a number of problems with it which are under consideration by the Executive.

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

Estimate Of Amount And Value Of Oil Flowing To Alberta

MR. McCALLUM: I appreciate the reply from both Ministers. I recognize that I had just written Mr. Butters a note on it. I did not want the discussion to stop over this whole business of resource revenue. I would hope that when the assessment revision or whatever arrangement is completed that that would be made known to the House so that we would have an idea of just what has been agreed to. In relation to the actual material, the product that will start to move, can the Minister indicate to me just what we are talking about in terms of the flow? How much will be going through here? How much of this product is going to go out into Alberta? Obviously we in the Territories are going to have to purchase a refined product for our own use. Can I get some kind of an idea of the possible worth of this product that would be contemplated? What are we talking about when we talk about the amount of oil going out or do you have these kinds of figures?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, my information is that we do not have that information and mainly we do not have the responsibility as such. The federal Department of Energy, Mines and Resources would be the one who does have the estimates, and roughly the amount of oil that is flowing. We probably could find a way of getting it. We really should be tabling these to the House. I am not sure whether or not we will be able to do it during the session but as soon as we can get it I would be pleased to try to provide you with the information you request. I think definitely through negotiations, that is going to have to be taken into consideration before the formula is reached for resource revenue sharing. At the moment we have not even exchanged a kind of formula that would be used to settle the royalties, necessary for both governments to come to a settlement on.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess that is the point of the whole thing. We do not own the resource and that is the cause for a great deal of concern among northerners here. It will be one of the first instances where a resource has been taken out of the Territories at such a particular level. Those figures obviously must be available from somewhere, as to how much oil is going to be flowing through that line, for how long it is going to flow, and given the world price of oil or the Canadian price of oil, what value is put on it. Those figures would obviously have to be taken into consideration by your government through either you, Mr. Minister, or other government people on the Executive, in any kind of discussions that will take place about resource revenue sharing. It should give us a good basis to get involved.

There will, obviously, be other resources that will go out maybe at the same level or at greater levels but here with the possible opening of this pipeline and the flow beginning in April, which is just around the corner, then I would suggest that this is something that your officials should have brought up and yes, there is no question but that I as well as other Members, obviously, in the House would want to be made aware of what the value is of this resource now to be going out from the Territories. That would form a basis for you putting forth a particular position. Oil is only one of them. There, obviously, will be other particular lines go out, whether it is gas or any other material. Resources have gone out of the Territories over the years and here is one that has a great deal of attraction for a great number of people, obviously for the proponents, Imperial Oil, and for the pipeline people.

Data Base For Revenue Sharing Negotiations

So, I would be very much appreciative if those figures could be brought to us. I do not think you are going to be able to get them now, but certainly in our session in Rankin Inlet in June, we should be able to get some indication of what really is going on in terms of the worth of that product, in terms of the life, if you like, of the resource going out and the kind of basis you are going to use to negotiate a revenue sharing deal.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do appreciate the Member raising these very important points. I think they are substantial, we do welcome them. I share his point of view. Having to do a catch-up work on this issue is not an easy one. It is really too bad that the deal was not arranged when the federal government approved the project. Prior to approval it would have been very much easier to try and negotiate a formula for resource revenue sharing. We will take into consideration the points that the Member raised and surely I think at the moment the Energy, Mines and Resources Secretariat is going to have to expand its role. They are trying to keep track of the amount of energy that is extracted from the Northwest Territories.

I would just like to indicate at the moment that I have -- I think the northerners should know, as you say, what is coming out, what amount of energy is flowing and what amount of revenue is contributing to the economy of the country as a whole as well as to the oil companies and the share of the federal government. I have asked for, sometime this year, by the end of the fall maybe, a more detailed complete report on energy that would be of interest to the territorial government, taking into account all related energy resources that we have. I think that given that we might be able to have a lot more awareness of what the wealth of the territorial government is in terms of energy and related issues.

Surely, I think your point is important and we really should have those figures whether we have the control or not because without them we are going to continue being a weak point but I will take that point as an important and urgent matter. Thank you.

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

Value Of Northern Resources

MR. McCALLUM: Just to emphasize the point. There have been figures that have been bandied about. If the world price of a barrel of oil is approximately \$30 -- I am not sure what it is -- and we are talking of approximately 30,000 barrels a day going out, the amount of money we are talking about climbs very dramatically when you multiply that number of barrels a day by the price of a barrel. I think at the present time under the assessment formula that is now in place, the government, through simple taxation of only the line, may be getting two or three plus million dollars. That is a far cry from the worth of the resource. I do not think that we are going to be able to own those resources. Regardless of what government is in power in Canada they are not going to go through the same thing they did with Alberta or the original partners in Confederation, that is that they will own their own resources. If the federal government had known that Turner Valley was going to come in I am sure they would not have given Alberta those resources back in 1935 either. Regardless of that, I think that we have to be made aware of the value of just one resource out of one area of the total Territories. Just from the Wells alone -- what it is in total worth and what we are getting as a government by simply taxing that portion of the 900 kilometre line that is in the Northwest Territories which is very piddling. I say that just to emphasize the seriousness of getting proper factual information so that we, as a government, can begin to utilize those figures in trying to set up a fiscal arrangement, especially where we are now in formula financing, and with any kind of arrangement that will be made in the future depending upon what other resource is taken from the Territories.

Opportunity To Pay Our Way

I do not think that we are trying to become -- I do not know what colour eyes we are going to use -- Arabs of the North rather than the blue eyed Arabs of the West but certainly we would have an opportunity to become not just another poor province should we ever attain that particular status in the future. We have the opportunity with the resources to pay our way which is a lot more than could be said about most of the provinces in Canada today.

MR. BALLANTYNE: PEI.

MR. McCALLUM: Six of them are non-contributing provinces and never mind picking on PEI, I can name a couple of others. There are only four provinces that are helping in the payments for the rest of Canada and the concern that people such as the premier of Alberta would have about creating a poor province can be laid aside just by using the figures of the Norman Wells line and, as I said, that is only one. I only say those remarks, Mr. Chairman, to indicate to the Minister and I am sure he recognizes the importance of getting the proper factual information and being able to go to the federal government whether it is to the Minister of Indian Affairs or the Minister of Energy but to the Government of Canada to work out an agreement. Thank you.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: To follow up on that, I think the climate right now is probably the best that it is ever going to be to negotiate some form of resource revenue sharing. The precedent has been set in Newfoundland, apparently the three western provinces are on the verge of, or they might have even agreed this morning, coming to some sort of an oil and gas agreement with the federal government. I wonder, has this government ever considered taking the ball by the horns and saying, "What we would like to..."

AN HON. MEMBER: The bull.

MR. BALLANTYNE: ...the bull by the horns -- the ball of the bull by the horns...

AN HON. MEMBER: Just strike that from the record please.

---Laughter

MR. BALLANTYNE: The bull by the horns...

MR. McCALLUM: That is a Freudian slip.

MR. BALLANTYNE: What can I say? And saying, "We would like the same arrangement that you have agreed to in Newfoundland, that you have agreed to in Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia and Nova Scotia and we are prepared to have that amount including Norman Wells revenue subtracted from the actual grant we receive from the federal government." If that happens, even though we do not have more dollars, it puts us in a much stronger psychological position. We are not perceived as a welfare territory that is just getting handouts. Has any thought been given to actually doing that, making a direct approach and using the formulas you have already established, using those same principles? We are Canadians with the same rights as other Canadians. That is what I would like to do.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Precepts Presented To Federal Government

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, it might be of interest to bring to your attention the points for negotiations of principles involved and I will read the appropriate points. These points that Members are raising generally are the kind of comments that I, as Minister in the government, have been hoping for, that we have to get a little more political. Not only in this chamber but on every speaking engagement I think we have to hammer the point that the territorial government has to have a share of its resources. I think it is an interesting subject. I think the sky is the limit and it will depend on what kind of lobbying the territorial government is doing, not only the Executive Council. The Executive Council is open to comments. I say it is a limited forum and we are going to need the understanding and support of the MLAs as well. I think the points that you have just raised are just so overwhelming that the time, as you say, has arrived that we have to get our share of the resources. I think to address some of the immediate negotiating points, I would like Al Zariwny to read some of our highlights, some of the principles that we have presented to the federal government, which might be able to fit your comments. Thank you.

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

MR. ZARIWNY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As Mr. Curley has mentioned, there are four precepts that were conveyed to the federal government as well as a number of negotiating points or points for negotiation under these precepts.

The precept that is relevant to the discussion that was just on hand is this: The objectives of the negotiations are to provide the GNWT with a stable and secure source of funding to replace in part, the current deficit and grant paid to the GNWT and to provide a greater level of funding consistent with the GNWT move to responsible government. Under that precept are the two points: that a special revenue sharing formula be derived to moderate fluctuations in resource revenues accruing to the GNWT; and that the GNWT receive through a revenue sharing formula a level of resource revenues sufficient to ensure fiscal equity of its residents with that of other Canadians.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Now, I take it that principle has to do with the Bent Horn negotiations. Is that what we are talking about or is that some general principle? It might be worth while in the very near future for Mr. Curley to ask for a meeting with Pat Carney and say that you on behalf of the Territories want to start negotiations for resource revenue sharing on the same basis that agreements have been made in the South, and say that we do not have any intention at this point in time of trying to own the resources. That is not the important thing right now. We understand the national interest. We understand the problems involved with ownership. We are responsible. What we want is the same sort of deal that they have in the South. I think it is a good time to make that point and to meet this issue head on.

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

Proposals To Extend Norman Wells Pipeline

MR. MacQUARRIE: I think many Members agree that generally our government and the people of the NWT did not benefit as much as they should have with the building of the Norman Wells pipeline, and we would not want to be caught flat-footed in the future. We now, I think, have some lessons that would enable us to get a better deal but we will only do that if we are on top of things. I know that there has been a fair amount of exploration activity in the Mackenzie Valley, not too far from

Norman Wells. I think there has been exploration activity in the Delta, onshore, as well. Could the Minister give some indication of the extent of that activity? I know also that there was talk at one point, very vague at that time, about the possibility of extending that line into the Delta region. So could I ask the Minister whether he has heard of any firm plans by Esso or any other company to consider an extension to that pipeline? And if so, what time frame are people looking at?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, yes, the Executive Council has received a number of briefings from a number of oil companies and that is including Esso, Polar Gas, their initial interest and plans to put forward a proposal for either extending existing pipelines or new proposals for building a pipeline through the valley. At the moment, they have been merely I think a presentation of their initial ideas and plans. Before long they might be presenting more formal presentations to the federal government. In view of the recent Esso oil discovery in the Beaufort, I would think these proponents will intensify their proposals since we have been briefed through correspondence on the oil find. But I think by this spring and summer, we will likely be hearing a whole lot more redefined actual plans for pipeline construction. It is too early for me to try and indicate as to how it will be, because until the plans are finalized, it is a bit early to make them public. The discussions that we have had were more of a private nature with the Executive Council through our resources committee in the Executive Council. I know of the two that Polar Gas has some interest. Esso did indicate their interest toward the whole pipeline possibility but if Mr. Zariwny knows of any other, he can make some indication. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, a bit of a technical question. Maybe Mr. Zariwny could answer just to let me know more clearly where things are at. I understood that the capacity of the 12 inch line was 25,000 barrels a day, that that was its maximum capacity, and that the expansion project at Norman Wells would use up slightly more than half of that capacity so that there was room for some extension or expansion in the existing line. Could the Minister or Mr. Zariwny clarify that, please?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Zariwny.

MR. ZARIWNY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The capacity of the existing pipeline is 50,000 barrels per day. However, that would require additional pumping stations to be added to it to bring it up to that capacity. I understand with the pumping stations that would be there now, it would handle 25,000 barrels per day. The adding of pumping stations is called "looping". So as you loop your pipeline, you increase your capacity.

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

Time Seems Opportune For Agreement

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to continue, to some degree, to emphasize again, the remarks of my colleague, Mr. Ballantyne, in providing some advice to the Minister about meetings with the federal Minister of Energy. I know that there is a deadline for the western Energy Ministers and the federal ministers to reach a price agreement on energy sources. Not so much in that regard -- that is on pricing -- but the idea that now the time seems to be opportune to approach the Minister with a similar proposal to what has been developed with Newfoundland and Nova Scotia particularly, with not so much the ownership of those resources, but with the idea that the resources are coming from the Territories.

We know what we are going to get hit with in terms of pricing. Just to comment a moment on what the Minister talks about with Polar Gas. You know it seems incredible that there is the possibility that this source may go out of the Territories and we here in the Territories do not use the gas. We have to pay the exorbitant price for fuel oil and oil to generate electricity in other parts of the Territories when we have that resource going out.

The problem is the same as the problem that has hit the western provinces with raw materials being shipped to central Canada and buying back and paying the cost of shipping the raw material and paying the cost of getting the finished product back. The same thing happened in the eastern

provinces years ago. We cannot, in the Territories, go along with that same kind of an arrangement. Surely we have learned from the difficulties in the past and again I would simply just reiterate what Mr. Ballantyne has said, that you are looking for any kind of support from Members of this Assembly to get on with the idea of meeting the federal Minister on this very important issue because it has a lot to do with the way in which we are going to conduct ourselves.

In your responsibilities and your portfolios as other Ministers, there is always a demand for increased services being made of you and this can be the opportunity whereby you can provide those services and programs to other people across the Territories if we get some kind of good deal going. The time, as I said Mr. Minister, is opportune. If the provinces can put a deadline to the federal ministry to work out a pricing deal, surely we can do the same thing with the resources that we have that are being taken out of the Territories. We are not looking to owning them, we are looking to some kind of revenue from them. I just want to emphasize that again.

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

Negotiation Of Revenue Sharing By Aboriginal Groups

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to say that I share this great desire to work on revenue sharing. The Norman Wells and the area around Norman Wells -- the region, I know, is very busy looking for oil and there have been various small pockets of gas found here and there. In my constituency it is a very big concern with local people. I know that the native groups have an interest in working on revenue sharing as well. I would like to ask the Minister whether or not his department is supportive of aboriginal groups negotiating revenue sharing.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I see that the Members seem to support the urgency of the settling of the resource revenue sharing and management with the federal government. I would just like to say it will likely, and I think it is an important and serious issue that I think requires urgent priority. I, as a Minister responsible, feel that urgency as well but we do have certain things that are holding us back a bit and one is person years that are lacking in our shop. It may be that as time goes on we will likely have to establish more specialized additions to deal with the specific resource revenue issue. I know that I am working with my colleague, the Minister of Finance on the matter but in my view that contingent is going to have to be strengthened to try to respond to the federal government and all the opportunities here. I know that they are anxious to settle energy-related disputes with the provinces and their communication with us also indicates that there has to be some type of settlement with the territorial government. We will certainly take your points as a serious message to the government that this area is urgent and requires a possibility of higher priority in the government.

