



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

5th Session

10th Assembly

**HANSARD**  
Official Report  
**DAY 3**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 1985**

**Pages 68 to 100**

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

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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RANKIN INLET, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 1985

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): Orders of the day for Friday, June 7th. Item 2, Members' replies. Mr. Angottitauruq.

ITEM 2: MEMBERS' REPLIES

Mr. Angottitauruq's Reply

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make my reply now. I guess today is as good as any. I will try to make it short -- not like the last one. And I will try to say it peacefully too. I will touch on the main concerns of my constituency.

Transient Centre For Kitikmeot Patients

My constituency has, year after year, been trying to talk about a patient transient centre being opened in Yellowknife for our patients. This is not only for my constituency but for the whole Kitikmeot Region. I think they are quite impatient about it. There have been some questionnaires passed around and collected by the past patients who used to go to the hospital. I believe it was in 1984 that this questionnaire was put out by Social Services. At the last Kitikmeot Regional Council meeting there was a motion that was passed and whenever they have their regional meetings they try to express it to the regional office. It does not seem to have been recognized too well. I know it has been recognized by this House but because of the many problems they have had with boarding in Yellowknife, I guess the residents are getting quite anxious. I personally do not see the true involvement of the government, really, to erect the patient transient centre. I guess there are some other sources that this transient centre can be funded from. I guess this is the number one concern of my constituents and they are trying to say that it is urgently needed. I hope that some day soon this government will put its whole efforts to support the patient transient centre in Yellowknife for the patients of Kitikmeot West and East because that has been their concern for the past few years now.

Airline Problems

I have to say something about the airline now. After my last reply I found out a little more about it. This time I would like to not say too much about the airline, because I found out some of their problems. One of them is the airstrip in Spence Bay. The federal government has no funding available to extend the airstrips. The other main problem they have is -- I know when the businesses are operating they require to make a few dollars, and if they cannot meet the dollars they are asking for, they cannot make a good business. The main problem of the airline -- high

price of the airline service to our communities -- is the gas. The aviation gas is one of the main problems. That is still my constituency's concern and it is still an issue in my constituency. I guess there will be some improvements someday.

#### Post Offices

The other concern of my constituency is the post offices. As we all know we are living in the North and Canada Post usually replies, when they are replying to the hamlets, that a lot of people down south have their own personal private homes as post offices. As we live in the North we really do not build our own houses; they are usually built by the Housing Corporation. The buildings that most of the people live in are from the Housing Corporation and they are a little too small already for the families. There is no room a lot of times for post offices. Now, Canada Post I guess have to stop using that term, that you could have your post office in your own homes. Buildings are hard to come by in the North I guess and they are quite expensive too. I have learned that the hamlets are usually subsidizing the post offices, to bring services to the community. I guess it is all right for Canada Post to really think that they could be subsidized for the fuel and power. In the small communities I guess that is one of the greatest concerns, too, because in one letter from a hamlet it says that a lot of people have to wait outside in the middle of wintertime because the post offices are too small. I agree with that.

#### Economic Planner For Small Communities

Also there is still another concern in my constituency in line with economic development. We have a new economic development officer posted at Spence Bay. That is a great help but the constituents really need another person besides the economic development officer; a person to study and find out what businesses can operate, because a lot of times people try to start up a business and then the economic development officer just turns around and says, "I don't think that is feasible." Now, my constituency, like any other constituency, is lacking employment. At this time, when communities are small, I can only believe that they need a lot of help from Economic Development to really create jobs. In the bigger communities it may seem that you do not really require the economic development funding or services to start up a business sometimes, but it is still needed too. I guess my constituency really requires an economic planner. I guess that is what is really needed in the small communities.

I will have to make my reply short, and I will just say that those are the main things that I would like to bring up in this House from my constituents, looking at all of the three communities I represent; that is Spence Bay, Pelly Bay and Gjoa Haven. Now, I would like to touch a little on each community by itself.

#### Hamlet Employees In Gjoa Haven

I guess I will try and say something about Gjoa Haven. Well, Gjoa Haven, among those three communities, seems to be having a little problem because the hamlet workers are trying to become a union. It is kind of hard to talk about the whole situation, because at this time it requires a lot of funding. That seems to be a concern in the community as a hamlet, and I really cannot speak too much about the unions and the hamlet itself, because I find it hard to talk about it. Well, the union demands something and the hamlet does not have it and it is usually with the funding. So, I guess some of the communities in the Northwest Territories will try and follow, in demands for benefits as a worker. I would just like to say something about the employees. They seem to have the right to try and complain that they are not really given many benefits and some of them have been working for over 10 years. I guess they require, in their hearts, some recognition as a good worker for so many years. The only main problem is that there is just not enough funding to go around to get their benefits.

I guess I have already said something about Spence Bay and what I have written down for Spence is the airstrip.

#### Lack Of Supplies In Pelly Bay

Pelly Bay. Well, Pelly Bay is only serviced by air. They do not get any barge service there, and a lot of times they are out of supplies. They only have one co-op store. I guess the local people's concern -- they are concerned about that a little, and they cannot be really just a little bit concerned. If you are running out of supplies every few weeks and with the high air fares and you do not want to move away from your home, it could be quite confusing sometimes.



Staff Housing In Gjoa Haven

I would like to go back to Gjoa Haven again. This has been brought to my attention a number of times already and I am beginning to recognize it as a concern in the community; that is, the staff housing for the government workers there. I do not think I would be trying to take the workers away from Spence Bay which has a lot of good staff houses, but the only thing I do not agree with is that a smaller community has more staff houses. I thought a larger community required more attention for services. I am only trying to make it fair to the size of a community, not to take staff away from another community. That is the hamlet's main concern, staff housing in the community. I guess in the future, the staff housing in that community would be upgraded if it is recognized as one of those communities that requires those government services in that community.

I think that is about all for my reply today. I just wanted to say a few of the concerns and voice them in the House so that they can be recognized as the residents' concerns. I am trying to make my reply as peaceful as possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Angottitauruq. I would like to recognize at this time a former colleague who is in the House today, Mr. Peter Ernerk. Item 2, Members' replies. That appears to conclude Members' replies for today. Item 3, Ministers' statements. Mr. Wray.

ITEM 3: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement On Public Housing

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For a number of years public housing in the Northwest Territories has suffered due to inadequate levels of funding in that portion of the base dedicated to maintenance. As we all know, many of the difficulties that have been plaguing housing associations, such as high staff turnover and low maintenance standards, are directly linked to this shortage of funds.

Many have wondered why the territorial government simply could not make up this shortfall. However, it was felt that the problem had to be addressed at its source which meant going back to the federal government where the deficiency originated. That has been a slow process and we simply cannot wait any longer for the federal government to make its decision.

The submission to the federal Treasury Board is seeking funding of \$7.9 million to enable the GNWT to bring its public housing maintenance base up to an appropriate level. This amount, coupled with CMHC's cost-shared portion, would mean a permanent funding increase to that base of \$12 million. Commencing with a major supplementary appropriation bill to be presented to you this afternoon, the Executive Council has taken the first step in allocating resources to address this base deficiency. Additional funding is expected to be allocated in the next few months when the Financial Management Board examines the 1986-87 operational plan.

Once that full program funding is approved, it is expected that funding will be available for the hiring of 166 new maintenance and administrative staff at the housing association level over the next two years. It would also enable us to fund salary increases and benefit packages for housing association and authority employees at levels on par with the territorial government employees. It will allow us to strengthen the corporation's technical capability at headquarters in the districts. And with the total amount in place next year, it would once and for all mean that public housing could be maintained at the same high standards as territorial government staff housing thus reducing disparities in housing within communities.

Work has already started on a preventive maintenance system using the same standards as the system currently being used by the Department of Public Works and Highways for government staff housing. This system will be fully operational within 12 months. In the meantime, Housing Corporation district offices are preparing job descriptions for the more than 80 new housing association positions that we will be creating this fiscal year as the first part of the two year phased-in program that I mentioned just a few moments ago.

Given your approval, these measures will bring significant improvements to the quality of life of a great number of northerners not only through better housing, but also through increased wages and benefits for the deserving staffs of our housing associations and authorities. Furthermore, it will lead to the creation of valuable permanent employment opportunities, especially in the smaller communities, as the new positions -- 166 in total over the next two years -- come on stream.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to point out that the initiatives that I have just announced substantially respond to one of the most important recommendations of the special committee on housing whose report was presented this week.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. GORDON WRAY: That recommendation is number 24 which relates to the increased maintenance funding for public housing and our outstanding Treasury Board submission on this subject. Let me say that while our government recognizes housing as one of its highest priorities and is committed to immediately addressing this vital issue, we will continue to press for fair federal funding support to compensate for a long-standing base funding deficiency and to avoid reducing other necessary GNWT programs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 3, Ministers' statements. Ms Cournoyea.

