



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

5th Session

10th Assembly

HANSARD
Official Report
DAY 4

MONDAY, JUNE 10, 1985

Pages 101 to 133

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

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RANKIN INLET, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

MONDAY, JUNE 10, 1985

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Angottitauruq, Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. Ballantyne, Hon. Tom Butters, Hon. Nellie Cournoyea, Hon. Tagak Curley, Mr. Erkloo, Mr. Gargan, Mrs. Lawrence, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. McCallum, Hon. Bruce McLaughlin, Hon. Richard Nerysoo, Mr. Paniloo, Hon. Dennis Patterson, Mr. 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 Monday, June 10th. Item 2, Members' replies. Mr. Nerysoo.

Death Of Mr. Al Bourque

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of privilege. I believe that Members of this House are aware of the most recent and tragic death of a public servant of the Government of the Northwest Territories, Mr. Al Bourque. I believe that we all recognize the dedication and service he provided to this government. I believe that it is necessary to have the Speaker, on behalf of all Members of this House, send our condolences to Mr. Bourque's wife and his family. I believe that Mr. McCallum has a few words to add to this particular issue.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Mr. McCallum.

MR. MCCALLUM: I would like to indicate my support of the Government Leader, Mr. Nerysoo's comments. Mr. Bourque was a long-time resident of the Northwest Territories, and has an extended family in the Territories, although he was not born in the Territories. Mr. Bourque had served this government for some time in a very capable manner in Frobisher Bay, the Baffin Region, the Keewatin and more lately in Fort Smith. He was a wildlife officer and had a great deal to do with co-ordinating the Pope's proposed visit to the community of Fort Simpson in the NWT this past summer. He had been the assistant regional director and just recently was appointed regional director for the Fort Smith Region by the Government Leader and the Commissioner. His tragic death comes as a great shock to people such as myself who consider Al to be a very close friend. He was a good community man, he gave of himself to the community and especially to the youth of the community.

His family is living in Fort Smith at the present time and as I said, as a friend of Mr. Bourque, I would like to echo Mr. Nerysoo's comments and trust that you will draft the appropriate letter of condolences to Mrs. Bourque and her family on behalf of the Members of this Assembly. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McCallum. We will take on the responsibility as requested. Any further points of privilege at this time? Item 2, Members' replies. Mr. T'Seleie.

ITEM 2: MEMBERS' REPLIES

Mr. T'Seleie's Reply

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Speaker and honourable Members, I am happy to have this opportunity to address the Assembly on some concerns in my constituency.

I have been here now for about a year and a half and I can say that I am finally beginning to feel comfortable in addressing the Assembly. I have spoken to most of you privately or individually on some of the concerns of my constituency. I think that at least I have promised you that there are not going to be many surprises in what I say here because I think most of you know where I come from. I am also happy to speak to you here because if in the next few years some of you are not here as decision makers, I think that whatever else you do you will still have an important role to play in some of the continuing decisions that have to be made in the North.

As you know I represent Norman Wells, Colville Lake, Fort Good Hope, Fort Norman and Fort Franklin. I always say that I think that I represent one of the more difficult constituencies in the North. The reason I say that is that when I travel from Norman Wells to a place like Colville Lake, for me it is like going from day to night. Norman Wells is mainly an oil community, while Colville Lake I think is one of the most traditional of Dene communities. In Norman Wells you will find that Dene languages are not very often spoken and in a place like Colville Lake, many of the children do not speak English. So what I want to say is that there is a big difference in the lifestyles and cultures and outlooks of the people I am here to represent.

Concerns Of Constituents Regarding Norman Wells Pipeline Project

The most important concern for my constituents, Mr. Speaker, is the building and completion of the pipeline. This pipeline was officially declared open in May of this year. The major concern here is that this pipeline has been built and completed without the settlement of the outstanding rights of the Dene and Metis.