I would like to respond to John T'Seleie. I notice that he is concerned with the native organizations. The resource revenue sharing document that we presented to the federal government specifically indicates that we support the royalties concept that the native organization included in their land claim. We do believe that they have that right and our proposal as a government does not interfere because we specifically indicated that support of the native organizations, native claims, share of royalties and it is just as important as the government, that they reach agreements with the federal government.

We also feel that this government is responsible for establishing and building infrastructures whether they be education, roads or other public institutions required to serve the public as a territory and that it is important, urgent, that we settle the issue of resource revenue as a government. Thank you.

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

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I leave it up to the Minister to answer this question whether he wants to or not. I would like to ask the Minister how he feels about being responsible for this department when he is from another part of the country.

---Laughter

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Benefits From Involvement In Development

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: All I can say is, it is challenging. Before I came here I had always believed that the resource development in the Territories creates opportunities for not only native people but for others and for small business. You can be any type of small business. You do have an opportunity to develop and grow and establish for yourself a special role in the Northwest Territories. I share Mr. Crombie's statement that resource development has to have the support and the benefits must accrue to the people directly involved and the region that it affects. I am all for that because I do not see that the resource development areas ought to be just places where social problems develop. This is why, in my area, in the High Arctic and in every place I go, the more you can get your own people, the community, involved in getting business opportunities to service the industry, the more pride and confidence you give to the community, the local economic base is healthy and the job opportunities accrue to the people directly involved with the development. So on that basis I am excited about the prospects and the potential that we have and I am encouraged to hear some of the support that we are getting from the Members out here. The benefit will only be based, I think, on the amount of interest expressed with the development taking place and I think we are starting to hear from the business communities, from chambers of commerce, from the native corporations that have developed to take part in exploration and servicing the industry throughout the Territories whether it be transportation or drilling or whatnot. I think we are building our support base in the Territories. Now we have to get into the heart of the whole thing by concluding the formula for resource revenue sharing. I think that is the challenge that the government is facing today, that the North has reached a stage where it is ready to deal with big business. From that point of view, I see the challenge to not only me, but to every citizen of the Territories. Thank you.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: To comment a little on the concerns raised by Mr. T'Seleie, I certainly appreciate the concern that he has expressed and recognize the legitimate claim of aboriginal people to a share of the resources. But I also feel that we are at an opportune moment in history when we can maybe conclude some agreements that will be to the general benefit of people throughout the NWT, and opportunities for economic development which will be a benefit to people throughout the NWT. I would urge the Minister to move ahead on the kind of agreement that he is thinking about because I really do believe that kind of general agreement could be concluded for resource revenue sharing without prejudice to any claims that might be won by aboriginal peoples. That can be addressed legally to safeguard those claims in the future.

Thinking of it in the opposite direction, I think that it would not be desirable just to let these things sit until land claims are concluded completely because we would miss some opportunities that would benefit all people, including aboriginal people, as citizens of the public government in the NWT. And without some of this opportunity being taken advantage of at the present time, as I say, we would miss those opportunities, but also there would be less incentive perhaps for aboriginal people to move ahead with reaching reasonable agreements in land claims settlements. So, while I am sensitive to Mr. T'Seleie's concerns I would still support the Minister in moving ahead in that direction.

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

Community Input To Assessment Of Norman Wells Project

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, the territorial government is right now beginning to assess the Norman Wells experience. Earlier today, Mr. Nerysoo said that there would be a group set up under the Regional Operations Secretariat that would have the job of co-ordinating this assessment among various government departments. I wonder if the Minister could tell me what process community people could use to have their assessments of this project find their way into any report that would be tabled before us once this review is completed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was not really up to date on the details of the announcement today but I do know that regional operations, which is the secretariat responsible for monitoring major development activities throughout the Territories, are responsible for keeping track of those projects that are operating throughout the Territories. What I do want to say is

that I think the best approach in order to seek any input is that definitely the regional offices must be approached as well as Darryl Bohnet -- I do not know exactly where he operates out of, probably through Norman Wells. I would say as well through the Government Leader, who made the announcement today, that more information can be obtained from him. As for clarification as to how the monitoring is going to be carried out, we are not directly involved in the operational level. Our job is really to settle the policy and negotiate with the federal government. We are not directly involved in the operational level by observing those kinds of projects as was announced today. So, I would urge the Member to seek clarification from the Minister of Justice and Public Services. He is also responsible for regional operations and therefore would be able to provide further information to them.

Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Energy, Mines and Resources Secretariat. Total 0 and M, \$1,194,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Does the committee agree then that Energy, Mines and Resources Secretariat is concluded?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): I would like to thank Mr. Zariwny. Mr. Paniloo.

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you. I would like to ask about energy. I would like to get more information on this as to how this will be carried out in the Baffin Region, in more detail. I was informed by my constituents and I could not fully understand just exactly what this was all about. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) I do not really understand just exactly what you are talking about. I sort of heard about the oil company or the energy, or are you asking about NCPC? Those that were mentioned during the question period, Sam Gargan asked about the increase in prices. I was going to bring this up later on. The National Energy Board had a public hearing but the NCPC prices are not consistent throughout the NWT. I do not think this will proceed until maybe perhaps in some years to come. They will just be leaving it just exactly the way it has been before. I think that is how it is.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. I would like to thank the witness, Mr. Zariwny. Before we get into the Public Utilities Board, we will take a five minute break so the Minister can get his papers. Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would like with your permission again to have Mr. Zariwny present for the matter. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Does the committee agree?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Okay, we will take a five minute break.

---SHORT RECESS

The committee will come to order. We are dealing with a new item. I would like to ask the Minister to reintroduce his witness.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to introduce to you the secretary of the Energy, Mines and Resources Secretariat, Al Zariwny.

Public Utilities Board

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Have you any opening statements? We are dealing with the Public Utilities Board. General comments. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: One of the recommendations of the Penner Report was that the Public Utilities Board takes on a stronger regulatory responsibility in the Northwest Territories and I wonder if the Minister could bring us up to date in development in that area?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, we in the government have recommended increasing the membership of the Public Utilities Board from three to five at the moment. That is one of the recommendations. Again, also, I did recently write a substantial letter to the chairman of the Public Utilities Board for them to make an appropriate recommendation to the government. They are an independent board so we thought it was appropriate that they provide us with their plans for the kind of expanded role that they could foresee for themselves. We are waiting to receive from them, the appropriate possible legislative changes that they would require to have a broader role in the regulatory role in the Territories. At the moment this -- I think the appropriate word is "review" -- has not been completed and until that is done I will not be able to make the appropriate recommendation, but I think it will likely coincide with any major federal government and territorial government agreement to deal with the electricity and energy-related issues with respect to power and so on in the Territories. Thank you.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: One of the historic problems with the Public Utilities Board is that NCPC, though they appear in front of the board, are not bound by law by the decisions of the board. I remember a number of years ago when, in my role as mayor of Yellowknife, we made a presentation to the PUB board and we recommended that NCPC pay the cost of our utilities consultant. The PUB agreed and directed NCPC to do so and they refused. That was the beginning of the process that ultimately led to that potential law suit that you alluded to earlier by this government against NCPC. What, right now, is the status of the power of the PUB to direct NCPC? Does NCPC have any statutory requirement to follow the direction of the board? I do not think that they do.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Status Of Regulatory Role Of PUB

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There have not been any changes with respect to the increased regulatory role of the PUB. In effect I think the Northern Canada Power Commission Act must be changed if they are going to be regulated by the PUB. We are subject to this National Energy Board because it is the only regulatory forum that the federal government feel has any powers to regulate NCPC with the present set-up. I am pleased to announce, though earlier I did indicate, that we did receive a commitment from the Minister of Indian Affairs that he is prepared to review the policy respecting the Northern Canada Power Commission and not wait until 1987. These are his direct words and he intends to do so now. I will briefly read one sentence here. "This will include the broad range of alternatives open to the government, including the appropriate electricity pricing and corresponding subsidies." I think through that we are given an open window to try and come to an agreement with the federal government on a broader range of the issues including the possibility of trying to change the regulatory review to the PUB for NCPC. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. General comments. Mr. Ballantyne. Your microphone please. Your microphone is not turned on.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I remember in 1980, Mr. Munro essentially said the same thing that he was going to review it and at the end of the process nothing was done.

AN HON. MEMBER: Are you blaming Mr. Crombie?

MR. McCALLUM: Partisan politics, is that what this is? Sure.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I understand that sometime in the near future there is a possibility that the present chairman of the NCPC board might be resigning.

AN HON. MEMBER: I hope so.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Yes, but what particular...

MR. McCALLUM: Fat chance.

MR. BALLANTYNE: ...influence does this government have in recommending a replacement for Mr. Smith if and when he resigns?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You really have to ask the Prime Minister, it seems to me he is pork barrelling all the cronies...

---Laughter

...his own cronies and I am really not in a position to say anything. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Well, if it is the Prime Minister's pork barrel do we have any pork that we could, perhaps, fry? Any ideas of anybody we could recommend?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I am not in the league engaged in these kinds of patronage but surely, Mr. Chairman -- I think I was asked by the Executive Council which was briefly entertaining that possibility. We have been asked first of all to have it confirmed by the Minister responsible for NCPC, Mr. Crombie, to see if in fact that is the case. If that is the case then we would then be prepared to recommend to him, with appropriate consultation, to see if maybe it might be an appropriate time for a territorial member as the chairman of the NCPC since we pay quite a contribution to NCPC. In that regard I would strongly feel that the time has arrived if and when Mr. James Smith would resign. I see it only as a rumour at the moment so therefore I am not prepared to indicate otherwise. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. General comments. Does the committee agree that the matter of the Public Utilities Board is concluded? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Executive Council Secretariat, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Executive Council Secretariat, total O and M, \$2,702,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. I would like to thank the Minister and Mr. Zariwny. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I wanted the opportunity for Mr. Nerysoo to speak. He was going to make a statement, he assured us earlier in the session, on the priorities and on some of the government reorganizations so I hope that by that vote we have not precluded the opportunity for Mr. Nerysoo to speak.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe that I will be speaking primarily on the reorganization issue. From my comments previously and in the discussions on priorities I gave some pretty clear indication of what the process was about. What we are prepared to do is to develop a fairly concise document to reflect the kinds of things that may happen in the upcoming year and it

may not be available for tabling at this particular session but it may be available at the next session but I will be making a statement on the reorganization of the department itself. That is the reason I have not proceeded to conclude the department today, the speech is now being concluded.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: I am a little bit unclear. So we have not finished the Executive so will you be making some sort of a statement?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Okay, that is fair enough.

Department Of Social Services

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Yes, we still have two small items to deal with before concluding the Executive. We are now on the Department of Social Services. Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Chairman, could I invite my deputy minister, Paul Moody, and my assistant deputy minister, Blair Dunbar, into the House please?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Is it agreed that the Minister brings in his witnesses? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Aqreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. Mr. Minister. We are on administration, I believe, detailed budget. Total O and M is \$7,807,000. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Are we on general comments? Again in this particular area there is \$314,000 in priority funding and again there were no programs in place when we discussed this in the fall. Do you have programs developed for these three areas of funding?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The \$314,000 is divided into three priority items. The first \$65,000 for community development to establish one or more pilot projects designed to assist communities to identify social problems and prepare programs to reduce dependency on government. The second \$149,000 for one PY in the youth initiative with alcohol and drugs to provide youth in communities with information on causes and effects of alcohol and drug misuse through employing youth in selected communities to design and deliver workshops. The third, \$100,000 on youth initiatives in respect of the Year of the Youth to provide funds for pilot projects such as a youth council to assist youth in making their concerns and proposals known to the Government of the Northwest Territories.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: I think I asked that question yesterday but I wanted to make sure that Minister would answer it the same on both days. I am sorry. I did ask that yesterday and I think you answered it yesterday.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Does the committee agree we go into details of Social Services? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Administration, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. Administration. Total O and M, \$7,807,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Family And Children's Services

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Family and children's services. Total O and M, \$5,682,000. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: In this particular area, even though it is not specifically referred to in the objectives, indirectly one of the objectives is to establish standards for child care workers and continue training activities to assist staff in improving skills. Now if I get into the broad area of day care I think the Minister is aware of the concern in many communities that there is not adequate provision of day care services. It is something that historically this government has been involved in, in an ad hoc fashion, helping different groups depending on whether or not money was available, depending on certain circumstances. Is there a commitment now on the part of your department to try to co-ordinate and to rationalize assistance, generally, to day care in the Northwest Territories?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Day Care Funding

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The proposal that we have regarding legislation for day care would only be to set standards for facilities and for workers so that when people put their children in a day care program they will know what type of service they are going to receive, what are the minimum requirements for that service. We would have to take into consideration that in a large community like Yellowknife there are expectations of service and capability of delivering services that are different than in a small community. So we would have to have, possibly, different levels of day care described in those standards. As far as funding goes, the funding involvement that we are in as a program is to assist single parents or two parents if they are poor enough; usually it is a single parent who has to work and requires assistance with day care. We give that directly to the person so they can use it to pay for their day care. That is the only funding we do except for a few cases where buildings in the Northwest Territories that were government buildings have programs in the Department of Social Services -- and sometimes it is day care -- going on in the buildings. There we sometimes still pay the utilities, for example through DPW, but that is not a policy we have across the Territories to do that for day care.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: I am aware of the present situation and I do not think that this government has really come to grips with the problem. Do you consider it to be a priority or mandate of your department to come up with an overall policy on more than just standards for facilities and workers, but an overall policy looking at all aspects of day care? I mean the possibility of increasing tax credits for people that have children in day care facilities, of dealing with the federal government in looking at the accessing of federal programs. Again, it is an area where there has not been an overall co-ordinated approach. I think until we have one that we are never going to have anything more than a band-aid solution to day care problems.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Federal Initiatives In Day Care