Minister's Statement On Caribou Population

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I believe that over the past while we often look at things such as housing but I am sure that some people are interested in the ongoing results of the information we seek on behalf of the hunters and trappers and the caribou counts that are going on.

To bring you up to date on the work that has been carried out by the department. The results of the 1984 survey of the Bathurst caribou herd are indicating the count of cows on the calving ground more than double, compared to the last survey count down in 1982. Counts of caribou on a herd's calving ground are used mainly to indicate changes in herd size and to estimate the total numbers in that herd. This increase, according to the results, cannot entirely be explained as a result of natural population growth and suggest that some cows have changed the location of where they calve. From the mid 1960s to mid 1970s the estimated number of breeding females on the Bathurst calving ground remained relatively stable and in 1974 numbers declined, reaching a low in 1980. A slight increase was observed between 1980 and 1982 and recent 1984 survey results show a dramatic increase in the counting, with the estimated number of cows more than doubling in that count. Since 1980 each calving ground census has consisted of two independent surveys: one a visual survey where trained observers count caribou on strip transects, and a photographic survey where a camera in an aircraft is used to photograph portions of the calving area. Caribou in each photograph are counted by photo interpreters and results from the independent survey method show the same trend, further supporting the observed increase in the count since 1980. The dramatic increase in the number of Bathurst cows between 1982 and 1984 is similar to an increase in the Kaminuriak caribou between 1980 and 1982, in those counts.

As in the Bathurst herd, the increase in the Kaminuriak caribou herd was not explainable based upon natural population growths and most likely as the result of cows changing calving locations. Cows that had previously bred within the Bathurst range but not on the traditional calving grounds, may have aggregated with the main body of breeding cows in June, 1984. A second possibility is that the cows that had previously calved in association with other herds migrated into the Bathurst range and calved with the Bathurst cows. Regardless of which explanation accounted for the increase in counts, there is an obvious need to better understand such large changes in calving ground numbers. Both the Kaminuriak and Bathurst herds border the range of Wager herd, for which we have little information on movements and calving distribution in our scientific data collection. The movement of Wager caribou into the Kaminuriak and Bathurst range may have resulted in the observed increases.

By far the best method of obtaining information on the movement of caribou within and between herds and on the fidelity of cows to traditional calving areas, is a radio collar and monitor. This is to monitor the movements of individuals over a long period of time. The NWT Department of Renewable Resources has placed 62 radio collars on the Kaminuriak and Wager cows, to assist us in

obtaining the data necessary to answer these questions. Presently we have no radio collars on the Bathurst caribou at the moment. Data on caribou movements between and within herds and the fidelity of cows to traditional calving areas is essential if we are to understand the causes of dramatic changes in the counts in calving ground populations and to evaluate our current caribou management techniques. Mr. Speaker, I would like at this time to thank the hunters and trappers and the people who do harvest the herds, for their co-operation with our department. Thank you.

---Applause

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

ITEM 4: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 11-85(2): Meliadine River Bridge

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Public Works and Highways. Last evening, Mr. Speaker, myself and one of my colleagues went to go fishing in the nearby Meliadine River. My question has to do with the state of the roads in my friend, Mr. Curley's, riding. I had been told some time ago that the Minister of Public Works and Highways and his colleagues were looking after things in the Keewatin and after driving over that road last night I know it is not true. We did not get to the Meliadine River, we got as far as the Char River and there was no more road, the river had washed it out. For the benefit of my friend, Mrs. Lawrence, she should no longer complain about the state of the bridge at Little Buffalo River. My question to the Minister is when will the road be repaired so that we tourists can go fishing in Mr. Curley's riding?

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 11-85(2): Meliadine River Bridge

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased that the Member has noted that not everything goes to the Keewatin. We obviously have our priorities and being the fair men that we are, we have determined that the highway system in the West, at this point in time, is one where we should put the money and we will consider Mrs. Lawrence's a priority before we consider the bridge at the Meliadine. However, I should point out that being the one responsible for building the original bridge over the Meliadine, I am a little surprised that it got washed out, I thought we had built it better than that. However, we will certainly take the Member's comments under consideration and if it should show up in supplementary appropriation then we will not think that it is too untoward.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. I see that Mr. Curley wants to get in this act. This is very unorthodox but due to the circumstance I will recognize you, Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand the Minister of Finance is already preparing a special warrant shortly.

--Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: You can always tell when a new Member of the Legislature tries to bring up something in fun and how much trouble it can cause. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, the road was washed out on the Char River and I would like to suggest we call the bridge after Mr. Curley.

MR. SPEAKER: Possibly we can now get serious. Oral questions. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Question 12-85(2): Appointment Of Chairman For Workers' Compensation Board

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board. The Minister yesterday announced with regret, the resignation of a valued employee, the chairman of the the Workers' Compensation Board, John MacLean. In looking at



the legislation, I see that it is not entirely precise, there is room for ministerial discretion in the reappointment. So could I ask the Minister what procedure he will use in reappointing a chairman to the Workers' Compensation Board and could we have some idea of the time frame that he will be working with?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 12-85(2): Appointment Of Chairman For Workers' Compensation Board

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for advance notice on this question. I intend, in consultation with my Executive colleagues, to recommend a person or persons to the Members of the Legislature for their consideration for appointment as a board member. The recommendation of the Legislature is then placed before the Commissioner through a formal motion to the Commissioner by the House which makes the appointment as board member and chairman. I expect to do that by the following session of this House. So I will come forward with a name, after consultation with my Executive colleagues, to the Legislature, and then through formal motion we will approve it in the Legislature, with the concurrence of the Members of this House. I hope to do that in the fall session.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. MacQuarrie, do you have a supplementary? Mr. Arlooktoo.

Question 13-85(2): Meeting On Fine Arts, Baker Lake

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Economic Development. In Baker Lake there was a meeting on fine arts. How are you going about it and how is it going to be beneficial to the carvers and artists in the NWT? Can you give us any information on what they are planning to do after the meeting they had in Baker Lake? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 13-85(2): Meeting On Fine Arts, Baker Lake

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Joe Arlooktoo stated there was a meeting on fine arts. We approved it last year. We wanted some surveys on the fine arts in the NWT and after they finished the meeting they will be preparing a presentation to me on how to get some support in the NWT. They get \$15 million from the Inuit arts for the NWT and we have recognized that Inuit art is not only beneficial toward Inuit people but it is beneficial toward Canadian residents as well. We recognize that we should support this. It has given us the opportunity to get a better understanding and they will be giving me some support on 23 items. There has to be some sort of funding to support the carving and arts and crafts. Some of them will be stating that the carvings are very expensive in the NWT. I think it will be beneficial in the economic development area and through the EDA they can get some funding. I think a subagreement will be beneficial and I will be looking into this. The Canadian government has been funding Canadian residents who do fine arts. It is not used very much in the NWT by the residents of the NWT. I think we should have more advisers on fine arts who can give us more understanding. Cape Dorset is one of the most famous places being used. I think that the young people of the NWT have a better understanding of fine arts and how to develop fine arts in the NWT. I will be giving my information in the near future. This is all the information I have now.

I would like to thank the people who were at the meeting, Jimmy Manning is sitting there and Tom Webster and Avrom Issacs from the South and they are just returning home. We are going to try and get our recommendations some support; to see whether the government is willing to help us. We had some support from the carvers and the people who do prints and they were not just looking at the government employees, to get support within the department itself, but we are trying to get support as well from the carvers. I will be giving my information on fine arts this fall.

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

Question 14-85(2): Testing For PCB Levels In Rae Area

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Health and Social Services. I understand that there are some tests being done for levels of PCB on Inuit people but I am just wondering in the Rae area where there is a high level of radio-active contamination whether there are tests being done on people as well as animals. If so, what are the results of these tests?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, the federal government I think agreed to look into the health situation in the Rae area due to the Rayrock mining tailings pond and the concerns of the residents of that area. I am not aware of the details of where that is at so I will ask my officials what the status of that study is and report back hopefully before the session ends.

MR. SPEAKER: You are taking the question as notice then, Mr. McLaughlin. Oral questions. Mr. Paniloo.