In the Commissioner's opening Address, the Commissioner referred to the Norman Wells experience as a learning experience. I agree with the Commissioner. However, I think that for the majority of the Dene and Metis, that the experience has not been a good one. What has happened here is that we now have our oil resources being piped out, and we are left to face any environmental damage that could occur. The artificial islands that have been built in Norman Wells are the first of their kind, at least in the western world, and the people of my constituency are concerned that there are no environmental safeguards to protect the Mackenzie River environment. We are hearing complaints that some fish downstream, especially in the community of Fort Good Hope, are no longer edible. The people would like to know who is responsible for this. We would like to know whether or not there are any contingency plans in the event of a major oil spill from the Norman Wells project.

The Norman Wells project offered some jobs and some business opportunities for some people, but the vast majority of jobs went to southern people. The main reason that so many of the jobs went to the South was because of the influence of the unions. I realize that unions are very powerful organizations and that it is often within their means to negotiate terms and conditions for their membership on these large projects, but I still think that the North, the Mackenzie Valley, is a special place and that this government, this Assembly, together with the major native organizations, should set down terms and conditions when it comes to the employment of northern people. I think that the government should be firm with the oil companies and the unions. I know for sure, that the support is there from the people of the North to be firm. I know also that the major companies want the resources very badly.

The Norman Wells pipeline brings out some other concerns for my constituency. Firstly, it has more or less opened the doors to the development of the region. Right now there are many, many exploration companies in the region, and this has been going on for several years now. There are more drill rigs going into the region; pockets of oil and gas have been found in several locations in the region. The scenario is if some of these discoveries are commercially viable at some point other small diameter pipelines would be connected to the one existing now. In this process of exploration the companies have very often been in conflict with the hunters and trappers and people who are using the land to make their living.

Also I think a lot of you are familiar with what happened in Fort Norman last year when an oil company got permission from the federal government to set up a rig right inside of hamlet land, inside of the settlement boundaries. The people were quite shocked to find that they had no legal instrument that they could use to question what this company was doing. There was nothing to stop the company from drilling right on the main street in Fort Norman if they wanted to. So really, even communities are not protected by any kind of existing legislation on not having resource companies affect them in such a big way.

Mr. Speaker, I think that the Norman Wells pipeline will continue to be a concern. I was glad when I heard the Commissioner refer to it as a learning experience because I think that it really is. We have another big project on the horizon that we have been hearing quite a bit about, and it is the Polar Gas project. This would go into the Beaufort Sea and down the Mackenzie Valley. I think what we have to do is take what we learn from this project and apply it to the next one. I think the majority of my constituents would agree with me when I say that if another major project is allowed to go ahead, based on what has happened in Norman Wells, I do not think that they would agree with it. We have to sit down and start setting some rules about what should happen.

Education In Order To Cope With Change

I have some other concerns I would like to talk about. The other major concern for my constituents is in the area of education. Education touches on the young people of the North. Other than the last quite a few years now, the Government of the NWT has been spending a great deal of money on educational facilities and yet to this point in time we cannot say that the government has been too successful in really educating the young people in the way that they need to be educated in order to cope with the change that people are undergoing. People are required to change almost on a daily basis because of what is going on around them. Many parents are worried that their children do not have the tools to be able to really cope with this change. It is for this reason, Mr. Speaker, that the whole area of education has to continue to be a major priority with this government.

As far as education is concerned I think that the teachers that we get into the education system are probably the ones that really would make or break the system. Really we need quality teachers and I realize that it may not always be possible to have the kind of teachers that you want in a small community. I think that is the direction that has to be taken. I would like to see community people have a lot more say in who teaches their children because I am aware that some teachers are not always agreeable to native students and they have very limited understanding of what native children are all about. In this regard I think that what the Department of Education should do is they should hire full-time native counsellors in all schools in the small communities of the NWT. These counsellors would have to be picked by the community and their job would be to counsel students, much as in the high schools you have what is called a guidance counsellor; a person who guides students, who talks with them when they have problems. I really think that if we had that in the smaller settlements that it would improve our chances of fewer children dropping out. There would be a smaller drop-out rate.