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, at the opening of the new Parliament during the Speech from the Throne, the new government indicated that there would be a parliamentary task force on day care in the country. At meetings with Social Services Ministers and with the Hon. Jake Epp, the Minister of Health and Welfare Canada, it was indicated to him by all the jurisdictions including ours, that if the federal government was going to take initiatives in this area that we would require funding in our jurisdictions, that the provinces and the territories did not have the resources to approach something like universal day care. We were concerned that the expectations that task force might raise would put us in a position where people were expecting something that none of the jurisdictions had the funding to deliver. We also discussed with him the possibility of using tax measures, through taxation or tax deductions, to improve it. In that case it will probably end up being mainly federally funded or subsidized. But we said that we did not have the resources as a province or as territories to fund any kind of a new initiative for day care.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Has the case been made to the federal government that in areas of the country that have an extremely high cost of living, for many women and/or men, that generally, there is a necessity for a second wage in order to maintain one's standard of living? Now, has that case been made to the federal government that perhaps they should look at areas in the country with a high cost of living and have some special consideration for those areas?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Review Of Provincial Regimes

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: That is a good point, Mr. Chairman. I will certainly make sure that anything my department works up in relation to that task force incorporates that idea into it. As well, I think I should say that there are different regimes in some of the other jurisdictions. I think I mentioned it once before, either in the standing committee or in this committee, that I believe Saskatchewan has a plan whereby when a new day care facility, whether it is private or co-operative or volunteer, is built, they give so much funding for each place in the day care facility when it is started up. They also give so much funding per year for each place in day care to help with the O and M. So I have asked officials in my department to look at different schemes and see what it would cost us -- just basically as a briefing for me. I have not initiated any kind of proposal to the Executive Council for funds because I know that we do not have the resources to approach that at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Day care is something that I found in the last six years or so that I have been in politics to be probably the single most important issue in many cases and it seems to be an issue that has not really been dealt with. In the last election I know in the major communities, and beginning in some of the smaller communities, the expectation is that day care is not a luxury in the North. I know that there are many, many people in my constituency who really think that this government should come to grips with it. I, for one, would encourage the Minister to start considering the whole concept of improving the delivery of day care programs in the North as a priority. When we are talking about the idea of preparing legislation for day care standards, I would just caution the Minister, I know there is an umbrella organization in Yellowknife that is trying to work out some of the principles of standards. In our discussions with them what they are suggesting is to start off with voluntary standards, to educate the public as to the standards that should be adopted. But there is a fear that if legislation is imposed at this time, what will probably happen is that many institutions that are providing day care services now will not meet those standards, and that probably the number of facilities in Yellowknife for instance would be decreased. So what they are suggesting is, though there is a very important concern with standards, safety, fire, etc., that it should be phased in. The logical way of approaching it is to come up first with some voluntary standards and then over a period of time bring in the appropriate legislation. Has the Minister considered that approach?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Flexibility In Regulations

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Chairman, that is why I said that to take into consideration the smaller communities, we would probably have to have different levels of service identified for the communities. In that area we would allow for differences; smaller communities might have different qualities of facilities described as being the minimum, at least to start with. The other area that we would want to talk about in legislation is the qualifications of the day care workers themselves. That would also have to be a consideration for smaller communities. We would have to allow them time to train people which might be done by regulation. I think the most flexible thing would be to have a regulation for each community giving them specific time periods to comply. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Again, I understand the government's concern that people who are providing child care services have adequate training. But again, we have to be very careful with the legislation because the fact now is there are probably many people in Yellowknife, again for example, who do not have formal training but have managed to successfully bring up four or five children, so they

provide the sort of atmosphere that many parents want for their kids. So I would say we have to be very careful with legislation, that it does not cause more of a problem than already exists. That happens many times so I just caution the Minister to consult with all the groups involved in day care before any legislation is actually brought down.

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

Payment For Foster Care

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask the Minister a question about the rates provided by the department for care of children in foster homes. I understand that the rates vary in communities but nine dollars to 12 dollars per day are the rates in a community like Yellowknife. My colleague, Mr. MacQuarrie just yesterday asked a question of the Minister of Government Services to confirm that the government actually issues T4 slips which would indicate that the foster parent is not receiving in fact nine dollars or 12 dollars but that figure less whatever taxes are owing. So, I would like to ask the Minister when were these rates last increased? Does the department have any plans for increasing these rates in the near future? Finally, Mr. Chairman, on this point, I understand that some of the recipients of the cheques from the government, the foster parents, experience some problems when they get these cheques. A cheque is issued for a total sum of money with no explanation of the detail that the amount represents. If the Minister could comment on that as well, please. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Areas Of Taxable Income

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you. On the first issue, as far as the taxation side of it goes, apparently it has been people who are boarding students from Akaitcho Hall that have been getting the taxation notices. Foster care payments are excluded in Revenue Canada regulations, so it is not necessary for us to issue anything to people that are giving foster care. There is an exclusion. I am saying that, because they are not given any taxation slips to start with indicating that they have that as income. I think the only case where there might be income is when sometimes we make contracts with people guaranteeing that they will hold a place for us so that at any time in an emergency, we know that we have a bed, or a bedroom or a house to put a person in. In those cases that is considered income.

The daily rate for foster care is just enough to cover the cost of food and clothing and the last time those rates were changed was in 1982, Mr. Chairman. I had discussions last month with officials in the department about the whole regime of rates in Yellowknife. The medical boarding home rates being one thing, the daily rate that people got for boarding students from Akaitcho Hall would be another rate, and foster home rates being another rate. I did not understand why there are differences and my assistant deputy minister, Mr. Dunbar, explained to me that they were going to be coming forward with a proposal. I think maybe he would be the best person to indicate to you what cheques were issued with no explanation. I would not know the answer to that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Dunbar.

MR. DUNBAR: Mr. Chairman, the people who serve as foster parents have a close contact with their social workers and the explanation about the various parts which make up their total cheque are usually given during those discussions. We also encourage the foster parents. We provide them with a written contractual type of sheet which provides this information to them as well.

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

MR. RICHARD: Could the Minister indicate whether there are any concrete plans for increasing these rates in the near future?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When I discussed that with Mr. Dunbar last month I asked him to review what the existing rates are. I also asked him to try to rationalize them with the Department of Education and with Health and Welfare Canada because it seems that the service is almost identical in a lot of cases and we should not have a bunch of different rates or

departments competing with each other for beds, and that sort of thing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, I will make a point of discussing with my officials if they think the existing rates are adequate or not. We will let the Member know if there are any changes proposed in the near future. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Family and children's services, Mr. MacQuarrie.

Government Contributions Toward Day Care

MR. MacQUARRIE: Could I ask the Minister what is the total amount that this government allocated last year for day care or sometimes called child care services? I know that we do it for people who are unable to pay rates; that is the way it is done now. Can I get an idea of what that total comes to? What is our contribution toward day care services in the Northwest Territories?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: It was less than \$90,000 last year.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: That is not a very big sum at all and I would like to second some of the comments that were made by my colleague, Mr. Ballantyne, with respect to the need to look at day care more comprehensively and also the caution about being premature with legislation, that indeed it could hinder in some ways the development of day care. I know there are people who are concerned about standards but would like to see first the approach of people who are knowledgeable in the area of day care attempting to set some voluntary standards and I think that that makes sense.

Another question that I have is with respect to contributions. I notice that they total \$92,000 in these estimates, \$46,000 last year. It is a significant increase in terms of percentage. Could I ask for a breakdown on the contributions? To whom were they made in the past year?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, two things, Mr. Chairman. The first thing is I would just like to indicate to the Member that when I said there was less than \$90,000 paid out, I should make the Member aware that the money comes out of social assistance, it is not actually on this page in the budget. Because it is under social assistance there is no specific amount set. That amount of money was asked for, \$88,000. That is the amount for applications that were approved of people qualified to get day care through social assistance. Just to make Members aware that we do not strike an amount in our budget for that specifically.

There was one grant given out for \$46,000 to the NWT Family Counselling Services last year.

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

Total Support To Day Care

MR. MacQUARRIE: I gather though that there are sometimes grants made in other communities where they are attempting to set up some day care facilities and so on, and so I was looking for a total amount including that given under the social assistance, the total amount that this government gives to support day care in the Northwest Territories. So it is bigger than the \$90,000, but by how much?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, to clear one thing up, that figure of \$46,000 will be doubled this year because the federal funding has run out for them and we are going to make up the difference in that particular case.

We do not have those costs in our budget. I do not know if we could get those extracted from DPW or not because I know that there are several different volunteer agencies and organizations in several communities throughout the Territories that have moved into buildings which the government has given up to them because the government has new buildings or federal buildings that we have

bought for one dollar or something like that. But what it is actually costing us to pay the utilities in those buildings I have no idea at all. I think the only way you could find out would be to ask the Department of Public Works, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you. Well, wherever it comes from it appears that it is a pitifully small amount in total that we are giving toward day care assistance in view of the scope of the problem. We hear time and again from women in many communities, not only single parents with small children, that there is a general need for day care assistance and it does not seem to be very great.

One other question that I would have is there is another type of organization in Yellowknife and I do not know whether this type of organization exists anywhere else; it is called "Moms and Tots". These are people who choose a different style. I guess they are families that feel that they should make do with a lower standard of living and one of the parents remain home with the children. That is certainly something I approve of and I know they are largely a self-help organization. My question is does the Department of Social Services make any contribution toward that group or other similar groups in the Northwest Territories?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: I know for sure that we do not give any funds to that organization, Mr. Chairman, but I am not sure if we do fund any other organization similar to it -- no, we do not. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Family and children's services, Mr. Ballantyne?

MR. BALLANTYNE: If I could change the topic, this has to do with the implementation of the Young Offenders Act. I wonder if the Minister could bring us up to date as to the funding requests made to the federal government to assist our government in carrying out our responsibilities under the Young Offenders Act.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Status Of Treasury Board Submission Regarding Young Offenders Act

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Chairman, we have submissions before the federal Treasury Board on the Young Offenders Act and they have been there since around June of last year. With the change of government we had to start over again with new Ministers and get approval. What we are trying to do is get that part of the funds which the Solicitor General does not cover. Members should be aware that for a province the Solicitor General's office covers part of the costs of the implementation of the Young Offenders Act and the other costs are to be borne by the provinces. In our case we do not have those resources built into our base budget -- particularly, one example is the capital cost required for secure custody -- so we have a Treasury Board submission. We are requesting a total of one million dollars per year for O and M and, as well, we are requesting capital funds to build some facilities.

I have been in contact with the Minister's office and brought to him the importance of the fact that April 1st is upon us, that 16 and 17 year olds will become young offenders, rather than adult offenders on April the 1st, and we are having to make do with our present facilities and resources for the time being. But because the act is in place we have no choice but to spend money so we are spending unbudgeted money really to cover this right now.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I understand then, the province is responsible for paying 100 per cent of the capital cost and 50 per cent of the O and M cost. I think this is our first major test base in formula financing and I see this as clearly a federal government initiative. Under the terms and conditions of formula financing I can see no way that we should have to bear any of the costs involved with implementation of the Young Offenders Act.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, this is definitely seen by this government as being outside of the formula funding. It is a new initiative taken by the federal government and it is causing us some problems. At one stage the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs officials, from whom we require funding, were trying to make the case that the Solicitor General should pick up all the costs in the Northwest Territories, but he is unwilling to do so. So the ball is now back in the court of the federal Department of Indian and Northern Affairs and my assistant deputy minister has been in contact with the chief of staff in the Minister's office over the urgency of this. We are expecting officials from the Department of Indian Affairs in Yellowknife shortly and I have been advised that one of the political staff in the Minister's office will be accompanying them to see first hand what the situation is. So the Minister himself is aware of our concerns in this area. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Transfer Of Children With Behavioural Problems To Other Communities

MR. ANGOTTITAUROUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not know if this was already mentioned, but while we are under family and children's services I would like to make comments and probably hope for a reply. In my constituency and I do not think in my constituency alone, there have been some children from other communities that were brought in -- we had one from Cambridge Bay and I believe we had one also that came from Baker Lake -- children who had a behavioural problem. My understanding of the story I have heard about the whole thing is that these children were brought up to our community because they had some problems in their own community and they were moved to another community, which they said was a better place than where they were being brought up. If that was the case, hearing from the social services committee, which handles most of these kinds of problems, their concern was that they did not think that we should bring any of these types of people to the other communities using the reason that this community is better than the other, and that these children are going to be brought to this community, to a better place where they could learn from better children.

The social services committee's idea was that they seemed to feel that they were just children coming from another community to spread their behaviour across the Territories. I agreed with them at that time and I still do. I know they have been trying to help but mostly it seems that when you bring in a child with a behavioural problem, that they are just spreading the whole thing to another community. At that time before, it seemed quite evident -- at that time, before those children -- that was about seven years at least now, that they have been brought in. My community totally refuses those types if they can avoid it because already today, even with the settlement's own development it seems clear that it is spreading already. The social services committee in the community seems to completely refuse them. If they could be listened to by your department, that instead of bringing any of these types of children to other communities, it would have been better that they have a centre somewhere else where they could be together and be talked to at the same time, rather than bringing them to another community and letting the whole system of behavioural problems start spreading much faster than it is today. I am wondering if your department is going to look into that seriously. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Children Who Are Wards Of The Government

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Often children become wards of the government and whenever possible we try to find foster homes for children in homes where people want to be foster parents. Sometimes in the community where the child is originally from there may be no foster parents available at the time. Or sometimes it is better for the child to go to another community because there may be relatives in this community. The children who are going to school maybe give him a bad time after he is taken away from his family as a ward. So we often have to move children to another community, for various reasons.

If children have extreme behavioural problems we do have group homes in several places in the Northwest Territories in which to put them. If they have very extreme behavioural problems we have a facility in Fort Smith with professionals there that work with children that have very extreme behavioural problems and oftentimes we send children to facilities to southern Canada if we are unable to handle them in the Northwest Territories.