Question 15-85(2): Vital Statistics On Elderly

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last year I asked this same question and it is directed to the Minister of Social Services. Yesterday when we were meeting we were talking about vital statistics on where residents were born. My question is for the older Inuit people mainly. Perhaps they can get more vital statistics on where they were born and how old they are, due to the fact that some of them are passing away before they get pensions even if they have their accurate age. I would like to get some information as to if you can get better vital statistics on elderly people of the NWT.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 15-85(2): Vital Statistics On Elderly

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Executive Council and the Financial Management Board have directed me and my department, in order to do adequate planning for accommodation and services for the elderly to do a survey of all the elderly people in the NWT. This is to find out what their present state of health is and what their present environment is, to plan both for the accommodation and health services provided. So this work will be beginning shortly. Hopefully by the budget session next year we may have some preliminary results and some final results shortly after that, in order to have a solid basis for making plans for services to the aged and handicapped in the NWT. Further, Mr. Speaker, it is the plan of the department, when this is going on, to train the staff of Social Services and Health in each community to make these assessments on an ongoing basis so that each year elderly people will be reassessed and as people reach the age of 60 they will be assessed. So we will hopefully always have a good handle on the statistics on needs of the elderly and handicapped in the NWT from then on. Thank you.

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

Question 16-85(2): Information Regarding Sale Of NTCL

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Finance and it is with regard to the sale of NTCL to, I believe, an Inuit company. I would like to ask the Minister of Finance what was the rationale behind the sale to this particular company? I would like to ask the Minister of Finance what kind of assurance the Dene people have with regard to that monopoly deal, from the East?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Butters.

Return To Question 16-85(2): Information Regarding Sale Of NTCL

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, the GNWT was not consulted in the negotiations that went on between the federal government and the proponents, therefore, is not aware nor privy to the rationalization upon which the federal government made its decision. So I cannot provide that answer.

To the second part of the question, I do not have any knowledge beyond that that is available to the general public at large. I do believe that the successful proponents were seeking to involve other interested parties in the North and I do not know if that has been successful or not. But I have no special information, nor has this government any special information, on what is going on with regard to the post-sale activities of that corporation.

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

Supplementary To Question 16-85(2): Information Regarding Sale Of NTCL

MR. GARGAN: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Certainly as a government of the people up here, anything that affects the people should include this government. I do not understand why, for a sale of that magnitude, this government has not even had observer status or advisory status to the occurrence of such a sale. I have difficulty in swallowing a lot of the answers we get from this government with regard to issues that affect the general public directly. I would like to ask the Finance Minister, then, if anything is finalized with regard to that sale, whether any other interested parties have been consulted regarding the sale.

MR. SPEAKER: Actually I believe the Minister has replied to that in that he has no other information except that which is public. However, Mr. Minister, do you wish to add to that?

Further Return To Question 16-85(2): Information Regarding Sale Of NTCL

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Just to say that those arrangements are transpiring between another government and a corporation of which we have no knowledge of its business or general approaches. What this government did do was to request of the federal government that the proponents and the propositions that would be advanced should be northern and native and that the federal government is urged to examine the make-up of those proposals and ensure that the proponents did include a major or significant portion of northern interests. And I believe that was done.

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

Question 17-85(2): Purchase Of Crafts For Expo '86

MRS. LAWRENCE: Mahsi cho. Unfortunately I am forced to speak English since we have no Dene translators with us. By the time I realized we had to make a request it was too late. My question is to the Minister responsible for Economic Development, regarding Expo '86. My question is what has been done in contacting the people at the community level in regard to the sale of crafts? It was brought to my attention that people are interested in selling crafts but they do not really know who to contact. I wonder if the Minister could answer that for me, please.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Will the honourable Members try and remember to turn down their receivers before they speak into their microphones? Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 17-85(2): Purchase Of Crafts For Expo '86

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to respond to the question regarding Expo '86. I talked about this earlier this year. I was mentioning about arts and crafts, hangings and carvings. They will be available for sale during Expo '86. Also George Braden and Alan Vaughan had put forth an information item to northerners, that they are collecting crafts to bring with them to Vancouver. A lot of native ladies in the communities are made aware of this. They were told that they could have quite a few arts and crafts for sale in Expo '86. These two people will not be able to make it to all the communities to get arts and crafts but we MLAs in the NWT will be free to speak about this in the communities, to tell the people that the people in Yellowknife are available to them, the people who are looking after Expo '86. I think we have to make the communities aware that they are able to perform and be involved in Expo '86. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mrs. Lawrence.

Supplementary To Question 17-85(2): Purchase Of Crafts For Expo '86

MRS. LAWRENCE: It was my understanding, Mr. Speaker, that a co-ordinator was to be hired to travel into the communities and funds were going to be made available to purchase crafts to have them ready for Expo '86. Am I correct in thinking that there will be no co-ordinator to go into the community?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.



Further Return To Question 17-85(2): Purchase Of Crafts For Expo '86

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Some of the understanding of the Member is not quite correct, although the Expo officials have hired a co-ordinator to buy all the northern products to build up the inventory for Expo '86, from co-ops and other businesses from the NWT, whether they be native Indian crafts or Inuit art work. It will not be possible for this individual to travel to all the communities in the NWT because that has not been budgeted for, but he will travel to some places where there is a large supplier, to meet with them to try and negotiate with them on the prices, mainly because any product that these people will require will have to be supplied in bulk. So if there are arts and crafts businesses in Members' constituencies, I would urge each Member to get in touch with the co-ordinator, the Expo officials, whether it be George Braden or Alan Vaughan. From there the contact can be made to try and see what kind of products the communities are willing to supply.

I know they are busy, they are out somewhere, but I want to assure Members that it will not be possible for officials to be travelling around to all the communities just for the sake of trying to find out what is in the community, because we do know what is in the community and what kind of businesses there are in each of these places. So if you are interested, I would urge you to get in touch with George Braden or Alan Vaughan, who is the Expo co-ordinator, and from there on they will deal with the community.

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

Question 18-85(2): Method Of Surveying Needs Of The Elderly

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask a question of Mr. McLaughlin concerning an earlier reply that he made to a question from Mr. Paniloo concerning an assessment of the needs of the elderly. Mr. McLaughlin said that the department is planning to assess all of the old people in the NWT. I would like to know how the department plans to do that, whether they plan to go door-to-door. As well I would like to ask the Minister if all the Members could, when this study is all done, have copies of whatever the department comes up with on the needs of old people.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 18-85(2): Method Of Surveying Needs Of The Elderly

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The department plans to use the existing people in the field, the social workers in the communities and the Health and Welfare nurses. I have written to the Department of Health and Welfare asking the Minister for the co-operation of his staff to help our officials do this survey. Because these people live and work in the community, they will be going door-to-door with the main people doing the survey. In other words there will be only two to four people doing the survey itself because we want to make sure that when the survey is done, the same criteria are used to make judgments on what people's present situation is. But we will be using the local social worker, public health nurses and nursing station employees to help us do this survey.

Once the survey is completed we will be able to provide the results to Members. However, because the survey will deal with individual people's particular health situations, we would not provide the name of each person and description of what his or her situation is, but we will have numbers in each community indicating the age and situation of people but without the individuals' names. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Paniloo.

Question 19-85(2): Ability To Purchase Rifles Using Rubber Bullets

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is directed to the Minister of Renewable Resources. It is regarding the rifles that they use for shooting at bears to scare them away. I believe we cannot purchase these rifles. I have a rifle permit but I am not able to purchase this specific type of rifle. My question is, could we be provided a permit to buy these rifles with rubber bullets? The polar bears in Clyde River are very close at this time. In the winter they are not too close to the communities but in the spring they tend to get very close to the communities. I think our community will need these specific rifles when their polar bear quotas are decreased. I would like to find out how we would be able to purchase these rifles. Could they be made available for sale for the people in the communities?



MR. SPEAKER: Ms Minister.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, in regard to that particular request, the only accommodation we have made in the past is to provide an extra gun to hunters and trappers associations. However I will take the issue and see how we may accommodate the request from the Member.

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

Question 20-85(2): Training For Native Economic Development Officers, Baffin Region

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Economic Development. You toured the Baffin Region. The economic development officers in the Baffin Region are all Kabloonas, there are no native economic development officers. The people in my constituency want to know if Economic Development could provide training for native people to become economic development officers.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 20-85(2): Training For Native Economic Development Officers, Baffin Region

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) We had a meeting in Frobisher Bay, after the tour in Baffin, with the officials of Economic Development in Baffin Region. It was stated that they should have more economic development trainees, especially in bigger communities like Pangnirtung. The regional director of the Baffin wrote a letter to Yellowknife saying that he will be looking for more funding so that they could provide more training for the Inuit people in the Baffin. All I know is that he is working toward that but I do not know when it will start. But also in the High Arctic, especially when there are oil companies working in the High Arctic, we thought that there should be more workers in the High Arctic. Gary Black also wrote a letter requesting co-ordinators to work in the High Arctic, but I will be providing you with this information in the future. Thank you.