Young People Are Our Most Precious Resource

When I speak about education, it also makes me think about the fact that today we have so many young people in the Northwest Territories. Earlier I said that the drop-out rate was really high in the North. There is really a big need for this government to start doing much more for the young people of the North. I think that perhaps we should consider establishing a ministry that just takes care of the youth. I want to say too, that really, when you think about it and you think about the dollars that are being spent on education and, I guess, some social programs, some people think that really it is a lot of money, but the way that I look at it is that the young people are the most precious resource that we have. We cannot measure what we do for the young people in terms of dollars and cents or we cannot look at it in terms of saying, "Well, you know, are we receiving a fair return for our dollar?" They are the future of the North and we should do all that we can. I think that young people need all the guidance and support that they can get from this government.

Concerns Of Communities

As for some community concerns, Mr. Speaker, the community of Fort Franklin, since the accident of the plane crash last October, has been very busy lobbying both this government and the federal government to get them to build a new airport in that community. The airport that they have right now is in very bad need of repair. This past spring, Mr. Wray and Mr. Sibbeston were with me there and we had a meeting concerning some upgrading work to the Fort Franklin airport. This is a major area of concern for that community because the airport that they have right now is in very poor shape. The inquiry that was set up to inquire into the reason for the accident last fall, I think determined that basically the reason for it was pilot error, but really, at the time they did not have a full-time person who monitored the airport. There was also some question about whether or not the aircraft had proper communication with what the weather was like in the community. So, they need a full-time person that would monitor the airport as well.

The other concern that Fort Franklin has asked me to present is that they would like, at some point, to construct a home for senior citizens. This is also a concern for Fort Norman, they would also like a home for their older people. Fort Franklin has also raised a concern about the effects of the mine at Port Radium. They would like a study done to determine whether the water is safe to drink. Fort Franklin has also asked that their community office complex stay where it is in the capital project. I understand that they are beginning to work on the construction of a new office complex in Fort Norman.

Mr. Speaker, in the last two regional council meetings, Colville Lake has raised the issue of communications to the community. Right now they have only a small radio and some days they can communicate and other days they cannot. That community would also like, at some point in the future, to consider full settlement status. I have started some talks with the Inuvik regional office about that community and whether or not it would be possible for the government to provide better services in there. Right now there really are no kinds of services other than a small co-op store and -- it is not quite a nursing station but some place where there are a few pills and medicine and that sort of thing.

Function Of Committees And Community Councils

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to speak on a couple of other issues. During the last session we heard Mr. Wray complaining that there were too many community organizations. I share this concern for my constituency. Right now there are LEAs, hunters and trappers associations, housing associations, youth justice committees and I have to say that right now people still do not understand that there is a government group for almost anything that happens in their lives. So really what people end up doing is going to the community or hamlet council to complain about an item, say education. They will not go to the education committee because they only recognize the major groups that they vote for. The turnouts for elections to any of these groups are often not very big, usually only 20 or 30 people, yet they are seen to be major decision makers on that important area of education or some other areas.

I think that band councils, hamlet and community councils in my area, at least, should be the major decision makers in these areas. I think the government should provide funding to hamlet councils and community councils and then they would in turn provide it to these other associations and groups. At that stage they would more or less be subcommittees of the main council. I think we would have the functioning of government in a community really simplified that way. Right now what is happening is one group is saying this, the other group is saying another thing and in the process the people get left out or confused and they forget about the whole thing, about trying to address it through the government system.

Mr. Speaker, I did not come too well-prepared. I hope I have been able to at least interest the Members for a little while. As far as the Executive goes, I think the Executive in some areas has done a very good job and right now I would especially like to say that I like some of the initiatives that the Minister of Housing has taken in the last year or so. Some of the responses to the recommendations of the special committee on housing were very quick. So Mr. Speaker, for now this is all I have to say. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. T'Seleie. Item 2, Members' replies. Mr. Erklou.

Mr. Erklou's Reply

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make a short reply. It will be shorter than my friend's statement.

When we first were elected I made a reply at that time and this is my second reply since I have been a Member. First of all I would like to say thank you for the hospitality of the Rankin Inlet hamlet. The mayor took me out seal hunting here but I am sure the seals did not welcome me because I did not catch any seals.

I will be talking about the same things as I talked about in my first reply. In Pond Inlet we were in need of housing. We got that. Also we needed an addition to the school and we got that too. In Hall Beach we needed an RCMP officer and they got their officer. So I would like to thank the Ministers for getting us that.