In general, it is the aim of the department to keep children in their own communities but there are occasions where children have to be put into other communities due to lack of foster facilities in the home community or because it is better for the child to be taken out of this community for at least a short period of time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Family and children's services, Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, just in relation to the young offenders program could the Minister outline to me just what he intends to do now regarding the young offenders program and ways of where these people are going to be placed. It is my understanding that because of the decision by the Solicitor General that the Minister intends now to use existing facilities in various communities. I just indicate to him because I am not sure whether he said these words, but the quote is attributed to him, that he was going to "slap" something up in Fort Smith but he did not think we needed it, and now we do not have time. It was my understanding when I looked at the plans for that particular facility in Fort Smith that for the cost of it, it would be pretty hard to slap something up regardless of where it would be, but I just wonder what he is going to use now. Does he intend to slap something up in other communities, or what does he intend to do in particular areas under the young offenders program?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Facilities For Young Offenders

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the case of 13, 14 and 15 year olds, of which there have only been four cases in the last year, secure custody will continue to be provided for them in Fort Smith. We are making arrangements to use a dormitory out at YCC in order to keep 16 and 17 year olds there, and we will be able to keep them separate and apart, according to the law, out there. If that is not enough space, the Department of Public Works has looked at the old children's receiving home in Inuvik as well as the one in Hay River. The one in Inuvik is probably the one we would use first out of those two because our department actually is still using that facility. The facility in Hay River is being used as an adult education centre right now but I have put the Department of Education on warning, that if we run into problems we may have to use that facility. In fact we may have to use that facility this summer regardless, while we are doing renovations at the Yellowknife Correctional Centre. As for the long-term plans, are the Members aware that we were going to build a facility in Fort Smith for secure custody? The reason we decided not to do that was there were very good indications from the Solicitor General that he was personally favourable to having custody not separate and apart for a couple of years. So when we heard that we decided to cancel that project and look at the demands by region to have facilities in each region rather than one large centre. This is also in keeping really with the spirit of the ordinance which is to have young offenders dealt with as close to home as possible, preferably in their own communities when it is possible. So what the Executive Council instructed me to do at that stage was to come up with a proposal to take before them to build smaller regional facilities and that has not yet come to me from my department to take to the Financial Management Board.

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

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I have to refer to a capital item here in order to ask the question. I think it maybe deals with this. Is that what the money to renovate the correctional centre is for in the capital plan? If it is not, is there some kind of a determination of what you are going to do, or what it is going to be costing to renovate whatever part of that facility you are going to use at the YCC?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: No, Mr. Chairman, the budget item the Member is referring to is a project over two or three years of major renovations to the Yellowknife Correctional Centre including a leaky roof and a wall with no insulation in it, and a few other major problems the building has. There is only a minor expenditure for work in the existing dormitory in order to accommodate the 16 and 17 year olds. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under family and children's services the second paragraph there, "Evaluation of programs and facilities will be undertaken and training programs developed to assist our staff in dealing with behavioural and emotional problems of children and families." I was not aware such a program existed. Can the Minister explain to me what program they are talking about?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Evaluation Of Facilities

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Chairman, with the advent of the Young Offenders Act and the Young Offenders Ordinance, we have had to look at what we have in the way of facilities in the Northwest Territories for young offenders who are not going to be sentenced to secure custody. In other words, the judge or the youth justice committee in the community will sentence them to a group home or a program in a community. Because we already have existing group homes in some communities we are looking at which of these homes are suitable to use for young offenders. In other words, in a community where a group home already exists, for example, can we jointly use that group home for children that are already in there for other reasons, and can we also put the young offenders in there? Or should we build a new facility for young offenders who are going to be in open custody? Or should we build a new facility to serve both purposes? So we are looking at all the facilities we have in the Territories which have programs in them for children. With this in mind, I think what Members should be aware of is that often the children whom we have as wards who may be in the age range of 13 to 17 year olds -- I guess there will be 17 year olds once the Young Offenders Ordinance comes into effect -- often have problems identical to some of the young offenders and they need the same programs. The only difference is that sometimes the department apprehended the child maybe before the RCMP caught him, so often you have children who are wards of our government and children who are young offenders who really need the same services. So could we provide those in the same facilities and using the same programs and staff?

Another thing is important too, Mr. Chairman, and I believe we have received some criticism from the bench on this on occasion. They are concerned about the resources we have to assess the needs of young offenders. The very fact, as was pointed out yesterday, that there are no psychiatrists available in Yellowknife is a case that we have to look at. We are going to find ourselves in a situation where we are going to have to have an assessment centre with more demands on it than we previously had because now we are going to be dealing with young offenders instead of just wards. Often the sentence by the judge might recommend psychiatric assessment, etc., so we are going to have to look at a major assessment centre with all the back-up resources that are required in such an institution. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was a little confused. Are there any programs that will be set up to deal with problem children and families? I know that from my past experience with different situations that I was involved in, we were never given the proper information nor were there services available to individual families that have problems with their children.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Family Counselling Services

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Family counselling, especially where you have a situation where children are at odds with their parents, is something that the department attempts to do through its social workers in the field. In order to do family counselling, we have some people on staff who have specialized at university or college on family counselling. This is often a daily routine in a part of their job and duties.

In Inuvik for example, we have a facility where, after children are apprehended and taken away from their families, often there are family problems to be solved, and not just the problem of the child. The department attempts to do this. We have a facility there, which I referred to earlier and which might be one of the facilities which we will use for the young offenders if we have to, where we are able to bring the families back from a small community into Inuvik. The child will live with the parents on the weekends and slowly rebuild the family relationship. So that is an example of one of the programs and I believe similar work is done in Yellowknife. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I realize that there are such services in Yellowknife, but what about in the smaller communities? How do you anticipate going about that? Do they go by regions or do you put the service right into the community?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: In the small communities most of the social workers do not have the training or the qualifications to deal with complicated family counselling situations but the supervisors, usually in the regional offices or area offices, who travel around to the communities, have that capability. They are able to do that type of counselling when they visit the communities and often are able to explain in detail to the local social worker what she should be doing in a certain existing circumstance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I notice in this item that it says that there is no budgeted amount for young offenders programs because negotiations are still going on with the federal government. But do I understand that the operation of these programs was to be jointly funded anyway? There is going to be a GNWT component and not all the funding will come from the federal government for operations, will it?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do have funds shown as revenue from the Solicitor General's office. For the first two years we have a start-up of \$250,000 a year. That shows up as revenue but I do not think it shows up as an expenditure anywhere. No, it does not. But once we have the other part of our funds available through the Treasury Board approval which DIAND is pursuing, then we will be coming in with a supplementary estimate to outline exactly what we are going to be doing with the funds over the year.

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

Publicity On Youth Justice Committees

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The youth justice committees that will be established are under the sponsorship of this department, are they not? Yes. Then I would say that if the new approach to dealing with young offenders is going to be successful, I do think the opportunity is there. In this approach there are open doors to dealing with young people who come to odds with the law from time to time and opportunities to get them on to the right path, I think. But I believe that those opportunities will only be able to be taken advantage of if we have good alternative measures programs in communities. I think that, in turn, depends on there being strong and active youth justice committees. I notice recently that ads are beginning to appear informing people about the establishment of these committees and asking people to get involved. I have a couple of questions with respect to that. First of all, what is the total program that the department is taking to try to get people in communities interested? Are they going to rely solely on radio ads or are direct contacts being made? Is there interest being shown already, even though as I understand it this has only been under way for a very short time?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I have been able to attend a few regional meetings and talk to officials representing various communities all at one time and that gave me the advantage of explaining what the Young Offenders Ordinance is all about and what role communities could play in it. Some communities have sent in names, nominating people to be on youth justice committees. Other communities have inquired about financing, etc. The regional offices are making contact with all the communities to try to work up interest in establishing these committees. I believe a few of them are pretty well on the way.

Relationship Between Local Council And Youth Justice Committee Possible

One of the things that I am personally interested in, because I know and several Members are aware that in some communities the residents are being "committee-ed" to death -- I think Coppermine has 30 committees or something like that -- is to try to involve the local community council whenever

possible. That is why we are making one of the amendments in the Young Offenders Ordinance. This is in order for me to establish a relationship between the youth justice committee and the local municipality so that the municipality will hopefully, either by by-law or motion, in some way be connected with the youth justice committee. This will allow us to give the funds to the local hamlet or council so they can administer the funds rather than have the youth justice committee go through the hoops and hurdles of becoming a society, which is just one extra burden on them.

Because the hamlet has employees, when a person is sentenced by a youth court to do community clean-up, etc., the local council will have employees to help supervise them. There could be a good relationship there, using some existing resources in the community to help youth justice committees work, if they are connected with the local council in some way. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Awareness Of Scope Of Authority And Opportunities Available

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, but I can see a situation arising where in many communities some people of good will would say, "Yes, that is something that I would like to get involved in," and maybe be willing to put their names forward. But within a short period of time they have no clear understanding of the scope of their authority, or of the opportunities that are available to them for implementing alternative measures. That can easily happen. We had Mr. Angottitauruq the other day, for example, saying that even on hamlet council, he was not made aware that there were certain opportunities. You can lose sight of these easily. So, that could happen where people volunteer themselves yet are not quite sure what they can do, what they have the legal right to do and so on. Then also if they have no formal training in dealing with young people with problems, they may soon become very frustrated. So, could I ask what are the department's plans with respect to ensuring that when they are established the youth justice committees are made very clearly aware of the scope of the authority and the opportunities that are available to them? Secondly, is there some thought to enabling key people to get some kind of training or enabling them to share the experiences of people in other parts of Canada, who may be already involved in this kind of thing, to help them to see the kinds of things that they might do in communities?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Actually in co-operation with the Minister of Information and her department, Social Services is developing films, videos, pamphlets and manuals to use in this. Once all those things are in place, there will be training sessions put on in each community. So we will have different, I guess you might call it public relations types of materials, and they are doing it in all the different languages and syllabics as well as English. Those are hopefully going to convince people in communities, first, of the good of having these committees, then once we have some people, we will have the proper type of films and manuals to put good training sessions together so that they will know what their rights and authorities are, especially in cases where they are going to act as youth justice committees. It is one thing to have a community run a program, but if they are going to act as youth justice committees, they are really going to have to know what they are doing because they are going to have powers similar to those a judge would have for adult offenders. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Funding To Support Committee Work

MR. MacQUARRIE: So, there is no youth justice committee yet operating as such. When will that probably occur? When will we see the first ones in operation? Even though there is no specific budget allocation, is there going to be support available for them immediately -- financial support -- when they are ready to roll, to do what it is that they decide they ought to do in those communities?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, there will be funds available for the youth justice committees. We are going to follow the spirit of the Young Offenders Act and our own ordinance and hopefully by the summer, we are going to have some committees up and running.

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

MR. McCALLUM: Just a point of information, Mr. Chairman. The Minister may have already referred to it but why the reduction in the PYs in this particular activity?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: It is because, Mr. Chairman, of the fact that we had the young offenders funds in the budget last year actually and did not receive them or the PYs -- we did not receive the funding. So this year we did not put it in the budget. We will do it by supplementary estimate -- both the PYs and the dollars.

Family And Children's Services, Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. Family and children's services. Total 0 and M, \$5,682,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

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Correction Services, Total 0 And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Correction services. Total 0 and M, \$8,314,000. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, again here, there is an increase of 14 man years. How many of those are going to the new Baffin centre? Where would the rest of them be going?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: I believe there is about half a dozen going to the Baffin, half a dozen to Yellowknife Correctional Centre, one to Fort Smith and one to Hay River.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: In the past we have heard of overcrowding, recidivism, high rates. Could I just ask the Minister briefly what is the good news in corrections? Are there any trends that are hopeful in this area?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, hopefully the Baffin facility will take some pressure off us. One thing that is going to be difficult this summer is that with the renovations at the Yellowknife Correctional Centre, we are possibly going to have some overcrowding in some of the other facilities. We are going to have to send some prisoners from Yellowknife to there, but that should be just temporary. Hopefully, with things like the fine options and some of the community corrections they are going to do under the Young Offenders Act -- because you realize that at any time there are 15, 20 or 30, 16 year olds incarcerated -- those people will slowly move out of the adult system as well. So hopefully the pressure will be off us for the time being anyway. But I do not know what any trends are.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: I think there are a number of interesting initiatives and ideas that are being put into place right now. I think the fine option program is innovative and I think it is the sort of direction we should be going. I see you are trying to develop a victim/offender reconciliation pilot project. It sounds interesting and maybe you could give us a little bit of information about that particular program.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Basically the fine option gives the person who is sentenced to pay a fine the option of paying the fine or going to jail or doing community work, whereas before, anyone who could not pay a fine had to go to jail. So this allows that to occur

also. There is also some victim reconciliation working as well as the fine options -- that is another thing we have as a program, victim reconciliation -- that is something coming along in addition to fine options, related to this topic.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think these sorts of innovative programs are very positive. I for one, since Mr. Mounsey has taken over one of these programs, have seen a significant improvement in the attitude, in the sort of direction and approach that has been taken. I know in the last couple of years the potential of getting inmates to work on community projects has increased, that involvement in the communities has increased and I have seen a lot of improvements in the system. Whenever we tend to criticize our system here we should keep in mind that compared to all the problems they are having right now in southern jurisdictions, ours looks pretty good really. I think we do have that sort of flexibility and that potential to have maybe the best system in the country. So I like to see the trend, I like to see more and more of these innovative programs being established, more education options within facilities. I for one do not have any major concerns with the corrections program. I think it can be improved. I think the directions that your department is heading in right now are all pretty positive.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Mrs. Lawrence. Let us have some order in the House. Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: I am not too clear on the community correctional service. Can the Minister explain that to me?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Community Correctional Service

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The community corrections are examples like the Fine Option Ordinance where, if you cannot afford to pay your fine under the old system you had to go to jail. Now you have the opportunity of doing community work. The other thing is this victim reconciliation, which is a situation where somebody might bust a window and then the punishment would be to replace and repair that window or maybe do some work for the victim of the crime, rather than go to jail. The idea is to basically try to do something with the offender rather than sending him to an institution. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have one other question. Are there any funds made available for any community initiative, such as wilderness camps, that are coming up now and then?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Chairman, under the Young Offenders Ordinance our department is accepting proposals for various programs to correct young offenders in the community, but the young offenders moneys will actually be in the family and children's services part of the budget. Since we are talking about corrections, we do not have facilities and we are not looking for facilities to provide wilderness camps, though we did have the Dechinta program operating outside of Yellowknife, but that has folded. The corrections division is open to proposals and if the proposal is deemed adequate it may be funded by the department.