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

Question 21-85(2): Updating Of Labour Standards Act

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Finance. It is with regard to the Labour Standards Act that this territorial government has. I am wondering if there is any intention by this government to update this act, because I believe that it is pretty out-of-date.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Butters, that is actually not necessarily in your portfolio, but if you want to deal with the question.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I will take the question as notice, Mr. Speaker. I will provide a reply.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The question is being taken as notice. Oral questions. Are there any written questions? Mr. Pudluk.

#### ITEM 5: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question 22-85(2): Arctic Bay Road Construction

MR. PUDLUK: I have a question to the Minister of Highways. In committee of the whole, at the winter session, I made a motion respecting the construction of a road from Arctic Bay to a place called Pamiujaq. Would the Minister responsible for Public Works please inform me, at this session, of the progress or actions that have taken place, to date, respecting that motion? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Written questions.

Item 6, returns. Are there any returns?

Item 7, petitions. Item 8, reports of standing and special committees. Mr. Ballantyne.

ITEM 8: REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Report Of Standing Committee On Finance

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The standing committee on finance this morning examined Supplementary Appropriations No. 1 and No. 4, and because of time constraints, because of a very compressed schedule, because of the fact that we did not receive the supps until we arrived here in town, because there are a couple of Ministers who are on government business right now, we were able to do, in committee, the Departments of Finance, Housing, Personnel, Local Government, Economic Development, Public Works, Social Services and Health. We will be dealing with them, hopefully, later on today, and because of the reasons I have just mentioned, the other departments that we were not able to deal with, we will deal with directly in the House. Our committee will submit a written report next week, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ballantyne, are you making by way of motion that this be placed in committee of the whole for today? Are you moving that now?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I intend to move the first reading of both Bill 10-85(2) and Bill 11-85(2) and request consent for second reading of both bills, and then at that time, ask if you would put them into the House, sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. That is correct, it is my error, they are bills not reports as such. Thank you. Are there any further reports of standing and special committees? Item 9, tabling of documents. Mr. Wray.

ITEM 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table, for the information of Members: Tabled Document 4-85(2), Department of Public Works and Highways Quarterly Contracts Report Summary, which provides a listing of all contracts awarded by the department between January and March of 1985. It is a fairly thick document, but for your information, 86 per cent of construction and maintenance contracts went to northern firms, and 96 per cent of the dollar value. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

---Applause

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the following document: Tabled Document 5-85(2), Northwest Territories Venture Capital Program, third draft. I would like to assure the Members that this is a working document and the final document will be presented to the Executive Council later this month. I am asking the Members to treat it as such. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. 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

First Reading Of Bill 10-85(2): Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1984-85

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Bill 10-85(2), An Act Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the 1984-85 Financial Year, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: To the motion. All those in favour? Opposed, if any?

---Carried

Bill 10-85(2) has had first reading. Mr. Butters.

First Reading Of Bill 11-85(2): Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1985-86

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Bill 11-85(2), An Act Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the 1985-86 Financial Year, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: To the motion. Are you ready for the question? All those in favour? Opposed, if any?

---Carried

Bill 11-85(2) has had first reading. First reading of bills. Item 14, second reading of bills. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, might I have consent of the House to move to second reading of Bill 10-85(2), this afternoon?

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Butters.

ITEM 14: SECOND READING OF BILLS

Second Reading Of Bill 10-85(2): Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1984-85

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Bill 10-85(2), An Act Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the 1984-85 Financial Year, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to provide for additional expenditures for the public service for the 1984-85 financial year and to authorize the write-off of debts owed to the Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: To the principle of the bill. Ready for the question? All those in favour? Opposed, if any?

---Carried

Bill 10-85(2) has had second reading. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, might I seek consent to give second reading this afternoon to Bill 11-85(2)?

MR. SPEAKER: Bill 11-85(2). Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Butters.

Second Reading Of Bill 11-85(2): Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1985-86

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Bill 11-85(2), An Act Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the 1985-86 Financial Year, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to provide for additional expenditures for the public service for the 1985-86 financial year.

MR. SPEAKER: To the principle of the bill. Ready for the question? All those in favour? Opposed, if any?

---Carried

Bill 11-85(2) has had second reading. Have we unanimous consent to add Bill 10-85(2) and Bill 11-85(2) into committee of the whole for today, to change the orders of the day?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Clerk, you will add Bill 10-85(2) and Bill 11-85(2) to the orders of the day for consideration by the committee of the whole today. Second reading of bills. Item 15, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters. Bill 6-85(2), Bill 10-85(2), Bill 11-85(2), 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 6-85(2), MENTAL HEALTH ACT; BILL 10-85(2), SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION ACT, NO. 4, 1984-85; BILL 11-85(2), SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION ACT, NO. 1, 1985-86

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): The committee will come to order. We will take a 15 minute coffee break.

---SHORT RECESS

Bill 6-85(2), Mental Health Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): The committee will come to order. Mr. McLaughlin, would you bring in your witness?

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I would like permission from the House to bring in Mrs. Elaine Berthelet from the Department of Health.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Does the committee agree?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Go ahead, Mr. McLaughlin. I think we were on clause 45 of Bill 6-85(2), Mental Health Act. Mr. Minister.

Transfer To Hospital Outside NWT

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yesterday we said to the committee that we would get the information on the two clauses where there were some possible changes or clarifications. The first one was subclause 19(3) and that is the situation where a medical practitioner is of the opinion that a hospital within the NWT is not equipped to restrain, observe, examine or treat a patient. That person instead of being held in the NWT would be transferred out of the Territories. Mr. Richard felt that there was a good case to make in that the medical practitioner should not intervene in a court process and Mrs. Berthelet has phoned Yellowknife and found out why it is worded this way and she could explain to the committee why the government wishes to leave the wording as it is.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mrs. Berthelet.

MRS. BERTHELET: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Subclause 19(3) is an exception clause. It is not an automatic procedure. This provision is necessary as certain individuals with very severe, particularly violent conditions cannot be kept in the NWT. If this provision was removed or left up to the courts, this may place the individual and perhaps health professionals in a very difficult and perhaps even dangerous situation. And we cannot wait that time period for the courts to render a decision, if it was them indeed who decided whether the patient was to be sent out of the Territories or to be held in the Territories, because sometimes it is a matter of a few hours



that we have to send someone out. In no way does this clause take away from the courts or their role. The courts still hear the appeal on its own merits and make their decision based on those merits. When this clause was added in, it was discussed at length with the medical profession and the corrections people and the practical situation is that there are some people who simply cannot be held even for a matter of a few hours or days. Therefore, we are recommending that the provision would remain as presented. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Clause 19, certificate of transfer. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

Obligation To Choose Course Of Action Within Time Frame

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, the next clause is clause 28 where there is a "may" in subclause 28(1) and there is also a "may" in subclause 28(2). The "may" applies to the choices the judge has, (a), (b), or (c). The 14 days stands. That has to be done. The Justice people have advised us that that is the intent of the wording as it stands, that the "may" gives him a choice of the three things. The "may" gives the court the discretion to choose one of the three things but the 14 days, that has to be complied with.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: If the intent is as the Minister just described -- that the only discretion left to the judge is the options that he may choose or the alternatives, but that he has no discretion in the matter of meeting the time frame, then I would say to the Minister that the existing wording does not satisfy that requirement. It does not say that. It would require shifting the word "may" to another position in the sentence. The judge "within this time frame may" do such and such a thing would be appropriate then, I believe.

MR. RICHARD: It still does not preclude him from not acting -- it does nothing...

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

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, also Justice advises us that normally in situations like this where your legislation is advising a judge or a court, the word "may" is used and the word "shall" is only used when absolutely necessary. He felt that in this situation the judge acting under the spirit of the legislation will act within 14 days and he may choose one of the three procedures in that. So that is the situation as we have it from legal services.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Clause 28. Agreed? Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I guess I have the same concern. Just having worked within the intent of it, I was under the impression that there was an obligation on the part of the justice or the judge to act within 14 days and then to take one of those particular options. And if that is the intent surely it has to say so. What if he chooses not to do any of those? What happens then? Why are the options there?

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Supporting Mr. Richard's concept, I think there is absolutely no point in even referring to 14 days because 14 days I think is indicating some closure, some date of action where action has to take place and then if you open it up again with the "may", it makes no sense. They are mutually exclusive concepts.