As for long-term planning, the Baffin Regional Council started in 1979. After they were formed there were other organizations that came up. The Baffin regional divisional board of education has just got their status and we were very happy about this. So the Inuit people will try and operate within themselves. Also the Baffin regional hospital board is operating adequately in the Baffin Region. I just heard the nursing stations in the communities will be transferred in the future to the territorial government and I am very happy about that. In Hall Beach and Igloolik I have spoken to their mayors and to members of different associations in the communities. They have informed me that they are going to try and amalgamate with these different committee bodies and I hope to be able to work with them.

Also Pauloosie Paniloo and I were invited to ITC in Rankin Inlet in April. This was a very informative meeting and it was the very first time that they had invited MLAs. So in view of that we are going to be working closely together. I think the ordinary people are starting to voice their concerns and voicing their chance to have opportunities to do something.

At the present time we heartily give our congratulations to the people sitting across, to the Ministers. I think that they are doing a very good job and they are functioning like a government so I thank all of the Ministers sitting across from me.

Future Of Young People In Communities

However, we have some concerns. For example, in the communities the younger people at the age of 10 to 15 are so numerous. These people are our younger generation and sometimes when I look at all those younger teenagers I tend to wonder how they will be living in the future. As older people we have problems with employment, since there is hardly any employment opportunities in our communities. Also the inflation is going higher. For these reasons, trying to look into the future is kind of hard and confusing as to how we will be helping these younger people. So I think it is better for us to start putting these under consideration, especially the government officials.

Going back to the Baffin regional divisional board of education, they will be starting to operate within themselves. Since they have obtained their status early, they will be kind of slow in the beginning. In the smaller communities which do not go up to grade nine, because the students have to leave their home communities, these divisional boards will try to see that this does not happen in the future. Especially the MLAs and the Minister of Education, have to give support to those divisional boards of education.

In the Baffin Region, private businesses are not that many. I think that there should be more businesses arising in the Baffin Region so that the economy will go up. So I think that Economic Development should try and work toward this in this area. I was very happy to hear it when the Minister stated that there will be more Inuit as economic development officers in the communities, so that they can understand each other, as older people do not know how to operate their own business dealings. It seems like Inuit people are scared to have their own business because they do not know how to deal with business management, and there are not that many opportunities in the Baffin Region. I think, for these reasons, the government should be supporting us more.

I wanted to stress these more, but however, I would like to talk about the Constitutional Alliance. I am sure we are going to be working closely together in the future, and we will be able to co-operate with each other. For example, the division of the land has to come up in the future, so we are going to have to deal with that. I will not be touching on this topic too much at the present time. The alliance is frozen right now, and I cannot say that I do not like it or I like it, but however, thank you, Mr. Speaker for letting me speak.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Erkloo. I would like at this time to recognize, in the gallery, the speaker of the Keewatin Regional Council and the various mayors representing their communities. Would you please stand, gentlemen?

---Applause

Thank you very kindly. Item 2, Members' replies. Item 3, Ministers' statements. Ms Cournoyea.

ITEM 3: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement On Clean-Up And Disposal Of PCBs

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, in regard to the PCB situation in the Northwest Territories and a recent report on the same, the clean-up of PCBs from the abandoned DEWline sites is slated to begin on July 18th and is to be completed by early September. The actual clean-up work will be carried out by trained armed forces personnel. The contaminated oil equipment and soil will be placed in sealed 45 gallon drums and as the drums are filled, they will be removed to the nearest active DEWline site, where the drums will be placed in special metal containers designed for this purpose, and this is four drums per container. These containers will be sealed and left at the active site for removal to a temporary central storage facility at Hall Beach. The containers will then be picked up from the temporary storage facility by the United States Air Force and removed from the Northwest Territories. It is expected that all containers will be removed from the Hall Beach facility by the year end. A meeting with the residents of Hall Beach was arranged for June 5, 1985, to discuss the facility. However, right at this time, no information has been received on the outcome of that meeting.