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

Provision Of Hunting Equipment To Employ Young Offenders

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hear that young offenders are starting to pay by working for the people that they have wronged. However, sometimes when they go home from the correction centre, it seems that they do not know where to go because there are no jobs available. It seems like they feel as if they are not welcome in their communities. We feel sorry for them at times as to how we can help them when they do not seem to know what to do in their own communities. However, I would like to ask the Minister if you could help the communities by providing some sort of employment to those lawbreakers maybe through hunters and trappers. Perhaps

you could provide, them with not a source of funding, but with their hunting equipment and their gas. I think this would be all right. Those offenders would be able to go out hunting with those people, who would welcome them back to their communities. In Inuit ways we never had any young offenders because the young people always used to go out hunting. By using the means of making them hunt in that way we will be able to live together with them. I think that you should be providing our social workers in our communities some source of money to buy hunting equipment for these offenders. I was wondering if the Minister can put this under consideration for helping these people. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Chairman, that is an example of a program that a community might form when we are dealing with young offenders. In other words if the residents of the Member's constituency wanted to form a youth justice committee in their community, they could meet with officials from the Department of Social Services and develop some sort of young offenders program, so that when a young person gets in trouble, his sentence from a judge or from the youth justice committee could be to go out on the land in some program that is approved by the department. There will be some funds available to start programs up like this in the communities. The other thing, though, is that when these young people are older than 17 and they are not actually breaking the law at the time, in order to create jobs in the community those are programs that are really under the Department of Economic Development. Also there may be some federal departments that have funds for make-work projects, etc., in communities.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. It is now five o'clock. I believe we agreed yesterday that we would have the chairman of the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council make a presentation. We have pretty well concluded the corrections services. I would like to ask the committee if they would like to conclude corrections services and then go into the alcohol and drug services. Then we will have the witness for the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council. Is it agreed by the committee?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Alcohol And Drug Services, Total 0 And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): For the record would the witness please introduce himself and tell who he is representing?

DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name is Ross Wheeler and I am presently the chairman of the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council for the Government of the NWT and chairman of the regional advisory board for the federal NNADAP program.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Dr. Wheeler. Do you have a presentation? Go ahead, please.

DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This presentation was put together at our last co-ordinating council meeting by all the members. The board feels that we have been working over the past two years in co-operation with the two governments to introduce alcohol and drug programming in as many communities across the North as possible. The board wishes me to express our thanks to this Assembly for the support that we have been given. Given the present funding level, the board feels an excellent job has been done in introducing alcohol and drug prevention and treatment programs in every region of the NWT. However, we are at a point where some expansion is necessary.

At the present time the Government of the NWT provides only about one third of the funds for alcohol and drug programs across the Territories and currently there are 33 community projects funded this fiscal year. In the past 10 years we have gained a pretty valuable experience in seeing how programs can be delivered and possible directions that we can go in the future. We feel at this point that it is time for us to evolve into our next stage of development. With this in mind, the board feels that its goal over the next three years is to move toward operating more as an autonomous body responsible to this House through the Minister of Social Services. In order to accomplish this we feel that the GNWT should be matching federal contribution dollars on a dollar for dollar basis.

More Flexibility Needed In Use Of Contribution

A change in our mandate from this House could accomplish this and allow the board to evolve from a purely advisory function to act increasingly as a board of management. In the use of grant dollars, we feel that there is a need for increased flexibility in order to meet the community needs as they are coming toward us. We feel that with some flexibility in the use of GNWT dollars that we can be more imaginative and use the dollars in more useful ways. Programs have been evolving over the years and are requiring new and updated equipment. New programs are starting and as it stands right now, there are no capital dollars available for these. Various regions have recognized the need to have resource people in the regions to facilitate the community program and we feel that we need to have the ability to hire appropriate workers in regions where governments have been unable to supply workers through their own person years. So therefore we need flexibility with the grant dollars and creation of some capital allocation to meet the requirements of community projects.

Proposed New Structure

The next area that we have considered is structure. In order to properly monitor the overall effectiveness of community projects on a territorial-wide basis and in order to increase services offered to community projects and to the resource people directly involved in decision making, we propose to develop a management structure, a resource network, all tied together with a management and information system, which as yet does not exist.

How we see it operating at the first level, at the community level, where individuals are working with band and hamlet councils, they form a board of directors or committee of the band or hamlet councils and that board then directs the work of the community alcohol workers. These programs are funded either through the GNWT or through the NNADAP as recommended by the ADCC board. The staff and the board of those community projects have available to them community resource people including social services workers, nurses, community health representatives, RCMP, court workers, people in the schools and community elders. We are proposing a structure that ties all those community resources more closely together.

Moving from the community level to the regional level, we propose to form regional alcohol and drug committees comprised of elected members from each of the community boards within the region, and the resource people at that regional level, who will act as resources to that regional alcohol and drug board or committee, are people such as the regional superintendents of Social Services, the zone director for Health and Welfare Canada, regional councils in the native organizations, as they exist in the regions.

Moving up to the next level, the Territories-wide level, we felt that the ADCC board should be comprised of elected members from each regional board, with a member at large from the East and a member at large from the West, plus a chairman. The resource people who become available to us then, at the Territories-wide level, are the medical services branch of Health and Welfare Canada, together with its staff and the regional director, the director of Social Services and the GNWT staff.

We feel that if we can implement this structure over the next few years that we will have a good resource base at all levels, as well as encourage all interested parties to participate in the programming going on at the community, regional and territorial level. Regional boards will have good communication with the community projects within their region and that will feed directly back into the ADCC, improving the level of decision making that we can make. In this way, by having them elected starting from the community level, we feel that we will get the level of commitment on the part of the people who are on these boards and committees that is necessary to do the work that needs to be done. We feel that this structure is vital to the evolving of the process of offering support to drug and alcohol programming throughout the Territories.

Now what does this mean in terms of dollars? In the past year in order to fund the 33 projects we had to make severe cutbacks in some areas. We know of at least four community projects that are coming in and have no chance of being funded before 1986. So the shortfall for projects that we know are coming -- and they are coming from Fort Resolution, Fort Rae, possibly Chesterfield Inlet and Whale Cove -- we feel that we would need approximately \$150,000 to give these programs seed money to get started this year. Where we had to make the cuts in our funding decisions in January, and those were putting a freeze level on wages which, of course, impacts on the ability of programs

to hold valuable workers and other areas, the shortfall there is identified at approximately \$200,000. In order to institute a management information system -- which does not exist in either government today -- to allow better management decisions to be made, as well as to provide information so that we can evaluate programs and evaluate for the House the effectiveness of the program, we feel that we would need approximately \$100,000 for equipment and perhaps a PY or would do this on a contract basis.

One of the evolutionary steps we are taking is working with the regional alcohol and drug committees. We have been working over the past two years with the BRADIC board that we have now situated in Frobisher Bay and they are at the point of acting for Baffin Region much as the ADCC acts for the Territories as a whole. The Dene chiefs recently met and struck an action committee to follow on from the recommendations that they made. They are looking for funding to carry on that activity. We feel that in order to support, as a start, two new regional bodies, we would need approximately \$100,000. Now this is not a one shot deal. These are going to be ongoing things. Once a management information system is in place it will need some O and M. As more and more and more regions become stronger and pull together they are going to need some money for their regional boards. If there are 53 communities in the Territories, there are 20 or so communities then that have no funding at all and as history has shown us, as you get regional bodies and you get regional programming going to other communities, their awareness is heightened to the problems that they are having and they start making demands that they want to start dealing with the problems.

We feel that over the next three years we should be building, in a step-wise fashion up to the position that I stated before, that the GNWT match the federal dollars on a dollar for dollar basis when the NNADAP becomes stabilized in 1987-88. So these are the thoughts that we have had and I would certainly be open to any questions, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you, Dr. Wheeler. Are there any comments or any questions from Members? Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Dr. Wheeler, you mentioned something about the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council being more autonomous. I am not too clear on that; could you explain what you mean by that?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

A More Autonomous Position For ADCC

DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the past, we felt that probably the solution to the problem was to become much more modelled on what is going on in the South, as an independent commission. This is an expensive operation to run -- an independent commission. We have had a couple of studies done over the last year which have recommended to us that a more autonomous position, more arm's length from government, would be useful but to still use the facilities of government, the workers of government, to carry out the necessary resource role that government can play so that we do not take money away from community programming to hire a big staff. What I guess we mean by "autonomous" is we would hope that we would be involved in the process through the Minister of Health and Social Services and approach with our own budget -- a submission raised through the ADCC on the basis of communities and regions coming to the ADCC with their needs -- and then defend that budget on our own, as opposed to being all part of the Social Services envelope. So we would be standing in a more autonomous position but reporting through a Minister to the House, and being responsible directly to the House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I realize that there was a tabled document during the spring session with regard to a report done by a consultant and a lot of the recommendations that came out of this consultant's report really is what, I guess, you mentioned about the local, the regional and the territorial level of operation. The report also mentions the Alberta Indian Health Care Commission and I believe that the focus of the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council is to look at that avenue -- an independent body but being responsible to the regional government, which is the territorial government. Am I correct in my statement?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is the kind of evolution that we are seeing. Because it is an elective body then it becomes more representative and it is elected at each stage, rather than people just being appointed to sit there, with the exception perhaps of the members at large or representing some political organization. As, perhaps, a technocrat to that organization, we feel that the composition of the board should be more community based, community-oriented people who have a proven and strong desire to work in the area to improve the conditions in the communities but still reporting and being responsible to this House, as I said, via the Minister of Social Services. Thank you.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: I take it there is no lack of interest among the people of the Territories, across the Territories, or at least some, in trying to address what is a very serious problem, that you have lots of project submissions and that you are just not able to meet the requests that are being made. I was trying to make some notes and listen at the same time. You did mention the recent Dene initiative to try to address the problem in their own domain and then you mentioned something about funding with respect to it. Could you just clarify that for me please?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

Regional Committees Of Concern

DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I attended that meeting for the last day and a half and it became very clear that people wanted to organize themselves and to represent the community or the Dene Nation as a whole. They can be seen to be operating in much the same way that BRADIC representing the Baffin, is operating. If they would see themselves in some sort of relationship with the ADCC, acting on behalf of the Dene Nation but representing communities, we feel that that would be the kind of structure that you would look at funding as a regional committee of concern. The \$100,000 would be for two -- we know that BRADIC's budget for instance, which we severely limit, was about \$50,000. Now that is an expensive region to travel around in and to hold meetings in. It may not prove to be that expensive in the Mackenzie Valley but the planning figure we came to was approximately \$100,000 and that would be looking at the possibility for this year, of funding two regional committees and, of course, over the years there may be growth within other regions as well. The Inuvik Region, for instance, has taken some initiatives and struck a regional working group that has been looking at the whole area. We feel that there would be a better tie-in of programming if there are regional working groups out there or committees. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: So, in general then, you said perhaps there was a \$150,000 shortfall in trying to fund projects that have been recommended to the council. Then, also in this area I know that people, including those at the addiction services centre in Yellowknife who are committed to this area, are generally working for less benefits than they could get elsewhere and it is a kind of commitment that leads them to this work. Just in the short term, this year for example, if the council has another \$200,000 or \$250,000, could it manage to meet in the short term the projects that are being proposed?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are about four projects that we know are coming -- or two, we know for sure, and two have expressed a strong interest. We just have not had a chance to meet with them. We thought that probably \$150,000 for those four projects approximately would get them started up this year. That would be for instance, Resolution and Fort Rae where project proposals have actually come forward and we are going to be visiting in Whale Cove and Chesterfield Inlet in the early part of April to speak to their councils.

In terms of the shortfall and the wages. In the federal system a wage parity exercise was done a few years ago which brought wages up but what has happened over the last couple of years is that in spite of "six and five", territorial government wages have gone up more than NNADAP wages -- not within projects but just in worker categories in communities. So we are spending time and effort and individuals are spending time and effort to get themselves trained and then they find that just economically it is better if they become the janitor at the school. We need to enrich the salaries

in some areas and we felt that across the board for the 33 projects, that could amount in the neighbourhood of \$200,000. So with new project proposals and filling in the shortfalls that we had to make this year, that would be about \$350,000.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Paniloo.

Cutback In Funding To BRADIC

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was asked to attend their meeting, and I would like to inform Dr. Wheeler that the president of BRADIC, was unhappy with the cutbacks on their funding. There was a cutback on his proposal so he was not very happy about it. Do you know any reason why there was a cutback on the funding in the Baffin Region? The alcohol and drug project has just started in the Baffin Region and then there was a cutback in the funding when it was starting up. I would like to know the reason why it was decreased. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the Baffin Region proposals came forward, there were proposals from three new communities. When we looked at the overall allocation of dollars for across the Territories, because one of the communities had been seeking funding for over a year, had been investigating the possibility of funding for over a year, we felt it was very important to fund that community. That was Broughton Island. Additionally Lake Harbour and Clyde River requested funds as well and they were approved in principle. Now, one of the areas where we did cut back on funding was to the Baffin Regional Alcohol and Drug Information Centre which functions in Frobisher Bay. There was a major increase in the funding of Tuvvik in Frobisher Bay which represents the only treatment and counselling initiative being taken in the Baffin Region. Because our studies have shown that there is a necessity for a treatment activity to go on in the Baffin Region, it was felt that it was vitally important that the Tuvvik program be funded.

We met with the BRADIC executive in the early part of February and again in the early part of March to investigate with them ways of accomplishing their work with relatively small funds, and indeed one of our requests for additional funding for the regional boards would be for funding for the BRADIC organization. Within the Baffin Region there is an overall increase of approximately \$250,000 additional funding going into the Baffin Region, in spite of the cutback that took place in BRADIC specifically. We are seeking money to support that activity because we feel it is a pretty vital activity because, as I say, they are the only functioning regional committee that we see now and they are made up of the chairpeople of all alcohol education committees within the Baffin. They are a very strong working group and strongly knit the whole Baffin Region together as a regional community. It was hoped that additional money could be found to fund their activities. Indeed the March meeting was paid for out of year end funds and was an additional training meeting for them and they had a chance to meet with the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council over here. It was a meeting that they had not planned. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. T'Seleie.

GNWT Matching Federal Funding

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to ask Dr. Wheeler, in the early part of the statement that he just made to us I think he said that the alcohol and drug council felt that this government should match dollar for dollar. I just wrote that down and I just forget in what context he made it. I would like him to go over that part of his statement for me again because I just want to get it clear what the council is requesting.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Historically the GNWT was the major contributor to alcohol and drug programming in the North until about 1982, with the advent of the federal NNADAP program. The federal government through medical services branch, felt that on the basis of a population of 22,000 people, and that was status Indians and Inuit, that alcohol and drug programming in the North, to bring it to the level of services available for Canadians generally across the country, should be increased on a step-wise basis over the five year program, which was the introduction of NNADAP to the position that this year the funds from NNADAP are approximately \$2.4 million. In two more years when the NNADAP program is a fixed program and we will just have the usual kind of inflationary gains, it will be funded for approximately \$2.8 or \$2.9 million.