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

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, perhaps Mrs. Berthelet could speak to this matter as well.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Mrs. Berthelet.

MRS. BERTHELET: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If you look at subclause 28(1) which reads "The judge may hear evidence concerning..." If that was changed to "shall"...

MR. RICHARD: No, no. Not that one.

MRS. BERTHELET: Okay, you are happy with the "may" in 28(1). Okay, because there may be a case where there was no evidence. Okay, no problem. Just with reference then to subclause 28(2), to repeat what the Minister has already said, Justice has advised that he has three options in the spirit of the act and with the obligations that are on the court to act, they would carry out one of these three. And under paragraph (c), it is quite wide open; he could make any other order he considers to be appropriate and it would be within the 14 days. But it is still "may".

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

Motion To Amend Subclause 28(2), Bill 6-85(2), Deferred

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, in a spirit of moving on to other things, I would then like to make a motion, sir. I move that the word "may" on line two of subclause 28(2), be amended to read "shall".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Could you repeat your motion please, Mr. Richard? Thank you, we will get the copy. The motion is in order. Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, maybe just a point of order, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps we could defer this one section here until Monday when legal counsel will be here, from the government. Mr. Lal will be in Rankin Inlet on Monday, and we could perhaps deal with that one clause then, if the Members would want to stand their motion down until that time. He could maybe explain more eloquently than myself and Mrs. Berthelet, as to why they want to leave the "may" there.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): One suggestion is that we have our own Law Clerk. Can he look at this particular section? The motion is in order. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: I am sorry, Mr. Chairman. You are asking if I, as mover of the motion, would agree that it be deferred until Mr. Lal arrives in Rankin Inlet.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): That is what the Minister is saying. Do you agree with him, then?

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, I have no particular difficulty with that. I do not want to interrupt the House Leader's schedule of the agenda, but I would, sir, also be making a motion identical, just so we can get it on the record, under subclause 29(4). It is an identical motion so that both matters can be dealt with when Mr. Lal arrives. Could I make that motion now, Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Do you agree then to defer your motion until Monday? Your first motion? Do you want to go to clause 29 now? Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Okay, the government is agreeable that clauses 28 and 29 are both deferred then until a later time. The next clause that we have to deal with, where there are questions, was clause 39...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): I think Mr. Richard was going to make a motion on this clause 29. Thank you. Mr. Richard.

Motion To Amend Subclause 29(4), Bill 6-85(2), Deferred

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that the word "may" on line two of subclause 29(4), be amended to read "shall". Thank you. And that the motion be deferred, as well, until Mr. Lal arrives.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Back to the Minister. Clause 39, I believe. Thank you.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Richard was correct, there is a typo in clause 39(3). It should read "subsection (2)" instead of "subsection (1)" in the third line of subclause 39(3).

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): It requires a motion to change that. Mr. Minister. Mr. Richard.

Motion To Amend Subclause 39(3), Bill 6-85(2), Carried

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that the phrase "subsection (1)" on lines two and three of subclause 39(3) be amended to read "subsection (2)". Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Question has been called. All those in favour, raise your hands. Opposed, if any?

---Carried

The motion is carried. We will now go back to clause 45. Mr. Gargan.

Motion To Recommend Consultation With Community Elder In Assessment Of Mental Disorder

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to also present a motion at this time. The motion reads: "That this committee recommends to the Minister of Health and Social Services, to include a provision in the Mental Health Act requiring the justice and the territorial judge, as well as the medical officer doing the psychiatric assessment of a native person, to consult with and get the opinion of a community elder, who knows the person and who is of the same cultural background as the person apprehended or assessed, as to whether indeed the native is mentally disordered."

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Can we have a copy of your motion, please? Your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Gargan, you wanted to speak to the motion first.

MR. GARGAN: I believe such a provision would possibly go after clause 8, involuntary psychiatric assessment. I believe there are some appeals and provisions in the act that are not quite specific and I just want to make sure that there is something in this act that ensures that if and when a person is assessed that they do have someone from the community included in that assessment. Mr. Chairman, native people are a special group and they also have to be given special consideration. I believe that if a white judge is going to be making an assessment on a white person then I do not see any problem there but you will never find an Indian judge making judgment on an Indian person. So I just want to make sure that there is a provision in there that specifically says that particular motion that I made. It is going to be up to Mr. Lal to give his legal opinion on where it will fit best and also it will be something that will be part of an amendment once it reaches third reading. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): To the motion, Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: The government is sympathetic to what the Member is trying to do and we can accept this motion as direction and before the bill as a whole is approved, hopefully Mr. Lal will be able to give us some advice on how to accommodate this, either in the preamble or in some specific sections. So we have no trouble with the spirit of this motion and we can try to accommodate it before the bill as a whole is approved.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. To the motion. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: I would like to speak, Mr. Chairman, in support of the motion. The standing committee on legislation was persuaded that there was a concern of the type that Mr. Gargan has outlined, that needed to be addressed, and felt that it was addressing that concern by recommending the inclusion of a preamble but if it is not clear or certain enough yet to suit the Member then I certainly can support the attempt to try to include a provision right in the bill that would make certain that where a non-native psychiatrist or medical practitioner was making such an assessment that they did indeed rely on the advice of people from a similar culture who know the person, in order to ensure as certainly as possible that there is a mental disorder and that the person ought to be detained for assessment. I certainly support the motion.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I too am supportive of the motion. I think it is reasonable. Yesterday Mr. Gargan and I know Mrs. Lawrence and Mr. T'Seleie have expressed their concerns and I think their concerns are justified, when you are talking about a decision of this magnitude which really means somebody's freedom or lack of freedom, that somebody who is part of the culture and understands the culture should be part of that process. My only concern was that we do not want to jeopardize the overall intent of this bill by making a hasty decision now and I think this is a reasonable way of doing it to see if you can incorporate those concerns in the body of the bill in a stronger fashion and still protect the integrity of the bill. So I support the motion.

Motion To Recommend Consultation With Community Elder In Assessment Of Mental Disorder, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. To the motion. Are you ready for the question? Question is being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Now back to clause 45, identity not to be published. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 46, private hearing. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 47, interpretation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 48, disclosure pursuant to subpoena. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 49, government records. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 50. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: I would merely like to note regarding this whole section on estates, when the standing committee heard from the Mental Health Association, that association recommended that this whole section be deleted and that this matter, it felt, would be better considered as amendments to the Public Trustee Act. But during discussion in committee, the government advised that this section is really a safeguard for the patient, to protect his personal effects, and is more likely to be implemented effectively if it remains a part of this act. The committee accepted the government's explanation and has not recommended any change from what was proposed by the government.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, clause 50, examination as to competency. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed



CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 51, commencement of committee ship. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 52, powers and duties of public trustee. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 53, cancellation of certificate of mental incompetence. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 54, notice of discharge. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 55, leave of judge to bring action. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 56, service of documents. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 57, limitation of actions. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 58, representative. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 59, validity of documents. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 60, exemption from liability. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 61, offence. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 62, regulations. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 63, repeal. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 64, coming into force. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Do you agree that we leave this bill on the orders of the day until Monday?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 10-85(2), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1984-85

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Now we will go to Bill 10-85(2), An Act Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the 1984-85 Financial Year. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, at the outset I wish to express my appreciation to the House for changing its sitting hours today to allow us to present this bill to the House after it has had at least some consideration by the standing committee on finance. I regret that the material was in the hands of the committee so late but there has not been very much time since we were sitting in Yellowknife in March.