Earlier this year it was stated that Cambridge Bay was also intended to be a site for a temporary storage facility. It has since been determined that it will not be required. The one temporary central storage facility required will be located at Hall Beach, where a suitable facility has been identified. As is the case across Canada, a few PCB-containing transformers are in existence at some power generating stations in the Northwest Territories. The units are enclosed and we understand that we cannot escape some of these. It is intended that this equipment will be phased out eventually. Phasing out of this equipment has been delayed as no PCB destruction facilities are available in Canada at this time. It is considered safer to leave the transformers in use where they are repeatedly checked, as opposed to leaving them in storage.

This fall, the federal health department will be carrying out a testing program to study PCBs in humans in the North. This study will compare PCB levels in people following traditional northern diets, with those found in people in southern Canada. Full details of this study are not available at this time.

In the matter of the special federal, provincial, territorial Ministers' meeting on the PCB management; this meeting of all federal, provincial, territorial environment Ministers was held in Montreal on May 31, 1985, to address the PCB problem. There are presently two methods for PCB destruction under consideration. One involves the chemical process which reduces oil containing low levels of PCBs to a salt sludge. The oil can be reclaimed and reused. The process was used on a trial basis in Saskatchewan and proved successful. It is a relatively expensive process and it is applicable to low level PCB-containing oils only. It cannot be used to treat contaminated soils, equipment or oils containing high levels of PCBs. It is a mobile process.

The second treatment method being considered involves incineration at temperatures of a very high degree. These facilities, at present, require a stationary or fixed site, and siting of these facilities has not been received favourably by the general public where they call it the NIMBY syndrome, is quite evident -- this means that we do not want it -- "Not In My Back Yard". However, such facilities are under construction in the provinces of Quebec and Alberta, with Ontario giving some consideration to such a facility. The problem is that these provinces are reluctant to dispose of PCBs from other provinces and territories. A group was set up to resolve the disposal problem.

Other action items discussed at the meeting on May 31st were:

- 1) Reinventory of PCB quantities in Canada.
- 2) Close association and enforcement with a new Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act.
- 3) Setting up national quality objectives for PCBs regarding air, water and soil.
- 4) National co-ordination to ensure provincial cohesiveness in addressing the PCB problem.
- 5) Setting up of national sampling procedures, as well as establishing norms for the construction of storage and construction facilities.
- 6) National public awareness and education programs are to be conducted.

All these action items are to be completed and reported at the next Canadian Council of Resource and Environment Ministers this fall. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. Are there any further Ministers' statements? Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Pudluk.

ITEM 4: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 23-85(2): Teacher Positions In High Arctic

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question to the Minister of Education. In my constituency there are quite a few young people who presently go to school and we find that we are lacking teachers in Resolute and Grise Fiord. I would like to know if there are any plans in the near future for the allocation of more teachers in my constituency. I think there are too many students for the teachers and I would like to know if the Minister intends to allocate more teaching positions in my constituency.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I would like to respond to this question tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister, taking the question as notice. Oral questions, Mr. Richard.

Question 24-85(2): Transfer Of Responsibility For Mental Health Services

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Health and Social Services. Last session a motion was passed recommending that there be established a directorate of mental health services within the Department of Health. I believe the motion also called for the training of community mental health workers. I also believe at that time that the Minister indicated that this motion would assist him in his discussions with the federal Minister in seeking a transfer of jurisdiction in this matter and the appropriate funding to the territorial government. Some of us earlier today, Mr. Speaker, spoke with some of the community leaders here who told us that among the concerns they have, is suicide among the young people of this region and we all know that is a problem in other regions as well. In that context I ask the Minister to today advise us of the result of his discussions with the federal Minister and if the federal government is still reluctant to transfer this responsibility to us to give us the reasons, if they have given such reasons. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 24-85(2): Transfer Of Responsibility For Mental Health Services

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have had discussions with Hon. Jake Epp, the Minister of Health and Welfare, concerning the transfer of mental health. As well I have talked with a few of the native organizations in the NWT about the transfer of health services from the federal government to us, in conjunction with the nursing stations. To date I only have support of the Inuit organizations in the Eastern Arctic for the transfer of health services from the federal government to the territorial government. I believe, although Mr. Epp has not said anything on this directly, previous to this, the Department of Health and Welfare wanted to have the support of the native organizations before they would consider transferring health services to this government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 25-85(2): Funding For Full-Time Psychiatrist, Keewatin Area