Now, that was the federal estimate of what it would cost to provide quality services for people across the North on an equivalent basis to what people have access to in the South. The territorial government, over the past few years, has funded the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council at around one million dollars, \$1.1 million, and it has gradually gone up a little bit, five per cent or so over the last couple of years.

In order to cover the remainder of the communities and to provide the resource base and some of these other things that we need in order to have a comprehensive program -- we know the federal dollars are not going to grow after 1987 -- we feel that by 1987-88 the territorial government should have built its funding up to the level that the federal people have. That would mean we would see this year, as the first year of that, approximately \$550,000 and that would be increasing as well over the next couple of years. So in regard to the dollar for dollar, our goal would be that three years down the road both governments are equally contributing to the support of alcohol and drug programs in the Territories.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I just want to indicate my support for alcohol and drug programs for communities. I am aware in my constituency that there are at least three in the communities. Without getting into all the complications of it, I think that these community programs in their own way are really making a difference. I think back on the indigenous languages fund which had the same amount of money which was about one million dollars each year coming from this government. That program lasted for three years and language groups sprang up in many communities in the Northwest Territories. I have always felt that those groups were a very valuable part of addressing the language issue. On this one I feel that these alcohol and drug groups are also a valuable part of addressing the problem of alcohol.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Mr. Chairman, first of all Dr. Wheeler, I find your proposal quite interesting. I think the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council is making a very honest attempt to try to address the concerns at a community level where I think we all agree any solution ultimately has to be found. I for one want to congratulate Dr. Wheeler for putting in many years in a very tough and very frustrating job. A lot of people do not realize the time and effort you have put into it and the fact is sometimes it is impossible to see any light at the end of the tunnel. We appreciate your perseverance. I would like to follow through your action plan using a specific community in a specific region just to see if I can follow it through logically. But first of all, in three years from now, what will be the total sum of both the federal and the territorial government contribution at that optimum level if they are matched?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

DR. WHEELER: That would be somewhere between \$5.6 and six million dollars. I am not quite sure what the final federal number is to be. Following through, if you want to take a community for instance, how do you want to do that?

MR. BALLANTYNE: Right now, how many government employees, both federal and territorial, and any employees employed by the co-ordinating council, are actually working directly in alcohol and drug programs, first federal then territorial, then any employees you may have?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At the present time the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council has no employees, no one works directly for us. In the federal government there are presently two people. There is one vacant position and there is a promise of one or two additional PYs this year, but we have yet to see where they are coming from. In the GNWT there is a staff of three working directly for community-based projects and one additional person who is doing a very valuable piece of work on the curriculum development, so is not directly involved with projects but certainly has an impact through the education system. So essentially on the ground today there are five employees.

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

Optimum Level Of PYs For Proposed New Structure

MR. BALLANTYNE: Okay, five employees with a possibility of maybe having one or two extra employees. Forgetting for the moment the two jurisdictions, federal and territorial, in three years from now if we have that optimum level of say six million dollars, how many employees do you see will be necessary to carry out the sort of program that you envision?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is going to be a necessity for a core staff in Yellowknife to co-ordinate initiatives across the Territories. Within the regions, if the governments can identify a person, fine; then they can get a PY, they can be there. If they cannot, we feel that we would like to hire the resource person and have them work for one of the community projects, but as a regional person. So depending on how the region is split up, whether it is five or six, or how that plays out, there could be six people working within regions. We would need probably an additional one or two people here. We have no management information system or research system. I would see that would require at least one person to gather the data, the statistics that are necessary for evaluation. There is no evaluation component built into either government and whether you do this on a contract basis on the outside or whether that is done by an employee of either the ADCC or one of the governments has yet to be seen. So the core staff in Yellowknife could increase by a couple of people who could be employed, as I say, on those territorial-wide things and additional people working within the regions, like five or six, so that could come to say a total of perhaps 10 more people working directly, but six of them being in the regions.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: So now we are looking at five or 10 more. Let us say for the sake of an argument we are looking at, in 1987, 15 PYs -- yet to be defined in whose jurisdiction -- 15 PYs and six million dollars essentially would do the job as you envision it right now. Is that correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

DR. WHEELER: Yes, we feel that that is a realistic target. We are thinking more in terms of 1988, about three years from now. I think if it all came at us at once, all that money, we do not have the system to manage it properly at this point. We need to evolve that system and then evolve the necessary back-ups to the staff in order that we can properly use that. But given that there are still 15 or 20 communities out there who have no program and, as I say, when regions become organized they start to see the needs within themselves and start wanting to develop programs, this would allow us to have an ongoing training program which has been tremendously necessary, evaluation on management systems so that all levels can make proper decisions, and would give us some research capability in terms of being able to answer some of the questions that come up as to effectiveness and why and how things are happening.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: If you have 15 PYs, would the salaries and benefits of those people come out of this six million dollars or would it be over and above the six million dollars?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

DR. WHEELER: As it would stand right now, given the situation with PYs, we might be in the position of having to hire some of those people, perhaps in a resource and evaluation component. It might be more appropriate to hire someone who would then work for a project or work for the board so that that could come out of the six million dollars. If PYs can be found and meet the needs within the regions then those PYs would be over and above the six million dollars. If we were to go to the independent commission route you would have to take all those 15 people's salaries out of the six million dollars which then just impacts on community projects. This is why the preference now is more toward a mix of private individuals and government individuals so that the government is supporting with contribution/grant dollars but as well, supporting the staff.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Okay, we start off with 15 PYs and six million dollars and we will try to find those salaries one way or another within that six million dollars. I guess the next thing we have to do is to work on some basic premises. Ideally it would be good if the territorial government, to start off with, could take over the responsibility from the federal government so the territorial government now, for the sake of this argument, has the control of the six million dollars. Now, it might be that they will use, as their agent, the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council to disperse that six million dollars but it would probably be easier if those 15 PYs were first under the control of the territorial government and then, perhaps, under the control of an umbrella group, the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council.

Regional Access Under Proposed New Structure

Okay, if we start off from that premise -- let's use a specific example, let's use Detah. In Detah, the actual council in Detah would form, or a committee of that council would form the basic community group to deal with alcohol and drug problems, is that correct? Then, we go up the next step. We go next to the Dogrib Tribal Council. First of all, at the band council level. How could they access the 15 people and which ones would they access? How does that work?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

DR. WHEELER: Just to back step one thing from what you said. At this point, when we are talking regions, we have been thinking in terms of five or six and thinking in terms of the Dene chiefs meeting at which the Detah chief was a representative, as opposed to putting in another level, the Dogrib council. Now that is something that people are going to have to work out. There would be identified within a region, a regional resource person who would be available to the Detah council for day-to-day support. Now, in some regions because of size and travel two people may be required. Plus, where there are specialized things, for example, where now we have a Territories-wide, co-ordinated training program between the two governments, there is an identified trainer of that training here in Yellowknife, and if it was a training matter they could access that person directly.

They would work primarily with their regional resource person, with the area Social Services office here, through the public health centre, through the court workers so that they can tie in all the other community resources. We would encourage that kind of tie-in so that those people would see the value of being involved and acting as resources to, say, the Detah council in terms of dealing with the problems because they are not simply alcohol and drugs. They are mental health and alcohol and housing and we need to get a more horizontal look at things as opposed to the vertical look.

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

Relationship With Regional Organizations

MR. BALLANTYNE: For the sake of this discussion I think myself that this approach is probably the only approach that will work. I would like to see you using those five or six existing regional or tribal councils. To me it makes a lot of sense. If we use the example of the Dogrib Tribal Council, do you see that one regional worker reporting directly then to the tribal council? How do you see that relationship working?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

DR. WHEELER: That is certainly a possibility. In fact that is the way it is working, or has worked in the past in the Yukon where the regional consultant for NNADAP worked with the Council of Yukon Indians and worked in the CYI office and acted as a resource to CYI as well as all community projects. That is certainly something which would be a good possibility. In the case of BRADIC, for instance in Frobisher Bay, the Baffin Region people themselves have identified a worker who works for the Tuvvik organization as being a resource to them so that person acts very closely with the Baffin Regional Alcohol and Drug Information Centre and now has outreached to all the community projects and that committee is a committee of the Baffin Regional Council at the present time so that the ties are there together. It just happens that that is a private organization funded through a project that we are funding but that could be a regional worker. My personal position is, again, as part of the autonomy that you get people more and more away from government, not being directly government workers but more working for councils and working for regions in that way.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I totally agree. I would like to see that because people are going to solve their own problems, they are going to take responsibility for them. I think that is the only way it is going to work. We have, for the sake of this argument, a person working directly for the Dogrib Tribal Council. The assumption is there will be five or six regions and each one of those regions would take two of their members and be part of the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council and would, in fact, be the umbrella group. Is that correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is how we envisage it. Now in Nunavut it is easy; there are three regional councils existing and they can each send one representative. What has happened in the West historically is that the Metis Association has two votes on a council -- one member but two votes -- and the Dene Nation has one member and two votes. So that gives four votes in the Mackenzie Valley for the Dene Nation and Metis Association together. I think it would be a process of negotiation where perhaps the Dene Nation and the chiefs, could feel together that the kind of conference that was held in Hay River could elect the people. They could supply the regional representation and come as the Dene representative. And in talking with the Metis Association perhaps out of their annual general meeting they could elect a member to the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council so that there would be somebody elected by meeting and not just chosen to come.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Again this is an idea. If this is to work then I think, obviously, it must be community based. I am just putting this forward as a concept. Maybe the Dene Nation, the Metis and the Legislative Assembly should take a step back and maybe the Dene Nation, the Metis Association, the Legislative Assembly could make representation directly to the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council. There could be a committee of the Dene Nation, committee of Metis and maybe a committee of this Assembly who would make a representation directly to the co-ordinating council but the co-ordinating council itself is responsible to the communities and I think that is what we all want to see and it might just be a way to go.

I think I understand the concept and I support the idea and, obviously, some work has to be done on it. What sort of a timetable do you see and what process do you see in setting this sort of a system up?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

Establishment Of New Structure

DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would hope that this would be accomplished within three years. We have already negotiated with the Baffin Regional Alcohol and Drug Information Centre to act as a regional body. Now it is a matter of finding them funds which I was addressing earlier. We have not talked with the Dene task force as yet. We look forward to perhaps meeting with them and finding out what their ideas are, if they would want to pilot this kind of regional body, so that over the next couple of years we would be encouraging other regions to strike a similar forum within their region. In talking with the people from Kitikmeot it was felt that at this point there was not enough cohesiveness within the region to have that sort of a council and it is the same in the Keewatin. But as I said, there has been an initiative taken by the people in the Delta region to do this kind of thing. Perhaps next year you would be adding on a Delta regional council and providing some funds for their activity so that over the three years we could build up to the position of having regional councils in place with resource people and then the elected process coming up toward the ADCC.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: I just have one last question and I think Dr. Wheeler alluded to it earlier. We had quite a lengthy discussion yesterday about mental health and about trying to get some sort of structure in place to deal with the problems of mental health. One of the recommendations put forward by motion of this committee was that a director of mental health be set up who would act as a co-ordinator of all the mental health programs. Now obviously there is interrelationship between

alcohol and drug programs and the whole general area of mental health or the lack thereof in the Northwest Territories. How would you see this structure integrating with that so that we have a more complete, co-ordinated approach to problems rather than the scattered approach we have right now?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

Involvement Of Mental Health Professionals

DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the moves that is being made or being contemplated by the federal government under the NNADAP program right now is to tie the mental health co-ordinators they have in together with the alcohol program people. It is proving to be, according to the worker, a very difficult task because each has such a full-time job to do. I would see that if there are mental health professionals or paraprofessionals -- I think we need almost more paraprofessionals than we need professionals in mental health -- they again can work with the regional and community committees and act as resources to them because presumably some of these people at least are going to be highly-trained, highly-skilled workers with interviewing skills and so on and will be extremely valuable in helping community counsellors do their work, and indeed will act as perhaps a part of the referral chain in alcohol treatment as well as in the treatment of mental health. It is fortunate from a GNWT perspective that both those things reside in one department because it allows some closer co-ordination. I would see if there were a director of mental health that that person would be a resource to our board in terms of our deliberations about programming and so on, and trying to get the horizontal structure working at the community and regional level so that, as you say, it does not get scattered and we approach it here and here and here in a vertical way.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Gargan. He is not here right now. Any further questions or comments? Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Not so as to cut off discussion but there has been a fair amount and I would like to move a motion. Would Mrs. Lawrence like to speak first? That is fine with me. I will withdraw it momentarily, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to make a comment. I appreciate Dr. Wheeler appearing in front of us and I realize we are all concerned about the problem of drugs and alcohol. I am just getting a little bit confused with everybody running all over. In my mind there are a lot of people starting to run in different directions and not really concentrating on the problems. I do not think I am making myself clear. What I am trying to say is that everybody is running and taking different steps in dealing with the problem. The Dene Nation, with all their chiefs, had a drug and alcohol conference and came up with some good recommendations and now Dr. Wheeler is appearing with a different sort of recommendation, in my mind. I have a question on just how are you concentrating your effort in getting together with the Dene Nation and your co-ordinating council? Is there any kind of joint effort or something?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

Co-operation With Dene Nation

DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At our recent meeting the Dene Nation representative tabled the recommendations that were put forward by the Dene chiefs. At that point they had yet to be ratified by a leadership meeting, which I understand has now taken place. The fact is that we at this point are funding in this region approximately \$1.5 to two million dollars worth of programming, so that money is there already in communities. We would hope that at our next meeting we would hear more from the Dene Nation as to possibilities of co-operation and collaboration that they would see. I think that from what I hear on the radio and so on that they are in the process of formulating their plan of action in terms of dealing with the recommendations, and I would certainly hope that they would see some value in working with the co-ordinating council who have had the experience over the last 10 years, and at this point are really the only funding source. We would certainly hope to work with the Dene Nation on that. They have been fairly consistently represented on the board over the last couple of years and indeed have chosen from that Dene chiefs conference a new representative in much the same fashion as we have been talking about, who is a

well-respected community worker and has worked for approximately the last 10 years in the alcohol and drug program in his community. It is that kind of representative and that kind of person we want to see on the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council, so we are hoping for some good things together with the Dene Nation this year coming, which is one of the reasons we were requesting some funding in case there were some initiatives that they wanted to take. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With increased staff does that mean you will have more money to travel? But what about the community projects that are already existing, that some communities are initiating on their own to deal with the problems and to try to get funding?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Dr. Wheeler.

DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You mentioned travelling. That was one of the areas we felt, because the money was so tight this year, that we needed to have some handle on, the amount of travelling that was going on. Realizing that it is tremendously important that communities are able to access money to travel to visit with each other and see how things are working, to get their network going so that they can learn from each other, we held back approximately \$75,000 that communities can apply to for travel dollars but as I was mentioning earlier, we see one of the areas of shortfall that we had to impose upon communities and are asking additional funds to cover was in the area of travel. That is not only travel for training. For instance, some communities have asked other more established communities to come over and stay a week or two and give them a hand to get going and stuff like that. We just have not got the money at this point to do that. That is one of the reasons for the request for additional funding. I trust that answers the question.

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

Concern About Limited Support To Communities

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Dr. Wheeler, in your opening statement, you did express the concern about having regional and local representatives in the area of alcoholism. Again, I just wanted to refer back to the structure of the ADCC board and the Review of their Structure and Functioning and Suggestions for their Future Operation prepared by Torrance Consulting Ltd. I guess your opening statement really has a lot to do with this consultant's report.

The other thing I wanted to mention is that with regard to the conference in Hay River with all the leadership and there too again they have expressed that maybe when you do select members at large that, you know, they have a say in who is selected. But they also requested the establishment of regional councils which would be responsible for providing directions to their communities. I believe it was last March, when you first made your presentation, you expressed the concern that the ADCC was too centralized and that very little support is actually going into the communities because of the limited staff here. Certainly you know the chiefs have expressed that and the consultants that did the report have also expressed that and you yourself in your own presentation have expressed that too. So I guess we are all on the same wave length as far as the kind of concern that has been expressed. I just wanted to let you know that.

I just wanted to ask you a question with regard to the moneys that ADCC gets. I believe it is \$1,216,000 and it has been that for the last three years. Am I correct or has there been an increase since?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Actually in the last two years, and I am not sure what the estimate is for this year, it has gone up by approximately five per cent. During the high inflation years, 1982-83, it did not go up by very much at all so we actually slipped back in those times and we are now building by about five per cent a year. What has happened is that over the years because of that, the number of projects able to be funded out of the GNWT grant has decreased. The number of projects funded under the NNADAP has increased dramatically because that has been the only increase in funds. But it has gone up gradually over the last couple of years by I think about five per cent a year.

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

Communities Without Programs

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Dr. Wheeler, you did mention that there were two proposals and possibly two more coming. You also mentioned that maybe there are about 15 or 16 other communities that are not under the present alcohol program. I guess what I wanted to ask was basically the reason why maybe these 15 or 16 communities are not submitting any proposals -- is there not really any moneys anyway and even though they do submit a proposal in all probability they would not get the funding anyway? Am I correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

DR. WHEELER: In the past couple of years, what we have tried to do is fund all the proposals that come before us. Some have had to go on hold -- I refer to Broughton Island from a year ago. But we have tried as much as possible to fund all the proposals that come before us that seem to have merit. The workers for both governments are really only mandated to go to projects or to go to communities where they are invited. So that there is no job being done to sort of chide people's sensitivity in a community that does not have a project into looking at themselves and perhaps developing a project proposal.

Other communities seem to have no problem and regional representatives are telling us that they are happy with the way things are going in their community. They either have it controlled in some way or there is just nothing going on. What we are seeing is a fairly dramatic rise in the solvent abuse problem across the North. So where a community may not be really concerned about what is going on with alcohol and drugs, there is an increasing concern around the abuse of solvents by young people. We are talking of the really young here -- kids in grade school. As yet I think people have not devised their own strategies about this and this is why we feel there is a real necessity to have regional resource people available to work with those communities. Okay, they do not have an alcohol program but they have a lot of trouble with the kids in solvents and maybe they should be doing something about that. We feel that is a rational kind of program to fund.

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

Co-ordinated Effort On Social Problems Needed

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You did mention that you would like to become more autonomous in the area of alcohol and drugs. I would like to ask Dr. Wheeler -- you know, when you are talking about alcohol and drugs it does not just stop there. You talk about solvent abuse but maybe mental health could fall under that type of category. It is coming now to a point where there is not really a co-ordinated effort within the Department of Education or Justice and Public Services or Social Services. Everybody is trying to spin off into one little direction maybe. Just creating a body that is autonomous just to deal with alcohol and drugs, I believe would not be enough. I would like to get your opinion on whether there should be a co-ordinated effort mostly because we are also dealing with spousal assault and solvent abuse, mental health, alcohol and drugs. All those are programs that may be designated to different little departments. I am just wondering whether it would be the intention of this board or a commission that is at arm's length from the government to deal with all aspects of social or socio-economic problems.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Dr. Wheeler.

DR. WHEELER: It is interesting to speculate or when you look at what workers are doing in communities, they are dealing with all of these things as you mentioned. They just happened to be funded under alcohol and drugs because that is how they originally started seeing the problem. As they have grown and matured in their programming they have realized that more and more they are getting dragged into areas where what you would look at as perhaps traditional alcohol and drugs programs would not go. We hope to offer this year some specialized courses on suicide prevention. This is a tremendous issue in some communities.

We have to take a look at solving abuse. We have no initiatives going on around solving abuse right now. A number of centres that we are funding, for instance the one in Cambridge Bay, acts really as a half-way house for battered women. On any particular night when there is a huge liquor order in town the stats for that small project are tremendous. Women are seeking shelter there and that is not just the only place that it is happening. So the community is taking a broad horizontal look at themselves and trying to be more holistic. To a certain extent this is an

awakening that is happening at the regions. We think that there really needs to be that kind of thrust at the territorial level. Certainly if an organization could offer that kind of broad co-ordinating effort I think that would be tremendous because as I said, when it is in Health and Social Services and some of it is in Justice as you are pointing out, it tends to separate things. It is harder to co-ordinate it if it is in a different department. Communities can work it out by themselves. They seem to be really good at doing that. I think we just need to learn some lessons from them about how to get these kinds of initiatives co-ordinated on a Territories-wide and regional basis.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mrs. Lawrence. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Motion To Recommend Increase In Funding To Community Alcohol And Drug Projects

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, I would like to make a motion now, Mr. Chairman. Whereas alcohol abuse is generally recognized as a major health and social problem in the Northwest Territories; and whereas the amount of GNWT funding for alcohol and drug programs has remained relatively static over the past several years; and whereas the population of the Northwest Territories, the size of the GNWT budget and the revenues from alcohol have all increased significantly; and whereas community alcohol and drug programs are hampered by a lack of funding; now therefore, I move that this committee recommend to the Executive Council that it significantly increase its funding to community alcohol and drug projects in the fiscal year 1985-86.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Your motion is in order. To the motion, Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is well-recognized by everybody in the Assembly I think, and by most people in the Northwest Territories that alcohol abuse particularly, but drug abuse as well, constitutes a major social problem. We have heard statistics in this Assembly before on the amount of crime in the Territories that is directly related to alcohol abuse. We have heard discussions about spousal assault and other kinds of assault that result from alcohol abuse, or at least that is one of the instruments involved in assaults. I think that it is unquestionably in the interests of our society and of this Assembly and our government to address that problem and to try to resolve it, first of all because of the tragedy of wasted lives. People who get caught up in the abuse of drugs and alcohol are often talented people who could make significant contributions to society. Unfortunately as a result of becoming addicted to drugs or alcohol, they virtually waste their lives. That is a sad thing to see. Secondly, because the abuse of alcohol and drugs also costs our society a great deal in trying to make amends for the problems that result from it, whether they are in health costs or social assistance costs or in additional costs in our court and corrections systems, they are major costs. For those two reasons I think it is so important that we do try to address it.

Major Problem Has Not Been Addressed

I would commend Dr. Wheeler for persevering in this area over a number of years. He is obviously very much committed to the work and trying to help to resolve the problem. I know that it can be an area that is frustrating, both because of the nature of the problem but also in trying to get the attention of legislators to do something about it. I would just say that I certainly approve of some of the means that Dr. Wheeler has used in recent months to try to bring to the public attention and to ours the seriousness of the problem. It has been noted that although generally everyone says it is a major problem that our government has not taken major steps to address it. The budget for this area, since I have come to the Assembly, has been largely the same each year and as Dr. Wheeler pointed out in those years costs have risen and so even though there have been slight increases in the budget for these community alcohol and drug programs, there is actually slippage when you compare those increases to the increases in costs. During those same years the population of our Territories has grown. Our own government budget has grown significantly over those years and also there is a growth in the revenues that are coming to this government from the sale of alcohol.

I note in a recent report on alcohol sales that in 1980 there was \$6.6 million gross profit from the sale of alcohol in the Northwest Territories. By 1984 that had risen to \$10.2 million gross profit, which was an increase of nearly a million dollars a year in the revenue that is accruing to this government in those same years when we have not been significantly increasing the budget for community alcohol and drug programs. We have heard evidence that community alcohol and drug programs are hampered by the lack of funding. We have a letter from the Baffin Region, from the

Anglican synod noting the extent of the problem and asking us to address it seriously and to support the efforts of the co-ordinating council in community alcohol and drug programs. We have heard from Dr. Wheeler about shortfalls in trying to fund projects this year and about virtually a freeze on wage levels for people who are working in this area.

So for all these reasons I think that it is time that we took more significant steps than we have taken in the past to address the problem, particularly because I really believe in this area of resolving the problems of drug and alcohol abuse that these efforts will be most successful when people themselves say it is time to do something about it. I believe that I see some signs like that over the past year where there are individuals and groups in various parts of the Territories recognizing the seriousness of the problem and wanting to do something about it. Those little initiatives are exciting and very encouraging and so I would say that it is an opportune time for this Assembly to make sure that where there is that will in the regions and in the communities, that the efforts do not fail because of a lack of support on our part. So I am recommending strongly to the Executive Council that it significantly increase its funding to community alcohol and drug projects in this fiscal year.

Significant Dollar Increase Indicated

Now I did not attach a dollar figure to it, but for the record I would say that what would appear to me to be significant in this fiscal year is to make sure that there is no shortfall in community programs or projects. To me that would mean a significant increase in this budget. It would mean \$350,000 in the 1985-86 budget. That would bring the budget to slightly more than \$1.5 million for this fiscal year. Although the motion itself is just addressing this fiscal year, again, for the record, I would say that it would be my intention to urge the government to significantly increase the budget allocated to these community projects over the next three years. I suppose throwing out a figure really does not make sense because on the one hand we have to be sure that we can manage it in the budget. On the other hand we have to be sure that if the money is allocated, that the council can manage it, as Dr. Wheeler noted with respect to that earlier. But hopefully, in three years time our budget could be in the neighbourhood of \$2.8 or three million dollars so that we would match federal contributions. Again, as to where the \$350,000 could come from for this fiscal year, my colleague from Yellowknife South noted the other day that there is a reserve. Now that we have a different method of budgeting, there is a \$7.5 million reserve. We have not abused it, I do not think, in going through the budget this time. My honourable friend alluded to one other potential use for it, but I would like to see us make use of some of that reserve for these kinds of programs. I would urge other Members to support the motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion, Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Very briefly, to speak in favour of the motion, Mr. Chairman, I believe that the proposed increase in funding for the co-ordinating council that is in the present budget, a five per cent increase, which in dollars is \$58,000, is not sufficient in view of the many programs that Dr. Wheeler has indicated will go without funds if that budget remains as is. I therefore am in support of more funds being allocated, as Mr. MacQuarrie's motion states, to community alcohol and drug projects.

Training And Program Evaluation

One of the major projects that the co-ordinating council has funded for years is in the city of Yellowknife, and I believe that that is one of the successful programs, the Northern Addiction Services treatment centre and detox program. It services the region, not just Yellowknife, and I know they have in that program over the years, a group of dedicated volunteers on their board of directors and a very hard-working staff who we were told today, and it does not surprise me, are probably underpaid in relation to the level of competent service that they are providing. Specifically, Mr. Chairman, I note Dr. Wheeler's statements both in the media and today in this Assembly that two areas that are being hampered because of the lack of funds are training and program evaluation. I would be in support of the motion simply to support funding of those two areas alone. Whether the training and the program evaluation is done by ADCC, by the department or by the community projects themselves, I think those areas are very, very important, particularly evaluation of programs.

If ADCC is now involved with expending sums of three to four million dollars a year we must have a program of evaluation to see whether the money is properly spent, whether we are getting value for the money. Mr. Chairman, in fairness to the Executive Council, I did note in the priority document that there was a figure of \$149,000 set aside for what the priority document indicates as a term program employing two individuals in eight communities to develop specific alcohol and drug prevention programs. Perhaps later I can ask the Minister because I am not sure how that would tie in with the work of ADCC. But even with the \$149,000 priority funds, I agree with Mr. MacQuarrie that a substantial increase is required. In a budget of some \$600 million, \$1.2 million is not enough funding for government in this very important area. So I will support the motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion, Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I will not go into the reasons why I support the motion. I think they have been expressed very well by my two colleagues, but in supporting this motion I personally am supporting two things. One, the idea that Dr. Wheeler brought forward that within three years we see a matching contribution by this government to the federal government grant. So we will be looking at six million dollars to spend on these programs three years from now. Also, in supporting this motion, I want to speak out in support of the basic framework that Dr. Wheeler put forward today, to involve communities in trying to deal with this problem. So I too support the motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion, Mr. McCallum.

Community Groups Hampered By Lack Of Funds

MR. MCCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to, as others have, indicate my support of the motion. I know that there are various community groups who are hampered by the lack of funds. There is a group in my own constituency that has begun to take steps to deal with the problem of alcohol and drug abuse in Fort Smith. I was at a meeting about a month ago or more when there were approximately 50 or 60 people, leaders of the community, from every organization, at that particular meeting in an attempt to develop a sensitivity to the kinds of abuse that went on within the community. Since then there has been a further meeting spurred on by the co-ordinator of the local alcohol and drug program. They are developing some time next month a workshop in Fort Smith whereby they will attempt to bring a group of people together -- they are hoping for as many as 25 to 30 people attending this workshop to try to take steps, or at least identify certain avenues that they can pursue. At the original meeting I was charged with the idea of trying to attempt to get further funding for them, although I do not believe that funding is the only avenue or the only approach to getting things done. The group at that first meeting indicated to me at that time they would see that as being one avenue that they could pursue, attempting to get further funding for their work. But they have met since then as I have indicated, and there is now a commitment on the part of a number of the leaders in the town to do something, to take positive steps so that they can develop a solution, or attempt to find out just what is causing or what contributes to the high incidence of alcoholism and drug abuse within the community. There are other particular groups involved with it as well but there is in Smith with the group that is there, an ongoing commitment to attempt to deal with these problems. I have no difficulty in supporting the motion. I too would indicate that I would hope that the government would continue to increase this amount of money in the next year to meet the goal of getting the same kind of funding that is being put forward by the federal government for this particular problem. So I will be in support of the motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. T'Seleie, to the motion.