There are two Members of the Executive absent, Mr. Nerysoo and Mr. Patterson, and I would try to answer on their behalf but I would be grateful if I might have invited into the House witnesses, the Commissioner and also the deputy minister of Finance, Eric Nielsen.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Opening Statement

HON. TOM BUTTERS: While the witnesses are moving to join us, Mr. Chairman, I would draw Members' attention to two corrections that will have to be made to Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1984-85. That is on page four of the detailed document. And you will notice that the two figures requiring change result from a \$7000 item which was approved in supplementary estimates No. 1 for the previous year, but it was not included in these totals. So on page four under the column "main and supplementary estimates Nos. 1 to 3", there is a figure that now reads "\$902,000". That figure should read "\$909,000". And in the column on the same page entitled "total appropriation", the amount is shown is \$1,467,000 and that should read "\$1,474,000". These corrections are of a technical nature only and will have no effect on the text of Bill 10-85(2). The specific items of interest relating to particular departments and the Ministers present will be answered by them as their particular supplementary request appears before the House. So that is all I have to say, sir.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. Mr. Butters, for the record could you introduce your witnesses?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The Commissioner would be speaking in Mr. Nerysoo's absence to any questions raised with regard to Personnel and other items of which he may have knowledge. Mr. Nielsen as the secretary of the Financial Management Board might be able to assist me respond to items which I am not aware of, in particular for those Ministers who are absent.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I just might mention while I have the floor, Mr. Chairman, and that is that I realize that the standing committee on legislation is still requiring draft material on the education bill and the omnibus bill. I understand that copies of that legislation will be available to that committee this afternoon after the aircraft arrives.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I said earlier, the committee will be preparing a written report later on next week so I will not be repetitive now and go through our general comments. We will save that for the report and perhaps if we just go through department by department, Members could make whatever comments that they have to make.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Is it agreed by the committee that we go department by department? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Schedule 2, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. Schedule 2, debts owed to the Government of the Northwest Territories to be written off. Total \$114,278.05. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Personnel

Staff Relations, Total 0 And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Personnel. Staff relations, \$14,801,000. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I think it might be appropriate here if the Commissioner could just give a brief explanation of the \$14.5 million. It sounds like a large amount but it was at the request of the Auditor General and perhaps the Commissioner just could explain it so that all the Members understand what it is all about.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The purpose in voting the \$14.5 million is simply to provide authority indicating that the government has this indebtedness -- it has this responsibility to pay out money to people who have accumulated benefits throughout their employment with government and that these benefits must be paid at a time when they leave the government. We do not expect the actual money to be spent, of course, in any one year but the Auditor General recommends to us very strongly that we recognize this as a responsibility, as a debt, which hangs over us, as it were, and one that has accrued over the past years. So we are voting it only as authority in recognition of a responsibility that we have. In years to come, then, the \$14.5 million figure will be adjusted from time to time, probably upwards, in small amounts each year, to cover the accrued liabilities that we have in this area. But I can assure you that that material will be brought to the Legislature and that this is really an accountancy matter. It is not a matter of actually being called upon to spend the money at this time.

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

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask the Commissioner if he could provide us with a written explanation of this supplementary because it was still not too clear to me, even after this mornings meeting, what the \$14.5 million is all about. It makes it a little clearer after his explanation just now. I just have a question with regard to the amount increasing each year. It is not clear to me how it would work. Would this pot of money increase every year? Is there at some point a limit on it? That is my question.

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

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, first of all I think that the Member's suggestion of a written explanation is a very good one. We will do that and it may not be ready for distribution during this session, but certainly between sessions we will be pleased to and try and put it in simple terms if possible. And I mean the kind of terms that even I could understand because it is a difficult accounting proposition.

Secondly, we are not creating a pot of money. We are not taking \$14.5 million and establishing it away from our accounting system but rather we are identifying it within our own accounting system as a future liability -- a liability that somewhere throughout the life of the government, we will have to spend this kind of money, but never all at once.

With regard to the changes in the liability from year to year, there may be increases if indeed we have an increased number of public servants, because for each public servant there is a certain level of liability. But if we were in the fortunate position of being able to decrease the number of public servants, well then, the amount of our liability would be likely to decrease as well. So, it is not guaranteed that this liability will always increase, but it may indeed, from time to time, drop back a little bit.

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

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could ask the Commissioner why such a large supplementary expenditure has been only identified by the government at this time? Why was this not done, say, last year?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Commissioner.

#### Change In Accounting Practice

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, Members will recall that we changed two years ago to an accrual basis for accounting. In other words, we recognized all of our liabilities every year at the end of that year. This did not mean that we spent any more or less money, it was simply a change in accounting practice. We are now making one further change in accounting practice on the basis of a very strong recommendation from the Auditor General. I think that the simplest thing for me to say is that it really is a change in the accounting practice and there was no use in phasing in this recognition of our liability; we are just simply recognizing our best estimate of the total liability all at once. There was no value in doing this on a year-by-year basis. So, in essence, it is a change in accounting practice.

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

MR. T'SELEIE: I wonder if that means that really there were no dollars involved. I am a little bit confused about it -- does this mean that it was just written down on paper? I guess that is why I would like a written explanation about it. Because, it seems to be -- you know, if it was just an accounting procedure, it confuses me more. I think that it confuses quite a few of us here.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. T'Seleie. Mr. Commissioner, would you like to respond?

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, there is no doubt that this is a confusing matter, because it is simply a matter of accounting policy. But what we are trying to do is to recognize a future debt. It is a bit like signing a mortgage which you do not have to pay off all at once, but you recognize that over a period of years, you are going to have to make payments. That if for some really strange reason all the employees left at once, we would have an immediate debt. It would be a bit like a Member recognizing that if he has five daughters, and in the future they are going to get married, that Member may feel an obligation to provide some financial assistance as each one gets married. So, he puts money away ahead of time to look after that eventuality.



Staff Relations, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. Staff relations, \$14,801,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. Total department, \$14,801,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Justice And Public Services

Courts, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. Justice and Public Services, courts, \$110,000. Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to make a comment regarding the increase in funds for court travel. It seems that they spend so much money on court travel. Would it be possible at times, when there is a scheduled flight -- why is it that the court have to charter a DC-3 at almost the same time as the sched is travelling to Fort Smith or Hay River? Why can they not just take the sched instead of having to charter a DC-3 for three people? I think that it is kind of silly in my mind, to spend so much money on court travelling, when there is a scheduled flight available.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: My belief is, Mr. Chairman, that scheduled services are availed of when possible, and the charters would be taken when that is the most efficient way to get there. But, I believe that the scheduled service is used wherever possible.

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

MRS. LAWRENCE: I understand there are certain places where we have to use charters, but I am talking about charters when there are scheds available into Smith and Hay River and places like that. I just do not see why. There was an instance when I got off the sched in Fort Smith and then a DC-3 pulled up and three people got off from Yellowknife. If I had known, I would have taken the charter with them. It would have saved my budget in sharing that same charter. I am just referring to instances like that.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Thank you. I will ensure that the Member's concern is brought to the attention of the Minister and so advise him of this concern.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Butters. Courts, \$110,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Legal Aid, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Legal aid. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, for the record, I declare a conflict of interest. Thank you.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: I see the Minister of Social Services is back, and I just want to make a general comment to do with the Young Offenders Act. There will be dollar figures that appear here and other areas as we go through these supps. I think that probably an explanation would be very helpful to Members and to the public at large, as to the status of our negotiations with the federal government about costs of implementing the Young Offenders Act. My understanding under formula financing is that any federal government initiative will be totally paid by the federal government. This, to me, is a federal government initiative. My understanding is that, at this point in time, we are on the same financial arrangement as the provinces implementing this act, which is that the federal government pays 50 per cent of O and M and we are responsible for all of capital and half of O and M. I understand some negotiation is going on, but I think perhaps an update by the Minister would be in order.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. McLaughlin.

Status Of Funding To Implement Young Offenders Act

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: I did not think I had anything in Supplementary Appropriation No. 4, but I guess I do. Basically on the Young Offenders Act, the situation right now is that we have a Treasury Board submission in Ottawa which is an attempt to get the federal government to recognize the deficiency we have in our base budget due to implementation of the Young Offenders Act in the NWT, which is a federal initiative. In the other jurisdictions, the Solicitor General is only 50-50 basis. Other formulas are in existence for depreciation on buildings, etc. The portion the Solicitor General does not fund, the provinces find from within their own resources. In our jurisdiction, we are making the case that the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs should pick up that part of our budget that would normally come into a province through the grant. We are trying to get them to recognize that our base budget has to be increased. There was argument between DIAND and the Solicitor General's office as to which federal department should provide these funds. That apparently is not entirely settled yet. The latest I have heard is that they have basically agreed that somebody has to help us out but which one of them is going to do it is still a question. There is no solid guarantee at this time that we will receive this funding but we have to make these expenditures in order to comply with the federal act. But we are hopeful we will gain these funds through negotiation, hopefully into our base budget.

Legal Aid, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Legal aid, \$185,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total department, \$295,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Government Services

Freight, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Government Services, freight, \$22,000 surplus. Agreed? Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: I have a question of Mr. Butters on this particular activity if I may. I know we did not deal with it this morning. There has been quite a bit of criticism against northern business people providing goods and services because LEAs or school boards are finding that it is costing more money. They say that when they are using northern businesses it is costing more money, therefore their budget drops down. I see in here that there is a transfer to Education to provide the Inuvik Education Society with funding for freight costs. Is that something that the

department is contemplating doing to other particular education societies or is this a one-time deal? I ask the question because in the past when Government Services was providing goods and services -- for example, textbooks to schools -- Government Services was paying the cost of freight. Now, the freight costs are being borne by the local education society or the school board or the school itself, as they expend their funds and the freight costs are tacked on because we are using northern supplies.