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mine is a follow-up for the Minister of Health on the matter of psychiatric services. We were further informed earlier today that there is a psychiatrist, who, I know personally, has been coming into the Keewatin area for close to 20 years. I understand that he would be willing to provide full-time services to the area. Of course this is just one of many areas in the Territories that needs that kind of help. But while he is willing to do that, apparently the federal government is not willing to allocate the dollars that would free that kind of position. So can I ask the Minister whether he is aware that Dr. Rodgers is making that kind of offer? If the Minister is aware, is he doing anything to press the federal government to provide the dollars or, alternatively, to perhaps provide some of the funding from our government to assist that kind of effort?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe one of the Members from the Keewatin mentioned to me one time, verbally, in a general discussion of health services in the Keewatin, that the psychiatrist who is providing services here now had made propositions to various people that he would like to provide a full-time service. As to the position of the federal Department of Health and Welfare, I will have to take notice on that and get back to the Member.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. You are taking the question as notice. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, could I just ask the Minister then whether he would give the undertaking that if that opportunity is available and the federal government is reluctant that he would attempt to see what this government can do to make that a reality and be able to take advantage of the offer that is there?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, I understood you to take the other question as notice and that was part of the other question. Oral questions. Mr. Paniloo.

Question 26-85(2): Alternative To User-Pay Program

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of the Housing Corporation. Just some information with respect to housing. In the Baffin communities and other areas of the NWT there is a program available for the home-ownership program. In this part of the NWT, especially in the Eastern Arctic, the people are very concerned about the user-pay program. When the Baffin Regional Council met the last time, the mayors showed obvious concern about the user-pay program which was to be initiated in the Territories. It is obvious that there are some concerns about energy conservation. However, people in this area of the NWT are concerned about the user-pay program. Is it possible for you to review another avenue, other than your existing policy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, that was pretty garbled at this end. Were you able to pick up the context of the question?

Return To Question 26-85(2): Alternative To User-Pay Program

HON. GORDON WRAY: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I think I got the general gist of it. As per the direction of this House at the last session, the Housing Corporation has begun the implementation of the user-pay program. At this point in time I see no reason to stop that process. I believe that part of the concerns from the Baffin are based more on misinformation than they are on reality. As I announced the other day we intend to schedule the user-pay program in at around 600 accounts a month, which will give us time to make sure that the communities understand what the program is all about.

I read some of the comments from the Baffin Regional Council in the Frobisher newspaper and also in the minutes of the meeting in the transcripts. I quite frankly think their fears are just not justified. Nobody who cannot afford to pay will be asked to pay. I do not think it is unreasonable to ask people to pay \$15 to \$20 a month for electricity, and that is what we are talking about on the average. For people who cannot afford that, then the Department of Social Services has programs to assist them in payment of those bills. So, Mr. Speaker, at this time I see no reason to change the course of action that we have undertaken. My own personal belief is that if people do conserve their power, then very few people will actually have to pay. We look at the rates that were set and they are fairly generous rates. If people are going to utilize their power carefully, there should be no reason for them to pay. The Baffin is like the Keewatin. There is not a community in the wintertime, here, that you walk around at four o'clock in the morning but that the lights are blazing all over the place. Perhaps people will just have to learn to shut off their lights and not plug in snowmobiles and trucks and expect the Housing Corporation to pay for it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 27-85(2): Government Action For Year Of The Youth

MR. BALLANTYNE: I have a question for the Minister of Health and Social Services. It is a question to do with the Year of the Youth. During the budget session I indicated to the Minister that I was not very pleased with the efforts that this government is making. This year I thought

that the youth assembly proposed for the fall is really a token effort. This morning we had a good briefing by Mr. Ernerk and Mr. Anawak about the problems of youth here. There are problems of the youth all over the Territories. I think the Minister is aware of the Keewatin survey on youth and Mr. Curley, I am sure, has discussed it with the Minister. My question to the Minister is, is this government going to do anything of substance in this year, to come to grips with the problems of the youth of the NWT?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 27-85(2): Government Action For Year Of The Youth