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to say I support the motion. I read that 40 per cent of all crimes in the Northwest Territories are related to alcohol and the amount of hard liquor consumption in the Northwest Territories is twice the national average. I think that points to the seriousness of the problem. I just want to indicate my support. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mrs. Lawrence, to the motion.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to make a short comment. I am in support of the motion to increase funding -- that means more funding can be directed to community projects. One of the recommendations that was made by the chiefs conference held in Hay River was to use some of the profits that result from the liquor sales. I think that should be seriously considered as well. I do not have too much more to say. Mahsi cho.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Appaqaq, to the motion.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to make a comment to support the motion. I am not directly talking about alcohol; other things like drugs are one of the major concerns in the smaller communities. In the communities where liquor is allowed and they use drugs that are very bad for the brain, they should have some co-ordinators, counsellors on alcohol and drug problems. We keep hearing about not having enough funding and how they can get more funding in the communities. The people that drink too much and take drugs should have some counselling. I would like those smaller communities to be included in this motion. That is all I have to say. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Arlooktoo.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is definitely true. I support Moses Appaqaq's statement. In the smaller communities they have many problems with alcohol and drugs. Due to lack of funding people in some of the communities are not able to counsel or help these people. I will support this motion. In the larger communities, for instance my community is quite close to Frobisher Bay, even though there is not liquor in the community there is quite a large amount of drugs. I have heard this but I have not seen any drugs myself. I support this motion. In this motion it states communities and in Inuktitut it should have stated that, and it does not state communities in the document.

Motion To Recommend Increase In Funding To Community Alcohol And Drug Projects, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Are you ready for the question? All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Could I just note for the record that of course, Executive Council Members abstained because it is direction to them but I would like it noted that all other Members present in the House supported the motion and I hope the Executive Council will consider that seriously.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Let the record show that the motion was passed unanimously. Thank you. Any further comments or questions? Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just would like to ask of Dr. Wheeler what the size of the council is now and how many members at large, that is members who do not represent any one of the various organizations that are involved, are on the council? As well, I would like to get some indication from him whether, in fact, the council has made any recommendations to the government or to the Minister prior to what he explained today with regard to reorganization of the council. In the past, I know that it has been difficult for the council to operate because the representatives of various organizations are not consistent from year to year, if you like, or month to month, or from meeting to meeting or whatever the number of times the group gets together.

I know that that has been a problem for some time. I know that there have been different experiences in Dr. Wheeler's time about the make-up, about the council itself, and it has presented a problem because of the inconsistency and I guess at times members of the council go through a regurgitation, as it were, of what goes on at every meeting. You have to keep telling new people over and over about the working or the operation of the council and I know that has hampered it over the years. I would like to get some idea whether the council has made recommendations to the Minister or to the government prior to coming here today on the comments he made about a reorganization, that is, needing to build up with people with a commitment, rather than simply going there to represent an organization. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Any further comments? Oh, I am sorry. I am getting tired I think. Dr. Wheeler.

DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What Mr. McCallum has noted has happened in the past. There has been inconsistency from time to time from various organizations and it was felt that we were at a stage where we need to get a firm commitment from people who were committed to dealing

with the problem. At the present time, there are nine members on the council, six of whom represent regional Inuit associations in the case of Nunavut, and in the case of the Mackenzie Valley, Denendeh, the Metis Association, COPE and the Dene Nation. In order to have balance in the voting the Dene Nation and the Metis Association have two votes each and there are three members at large chosen by the Minister of Social Services.

It was at the recent meeting that we really firmed up this idea of how the restructuring could occur. We have talked in the past year or so with officials of the Department of Social Services and the federal government about the possibilities of restructuring and just which way to go with it and it was at the regional council meeting in the early part of this month that we finally fixed this goal. So, the Minister has not been informed directly until today.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Gargan

Motion That ADCC Be Made More Autonomous With Increased Regional Representation

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman I have a motion: Whereas the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council is to recommend a system of a more sensitive and responsive nature; and whereas the present centralization of alcohol and drug staff does not necessarily work in the best interests of the regional and local programs; therefore, I move that the Minister of Social Services request the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council to undertake immediate discussion with all concerned on the devolution of responsibilities and powers of the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council with the purpose of making the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council a more autonomous body at arm's length from the territorial government with increased representation at the regional level.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Gargan, your motion is in order. To the motion.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The territorial Regional and Tribal Councils Ordinance that was given assent on September 10, 1983, gives councils the power to establish a regional board of management to administer those programs of the region delegated from time to time by the Government of the Northwest Territories. This is an ordinance under the territorial government. There is also a policy paper right now with regard to the devolution of services to the communities. So these are the two types of programs, I believe, Mr. Chairman, that meet the aspirations of both the alcohol conference in Hay River of all the chiefs and also with regard to the consultant's report. This motion is really to start the discussion process with all concerned groups to see what type of programs they would like to see at the regional and community level, what kind of a role maybe that MLAs could play with regard to the whole process, whether it would be a commission or a management board or a committee.

Also this would identify what would be the role of this new board, committee or commission, in the area of prevention, with regard to the aged and the handicapped, with regard to mentally handicapped people. This would still be under the responsibility of the territorial government, but I believe it is time now that the problems that directly affect the communities should be dealt with at that level. I believe too that if that occurs, then the people that are responsible at those levels would be more responsive to the problem at hand. I forgot to mention that also right now we do have a board that meets four times a year with representation from, not all the regions, but the different groups; COPE has a representative, Dene Nation, Metis, and members at large. The Baffin Regional Council I believe has a representative and ITC might have a representative but I am not too sure about that. But we are dealing with a very large area and these people do not always get the opportunity to go to all the communities to deal with all the different types of concerns that might be expressed.

This would be sort of a mechanism to get that process started. I believe that Dr. Wheeler said that we are not going to get things done here and now but at least let us start the process so that all the aspirations of the interest groups, associations, institutions if you like, would be dealt with, so that maybe in a year or a couple of years down the line, if and when this Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council wants to go into the area of that, at least they are doing it in consultation with all people concerned. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, there are a couple of points I want to make with regard to the motion itself. Firstly, I do not necessarily agree that the present staff does not work in the best interests of the people of the NWT. What one might see is that there may be not enough staff to respond to the concerns at the regional level but I believe that the present staff are trying to deal with issues as best as they can.

Secondly, I do not necessarily agree that the creation of more committees will allow for more money to be put into the communities and the regions. The reality is that the more committees that you create the more money you have to spend on those committees to meet on an ongoing basis. So, I do not necessarily agree that that is going to resolve your concern.

If the intent is to allow for a better response mechanism in the assessment, I am not sure again if I agree with the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council carrying it out, but the recommendation is to the Minister and I would hope that the Minister and the department carries out that assessment. There has already been a suggestion from the co-ordinating council as to what the approach might be. But the regions and the communities themselves might have a different approach and a different suggestion as to how to respond better to the programs that they are proposing and the manner in which we deal with the kinds of programs that are necessary for each particular region. So in that sense I think that you have to be extremely careful about the idea of creating more bodies. I think that the assessment itself, if it is carried out by the Minister bringing together all the ideas, including the idea of the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council, might in fact show that there are a number of ways that we could better deal with the issue, as opposed to just suggesting there be regional co-ordinating councils, that there might be a different mechanism. The Minister may come back with that particular idea. But I believe that what is key is getting more money to the community programs. That is key. That is the most important part. The other part is to make sure we have the proper staff, the professional people, that are needed to carry out the necessary training to respond to the requests and the requirements of the communities. That is the other issue. I am not sure if the motion itself is recognizing that factor.

So I just wanted to point those out. I am not opposed to the motion but I think you have to recognize that there are other elements that ought to have been addressed in the motion. And the way the motion is written, I think does not recognize the contribution of the present staff. I think that they ought to be commended for the amount of work that they have contributed to the present programs as they are.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Certainly without any question there is a need to improve them. And to improve the ability of this government to respond at the regional level, particularly at the regional level. At the moment we do not have that response capability.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Gargan, to the motion.

Purpose Of The Motion

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, the whole purpose of this motion is to start that process of discussion. I am not necessarily saying that it should be the regional council but maybe that is another way of approaching it. What I am saying right now is that the discussion starts now. So I am not jeopardizing any programs right now, but certainly if they do have the body right now representing native organizations maybe it could be the responsibility of the native organizations to go out to the communities and get the type of concern that might be expressed.

At the same time what is the position of the regional or tribal councils? Are they ready to take on these responsibilities? If not, then maybe they could just send a representative. I am not necessarily saying that it should be a political person that should be representing the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council but a representative at the regional level or a support staff at the regional level.

These are all the types of options that could be examined. Certainly I do not want to jeopardize any programs that are now in existence but let's examine them, let's discuss it, let's start discussing it now. I do not know what is going to happen once Dr. Wheeler leaves the witness chair. Does the discussion stop there? I just want to make sure that in the process of discussion, if and how that process could be used to find answers to make it a hell of a lot easier

for the programs to function than it is now because I believe that there is a difficulty with the programs right now because of the lack of support staff but that is something that could be examined too. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Nerysoo.

Assessment Of Moneys Spent In All Areas

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not opposing the motion. I am, in fact, supporting what you are saying but I am trying to add to it. The other thing that I think any assessment should take into consideration is the amount of money that is being spent in the Northwest Territories and the problems that are associated with co-ordinating the expenditures of those moneys, both federal and territorial. I think that you pointed that out, Dr. Wheeler. You pointed that out earlier, that there is some difficulty.

The other thing is that there has to be an overall assessment, I think, of the amount of money that is being spent. While it may not be outlined in the budget of Social Services there are other areas where money is being spent right now. Education, for instance, have developed a part of the curriculum through which they are going to now provide programs in the area of alcohol education.

AN HON. MEMBER: Point of order.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Point of order. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would move that we finish the business at hand, namely dealing with Dr. Wheeler before we recognize the clock. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The motion is not debatable. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you. I was just concluding my remarks with those points because there is a lot more money, I believe, being spent than people are aware of and in the assessment we ought to look at those as well. Thank you.

Chairman (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I think the motion is very simple. We have heard recommendations from the present chairman of the ADCC who indicates that they want to get a system set up that, as the motion says, is a little more sensitive and more responsive to the demands that are being made of it and it may be that the centralization in one community does not help totally because they just do not get enough staff to move around. I think that is what the motion is asking, that the Minister begin discussions with the idea of giving the ADCC more flexibility, a little more responsibility in determining the type of programs. It also indicates that there should be a better representation on the ADCC than there is now.

I asked about the make-up of the council with the fluctuation in terms of membership from meeting to meeting, from month to month, from year to year. Maybe the regional people who have an overt, if you like, or a determined interest in the program, are the kind of people who should be on that council. I think that is what the motion is saying and I am in support of it.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I too support the motion. I guess one can read almost anything into a motion like this but what I read into it after talking with Mr. Gargan, is that what we have had today is the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council coming to us with some recommendations and what we are

saying by this is go and explore them. See what you can come up with. Really I see nothing more than that and obviously the Minister ultimately will have to make an assessment but I see this as essentially giving you a go-ahead to the basic ideas that you have given us, go ahead and explore them to see what you come up with. I do not have any problem with the motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. To the motion. Are you ready for the question?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion That ADCC Be Made More Autonomous With Increased Regional Representation, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Question is being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Abstentions? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Thank you. I am going to ask Dr. Wheeler if he has a conclusion. Dr. Wheeler.

DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to thank everybody today for carrying our report and for these two motions which I think are going to help us a lot. As has been pointed out, this is merely a start on a look at how we are going to evolve over the next few years. On behalf of the council and the community projects, I want to thank you for your support today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. McLaughlin.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank Dr. Wheeler for appearing also. I think he is probably glad we are organized now. We told him what time to be here and we actually got him into the House this time on time. I appreciate the debate and the motions of direction given to the department. Because my budget is on the floor most of the staff people involved in this area of the department are in the gallery and I am sure they appreciated the first-hand advice from the MLAs. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Does the committee agree that this matter is concluded?

SOME HON MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): I would like to thank Dr. Wheeler for appearing in the House. Now I wish to report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Mr. Pudluk.

ITEM 16: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I think you recognize me from the past. Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 7-85(1) and wishes to report progress. In the course of its deliberations your committee has heard from the chairman of the Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council and wishes to report this matter concluded with two motions being adopted. Further, Mr. Speaker, Bill 3-85(1), Bill 9-85(1), Bill 10-85(1), Bill 1-85(1), Bill 4-85(1), Bill 5-85(1), Bill 8-85(1), Bill 11-85(1), and including Tabled Document 67-85(1) are recommended for further consideration in the committee of the whole.

Motion To Accept Report Of Committee Of The Whole, Carried

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

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Great improvement as a matter of fact, Mr. Pudluk. I might even have you back. Are there any announcements from the floor? Ms Cournoyea.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I would just like to bring to the attention of this House that Sharon Firth has won the overall North American marathon championship in a series of weekly runs between 40 and 55 kilometres. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any further announcements? Any further cheerful announcements? With regard to the sitting hours of tomorrow morning, how many would be available for sitting between 9:30 and 12:00 and 1:30 to 7:00 tomorrow? Thank you. We will set the hours then for tomorrow morning at 9:30 a.m. until 12:00, 1:30 until 7:00 p.m. Mr. Clerk, announcements and orders of the day.

ITEM 19: ORDERS OF THE DAY

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Orders of the day for Wednesday, March 27 at 9:30 a.m.

1. Prayer
2. Members' Replies
3. Ministers' Statements
4. Oral Questions
5. Written Questions
6. Returns
7. Petitions
8. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
9. Tabling of Documents
10. Notices of Motion
11. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
12. Motions: Motion 19-85(1)
13. First Reading of Bills
14. Second Reading of Bills
15. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters: Bills 7-85(1), 3-85(1), 9-85(1), 10-85(1), 1-85(1), 4-85(1); Tabled Document 67-85(1); Bills 5-85(1), 8-85(1), 11-85(1)
16. Report of Committee of the Whole
17. Third Reading of Bills
18. Assent to Bills
19. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: This House stands adjourned till 9:30 a.m., March 27th.

---ADJOURNMENT

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