If you follow what I am saying, Mr. Butters, the cost of bringing materials into schools, for example, is being tied on to the cost the school board is having to pay the northern business person, whereas in the past, those freight costs were always borne by the Department of Government Services or even the Department of Education. And so the budget that the LEAs or the schools have, does not go as far and there has been quite a hue and cry and I am sure other Members must have heard it from their particular boards as well. People are feeling that they are not getting a fair deal from the northern supplier because now we say "Buy northern, use northern businesses to provide these services." And when that northern business tacks his freight costs on to the LEA or to the school board, the money reduces. Here is an instance where you have done something to alleviate that. I want to know, is this now going to be a policy? For example, does a local education committee get these kinds of freight subsidies, if you like, or is it just to the Inuvik Education Society?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I am quite sure the Member does not expect me to say "Yes, it is just to the Inuvik Education Society." No, this is not a one-time arrangement. Such transfers have been made not only to the Department of Education but also to Local Government where an autonomous body has been established. With the creation of local education authorities -- a society in this case -- that society begins funding its own freight costs and telephone costs and this is what this reflects. I think the Member will see in the next estimate a similar procedure also requiring approval for another authority.

Freight, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Butters. Freight, \$22,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total department, \$22,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Public Works And Highways

Highways/Design And Construction, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Public Works. Highways/design and construction. Total O and M, \$565,000. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the Minister for making the correction that the committee picked up this morning. I think rather than go through this -- there are a number of references again in the supps to the intraterritorial road reconstruction program -- I wonder if perhaps if I could just ask the Minister to give an update as to the status of that program, when he expects the agreement to be signed and just a brief description. Is he happy with the level of funding that the government will be receiving?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Wray.

Status Of Intraterritorial Road Reconstruction Program Agreement

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Essentially two questions. The first one the status of the agreement. The agreement has been in Mr. Crombie's office now for about seven months. I just recently received a letter from him indicating that they are finally looking at it and they will be getting back to me soon. As to whether or not they accept some of the changes we made to the agreement, it has not been signed but it should be completed within the next two or three months. As to whether or not I am happy with the level of funding, I am never happy with the money I get but we essentially had asked for \$7.8 million a year for the next 10 years to complete what we felt was priority work. They have approved \$5.5 million, I think, or \$5.4 million, which means that instead of doing the work over 10 years, we will now have to do the work over 15 years. So, no, I am not happy with the fact that the \$7.8 million figure, which was a figure reached by federal officials as well as ours in consultation as to how much work had to be done, was not given to us. But I have to take the \$5.6 million and run with it because that is all Treasury Board approved. It just means that we will do the work over 15 years and not 10 years as we had wanted to. Thank you.

Highways/Design And Construction, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Wray. Highways/design and construction, \$565,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total department, \$565,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Renewable Resources

Science Advisory Board, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Renewable Resources. Science Advisory Board, \$2000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total department, \$2000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Department of Education. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: I want to ask Mr. Butters whether he wants to deal with Education or whether he wants to put it aside until the Minister returns because I have some questions on this particular activity.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: There is no problem with dealing with the matter at a more appropriate time. Obviously we do not have responses to specific questions so maybe that would be the best procedure.



Department Of Education, Deferred

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Is it agreed by the committee we defer Education for a later date?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Public Works And Highways

Highways/Design And Construction, Total Capital

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): We are on Public Works, capital, page seven. Highways/design and construction, \$5,158,000. Agreed? Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could ask the Minister of Highways whether or not any of this money could be used for the reconstruction of airports. Also I would like to ask the Minister, what is involved in reconstructing a road?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, the money cannot be utilized for the upgrading of airports. The money was transferred to us by the federal government for a very specific purpose and this was for road and highway work, as a result of a joint negotiation between ourselves and the federal government. Airports are not the responsibility of the Department of Highways, so the money is earmarked for very specific road work. It was the only reason we got the money in the first place, because the federal government had agreed that we need this money.

With regard to reconstruction of a highway, reconstruction means many things. It could mean that because of base failures we have to excavate the base and put in a new base which requires excavation, hauling, placing, grading; in some instances it means new gravel layers and then the layer of asphaltic treatment. That essentially is what reconstruction is.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. Highways/design and construction, \$5,158,000. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MACQUARRIE: Could I just ask the Minister, does that include upgrading in a sense of width as well as quality, rebuilding a road, putting a better road into position?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Yes, Mr. Chairman. When we reconstruct we reconstruct to the accepted federal and territorial highway standards. If a road in fact has to be widened, yes, it is widened.

Highways/Design And Construction, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Wray. Highways/design and construction, \$5,158,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total department, \$5,158,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): This concludes details for consideration and we agreed to defer the bill. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Just to assure myself that we are deferring the bill for only the completion of the Education portion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): I would like to remind the Members that there are only certain areas in the school that you can smoke in. Could you please restrict yourselves to those areas? We will take a 15 minute coffee break.

---SHORT RECESS

Bill 11-85(2), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1985-86

The committee will now come back to order. We are on Bill 11-85(2), An Act Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service for the 1985-86 Financial Year. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I have no comments on the bill, Mr. Chairman, except to recognize that because of the dinner tonight and the opportunity for our staff to eat earlier there may be some requirement for us to rise early, and we are agreeable to do this, if we do not complete the estimates.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again with this bill, we will make our general comments and a written report and just deal with each department as it comes along. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. Does the committee agree that we go into detail?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Legislative Assembly, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. Page one, Legislative Assembly, O and M, \$209,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total department, \$209,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of The Executive

Regional Operations, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Executive, regional operations, \$60,000. Agreed? Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Has this particular position been filled in the last while or is this a new position? Where does the position come from? I do not know to whom I should be addressing this.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, it is a new position and it is directly related to the increase in our capital budget. The capital budget of this government in 1978-79 amounted to some \$48 million, and now as Members realize, in the last budget it has increased to \$112 million. So, it is a forced growth requirement.

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

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So, it is the establishment of a new position and a new person year. It would seem to me that this would have been more appropriate to come out when we are talking about the total budget. I know that it is not a very large number, but again, the

principle of it -- that is my concern. I thought that there was a position vacant for some time that had not been filled and there was no need of it, and now it is being brought in again -- the capital budget control officer. I know that everything moves along and increases, but I would have thought it would have been better when we were dealing with the total budget. You must have known then that you required it, when you were looking for new PYs during the main budget.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I cannot answer with regard to the knowledge of the regional operations. Possibly the Commissioner has some direct knowledge.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Parker.

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Chairman, the need was recognized rather late in the cycle. We did not have the requirement for the position identified in our operational plan, for instance, last summer when we were putting the budget together. The increase in workload really seemed to hit us after the first of the calendar year. We just simply had not identified it early enough to get it in the main estimates. The workload the number of capital projects, seemed to pick up dramatically and admittedly we were a bit late in bringing it forward. I would agree with the honourable Member that this kind of increase is much better brought forward at the time of main estimates, but this is one that did creep up on us.

Regional Operations, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Commissioner. Regional operations, \$60,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total department, \$60,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Northwest Territories Housing Corporation, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. Northwest Territories Housing Corporation, O and M, \$3,944,000. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: I just wanted to indicate to the Minister that certainly setting up the two home assistance programs is a very quick reaction to the recommendations of the special committee on housing, and I applaud him for that. I think that these two particular programs will be of great assistance to people in the Territories in trying to get their own accommodation -- the interim financing or the supplementary financing programs. So, I would applaud him for that.

I just wonder if he could indicate to me regarding the \$2.8 million for the upgrading of the maintenance standard of housing inventories. It seems to me that, in our discussions this morning, it was indicated that there are a large number of person years that are involved here to start with. I think he said 96.5 PYs being involved here. That is obviously support or help to the individuals. I just wonder, of the \$2.8 million, how much will be going to really upgrading the housing inventory. Given these 96.5 PYs and the cost of providing other benefits or raising their salaries up, as it were, what other amount is left over to really do something about the housing inventory?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Wray.

Improved Maintenance Capability

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The breakdown of the \$2.8 million is as follows. Now, it should be understood that the \$2.8 million is the territorial government's share. It really translates into \$4.75 million when we match it with the appropriate CMHC funding. But, of the \$2.8

million there will be 30 additional maintenance staff added at the community level for a cost of \$450,000; O and M materials, \$480,000; 53.5 additional administrative staff at \$695,000; to provide salary parity with government staff for all housing association personnel is \$695,000; and 13 technical support positions at \$490,000. There will be just slightly under one million dollars, about \$815,000 or \$850,000 immediately in the form of materials, and the new maintenance staff.