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. During the budget session I indicated to the Member and to this House that it is the intention of the GNWT to recognize youth in a very important way during this year and that is to listen to them and to get their ideas. That is why we are going to have a youth forum in the fall. Each Member of the Executive will have a youth hired shortly from within their department budget. These eight youths will be a working group to hopefully represent each of the regions and cultures in the NWT. They will be travelling with the Ministers and sometimes on their own to the different regions to help organize regional and community groups. And in conjunction with the two youths that each Member has been asked to select from his constituency, we hope to put together a situation where the youth of the NWT will be listened to directly by their selected representatives in a forum, in a situation where there will be a direct message from the youth forum to the Assembly in the fall. This is the year that this government intends to pay attention to our youth; to listen to their ideas and their problems. Hopefully with that advice we can develop programs and budget the necessary funds to start correcting what are very serious concerns for youth in the NWT. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Supplementary To Question 27-85(2): Government Action For Year Of The Youth

MR. BALLANTYNE: Supplementary, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I take it then, from the Minister's response that that is all this government is going to do until this group of youths have a chance to go around the Territories. I for one, do not think that that is enough. Is the Minister aware of the fact, that there have been many studies done? I think that the Minister should be aware of all the problems that youths face, and I think it is a question that has to be dealt with now and not wait for another conference. I wonder, what is the Minister prepared to do, now, about the problems of the youth in the Northwest Territories?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 27-85(2): Government Action For Year Of The Youth

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The youth of the Northwest Territories are, as everyone will acknowledge, and myself through experience with the special committee on education, very concerned about the youth in the Northwest Territories. With the high drop-out rate in schools and the frustration of them not being able to see a future, it seems that a lot of youth in the Northwest Territories are caught between two extremes. Some of them have not gone to school long enough to have enough education that they can pick a career in the public service or a trade. At the same time, they have been in school long enough and away from their parents and their family, that they do not know any of the traditional hunting and trapping skills for living off the land. So, we have a very severe situation of lost and frustrated youth out there. It is a major problem in the Northwest Territories. Suicide rates among the youth in the Northwest Territories are among the highest. These are areas that we recognize as being major problems.

Several of the departments of the Government of the Northwest Territories are involved with youth; Education for example, my own Department of Social Services, and the Minister of Local Government through recreation. It is a government-wide problem to be dealt with, and it has been a problem for at least a decade. In everybody's opinion, something should be done about it. During this year, we hope to have a situation where the youth in the Northwest Territories are going to be organized in the various regions and communities, and be able to deliver a message to this government about what they feel should be done for the youth in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Mr. Ballantyne.

Supplementary To Question 27-85(2): Government Action For Year Of The Youth

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, supplementary. I think this government has heard from every community that the emphasis of this government should be participation at the community level. The question that I ask the Minister is, instead of, or maybe along with, the particular programming that he has in mind, why not have your government make some funds available at the community level, where people understand the problems, and give them a little bit of help in dealing with the problems at that community level?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 27-85(2): Government Action For Year Of The Youth

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, having just passed the budget, you have to be aware that I do not have enough funds in my budget to fund the project involving youth in every single community. If that is something that the youth forum brings to us and this Assembly, and the government agrees with it, then it will be something we do in the future. What the Member is trying to do is ask me to give a simple answer for a complicated solution, and I do not think that it can be done.

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

Question 28-85(2): Fishery For Gjoa Haven

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be directed to the Minister of Economic Development, the Hon. Mr. Curley. In my constituency the hunters and trappers have been trying to get a fishery going. From the last I have heard on that, it seemed quite evident that it was going to proceed. After that last one that I heard, I have heard rumours that it was not going to proceed this year. I would like an answer from the Minister at this time, whether it is not going or if it is going to proceed. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, yes or no.