I guess there are two answers to the question about how it will upgrade the houses. First of all, for the first time, the housing associations will be able to hire people that are on a level with government staff in terms of wages. That means, we will be able to hold on to our competent staff a lot longer than historically we have done in the past. What has happened in the past is that the housing association usually hires the people at the community level, we train them and the minute they are trained, they will jump to the government or to other agencies within the community, because the other agencies can afford to pay them better salaries. So, we are constantly training and hiring new people at the association level, which has caused us major problems in the standard of maintenance that we perform.

Also, because of the shortage of staff, the preventive maintenance aspect of the housing associations has never been done. Really, in many respects we respond more to crisis than we do to fixing things or repairing things before they break. So, we hope to embark on our major preventive maintenance program and to combine that with the new maintenance management system. We hope that just generally speaking, we will now be able to provide a much more consistent and a much higher level of maintenance, but also the additional staff will allow us to start performing preventive maintenance, which is probably the biggest deficiency that we have at the housing association level.

Also, at the administrative level, we will now be able to provide the associations with the proper staff to collect rents, to do assessments of condition, assessment reports on housing, to provide better supervision for the employees and just generally a better all-round service.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Wray. NWT Housing Corporation. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I have a couple of questions. Maybe it has happened already, but when will the two home assistance and financing programs be available to the public, and what is the procedure for the public accessing these programs?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Wray.

#### Status Of Home Assistance Financing Programs

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They are available now to the public. Essentially, people can make applications through the regional offices of the Housing Corporation in Yellowknife, Hay River, Cambridge, Rankin, Frobisher, Inuvik. But, they have been there for a couple of months.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: I wonder if the Minister knows what has been the response to the programs at this point of time.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: I do not have that information. Hopefully, by the fall session, I will be able to provide you with a report on just how the program went and where the money went and how successful it was, but it is too early right now to indicate.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Ballantyne.

#### Potential Success Of Treasury Board Submission

MR. BALLANTYNE: Okay, just another comment on the \$2.8 million. I was glad to see the Minister face that reality. You know, I was always a little bit dubious about the potential success of the Treasury Board submission. Now, perhaps the Minister could give us a brief update as to the amount of that submission, and what are the implications of the government actually, out of their own funds, providing this money to the success of accessing money from the federal government?



CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Treasury Board submission will remain the same. As I said in my statement, the Executive is still of the opinion that this money should have been a federal responsibility in the first place because it was a major base deficiency when housing programs were transferred in the mid 1970s. And we will still attempt to recover all of the money from the federal government. As to the effect of this then -- well, I suppose some people in Ottawa could say, "Well, we don't have to fund it now because they are already funding it." But I would hope that they would not take that approach. I would hope that the approach they take is one of recognizing the fact that it was because of their lack of funding that we had this deficiency and that we are really making this money available with a certain amount of sacrifice because obviously other programs are going to be affected. It could have an impact on our submission but I would hope that the federal government are much larger people than that.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: I totally sympathize with the Minister. As you know, the Housing Corporation has really supported the Treasury Board submission but on the other hand, as it sat there, there is this need. I think the Minister was caught between the devil and the deep blue sea and had to do something.

MR. RICHARD: (Inaudible comment)

MR. BALLANTYNE: Deep blue Tory sea. I just hope though that the Minister and the Executive Council keep up the pressure because I think we all agree that there is a federal responsibility there. I agree with the Minister's actions as an intermediate step.

---Applause

Northwest Territories Housing Corporation, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. NWT Housing Corporation, \$3,944,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total department. Mr. Erkloo.

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question on the last item, on the \$2.8 million that was just on the renovations of the units. When they had a meeting in the Baffin Region, the Baffin Regional Council were talking about the user-pay program. They had a concern because some of the units are in very bad condition. They had a concern about having to pay on a user-pay program. They stated perhaps they should renovate the units first before they started going through the user-pay. Is this toward the user-pay program of the Housing Corporation?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: No, it is not specifically tailored to meet the user-pay program. It will increase the level of maintenance that we perform on the houses. And it hopefully will mean much more efficiency in terms of the operation of the houses and of the heat loss. I have to sort of make it clear that the information that we have from our energy conservation people and from NCPC is that in reality furnaces do not contribute that much toward the cost of electricity in the house, that in fact the major users of electricity are things like fridges, televisions, trucks being plugged in, stereos, hair dryers. Those are the major consumers of power. The furnace motor itself does not contribute that heavily toward electrical costs in a house.

That is why we are going ahead with the user-pay program because I was concerned initially that if you have a house that, say, is in bad condition and the furnace is continually running to try and keep that house warm, then it would not be particularly fair to the tenant that he is having to pay electricity for a reason that really is not his fault. It is not his fault that the house is in bad shape and uses a lot of fuel oil. But after investigating it with the various agencies involved, I have satisfied myself now and I must admit that I have reversed my opinion on this,

that in fact the furnaces and the heat loss do not contribute that greatly to the cost of electricity, that there are other factors that are much greater that contribute toward the cost of that program. But hopefully with the better maintenance -- obviously it will have some impact on electrical costs -- I am hoping that in tying that in, hopefully the costs can be decreased. But it is not specifically tied into the user-pay program, no.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Wray. Total department. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a question on the home assistance programs. Could the Minister indicate to us -- I know they have been advertised but I am not sure of the details -- could you indicate to me whether these revolving funds are self-sustaining and what interest rate are we talking about? Is it prime plus one or is it lower? Maybe these details could be provided another time if he does not have them on hand.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: I will provide the full detail. I cannot remember off the top of my head.

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Wray. Total department, \$3,944,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: I just wanted to make one thing clear, with regard to Mr. Erkloo's concern. In the rare situation where high power consumption is probably the result of the condition of a house, then the district manager in that region has the authority to reduce the rate which is being charged to the tenant. So we will not penalize people if for some reason, because a house is in bad condition, it is using more electricity. We will not penalize that person. We have built the flexibility in for the district office to reduce the rate accordingly.

Department Of Finance

Debt Financing, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Wray. We are on page four, Finance, O and M, debt financing. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I wonder if I could just have some clarification on exactly what is happening with these debts that are being retired.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: You will remember in the January budget session when you considered the Finance department's estimates, I indicated that we had moved to pay off a number of our long-term loans with the federal government last year and the figure there represented the interest that would have accrued if the loans had remained in force. At that time I suggested that rather than removing the page from the estimate book that I would bring forward a supplementary estimate that would make the correction and that is what this is. It makes that correction and reflects that those loans have been retired.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Just for our information, I wonder if we could have a copy of the list of loans that actually have been retired.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Debt financing, \$1,845,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Total department, \$1,845,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

AN HON. MEMBER: Report progress.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): There is a motion on the floor to report progress. All in favour? Opposed, if any?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): I will rise and report progress. I would like to thank the witnesses, Mr. Parker and Mr. Nielsen.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan.

ITEM 16: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILL 6-85(2), MENTAL HEALTH ACT; BILL 10-85(2), SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION ACT, NO. 4, 1984-85; BILL 11-85(2), SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION ACT, NO. 1, 1985-86

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 6-85(2), Bill 10-85(2) and Bill 11-85(2) and wishes to report progress.

Motion To Accept Report Of Committee Of The Whole, Carried

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

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Carried

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

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would just like to make some corrections from the previous session. When I replied to the Commissioner's Address there was a misunderstanding by the people, especially my constituency. They thought I was resigning from the 10th Assembly, but I am not.

---Applause

What I was trying to say is I may not run in the next election. That is all I was trying to say. When I replied to the Commissioner's Address -- when they read it, especially again in my constituency, they thought I was high, but I was not. Thank you.

---Laughter

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: I am not sure whether that was an announcement or a confession. Are there any further announcements? Mr. Clerk, announcements and orders of the day, please.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Announcements, Mr. Speaker. Members are reminded of the charter to Repulse Bay tomorrow which will depart at 1:00 p.m. and to Chesterfield Inlet on Sunday at 3:00 p.m. All people travelling should be at the airport 15 minutes prior to departure. There will be a meeting of the special committee on housing on Monday, June 10th at 9:30 a.m. There will be a meeting of the standing committee on legislation on Monday evening immediately after recess.

ITEM 17: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Monday, June 10th at 1:00 p.m.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Monday, June 10th at 1:00 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT



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Published under the Authority of the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly  
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