Return To Question 28-85(2): Fishery For Gjoa Haven

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, before I give the ultimate answer, I would like, by way of introduction to my answer, to say that my officials in the region, along with the regional director, have been working very hard, not only this year but last year as well, to try and develop a viable fishing industry in the Central Arctic, the Kitikmeot Region. During the summer of last year we seriously looked at the possibility of establishing a fishing plant at Gjoa Haven. But as we developed the plans and the costs eventually added up, we find that this year that we cannot proceed with the project, in view of the fact that it is not going to be viable and the fact that the quota in the region is too far spread out to be able to harvest the existing quota that the Fisheries and Oceans Canada has allowed us to harvest in the region. So, therefore, the answer is that we will not be proceeding with the plans this summer, but we are continuing to look at alternatives, for simplified fishing projects in the Central Arctic. Thank you.

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

Question 29-85(2): Report On Review Of Landlord And Tenant Act

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Government Leader and it is with regard to the Landlord and Tenant Act. I believe there was a review done on this particular issue, and I would like to ask the Minister whether there is any final document that is going to be presented under the Landlord and Tenant Act?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 29-85(2): Report On Review Of Landlord And Tenant Act

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, I do not have a final report to table at this particular session. As soon as that particular report is made available to me, I will make it public and make available copies to all Members of the Legislative Assembly.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Then you are taking the question as notice. Mr. Gargan, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question 29-85(2): Report On Review Of Landlord And Tenant Act

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary. I believe when the consultation was taking place with regard to the Landlord and Tenant Act, there was very little consultation done with the tenants themselves. I would like to ask the Minister whether there is still a consultation process happening right now, before the final report is implemented?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 29-85(2): Report On Review Of Landlord And Tenant Act

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, just to indicate to the Member that the consultation process does not end at the public release of the report itself. Hopefully we will be able to continue our public consultation process through review of the proposed legislation that would be tabled in the Legislature. So, my possible suggestion would be that any amendments hopefully will be tabled in the fall, and final approvals could occur during the winter session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 30-85(2): Letter On Terms Of Reference Of Committee On Norman Wells Project

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Speaker, my question is for Mr. Nerysoo. During the winter session, I think it was on March 27th, I asked the -- the Minister indicated to me that there would be a committee of this government set up that would review the experience of the territorial government in the Norman Wells project. At that time, the Minister indicated that he would provide me with a letter outlining what the terms of reference of this committee were. I would like to ask the Minister now, where is the letter?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just to indicate to the Member, I thought I had sent that particular letter to him. I will check to see if that particular letter was sent because I recall signing it. I will review that particular situation for the Member.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, you are taking the question as notice. Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. T'Seleie, or is it a different question?

MR. T'SELEIE: A different question.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ballantyne.

Question 31-85(2): Assistance To Rainbow Valley Youth Group

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Local Government. It is a follow-up to my question on youth. I understand from the Minister of Social Services that in the fall I will be able to choose a messenger who will attend the court of King Richard I and his merry jesters, but I wonder in the meantime, I have a request in front of Mr. Sibbeston for some assistance for the Rainbow Valley youth group and I wonder if the Minister has had a chance to review that request. I also want to assure the Minister that the Yellowknife youth group are not pagans.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, with that kind of question, I have to say that the matter is under review.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, you are taking the question as notice. Are there any further oral questions? Mr. T'Seleie.

Question 32-85(2): Progress On Issue Of Aboriginal Languages

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Speaker, my question is for Mr. Nerysoo. I would like to ask the Minister what the government has done since the winter session with regard to the issue of language or aboriginal languages.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I could have the indulgence of the Member to reply tomorrow, I have some other information that I would like to make available to the Members here and it would only be prudent for me to seek the advice of my Executive Council colleagues. We will be meeting tomorrow. It could be quite extensive in the sense of the response itself and I will be making that response tomorrow.

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

Question 33-85(2): RCMP Building For Women's Group, Pond Inlet

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question directed to the Government Leader. I have asked this question in the past. The native women's association in Pond Inlet wanted me to ask if they could have the old RCMP building. I would like to know what the progress is in trying to get this old RCMP building.

Return To Question 33-85(2): RCMP Building For Women's Group, Pond Inlet

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just to indicate to the honourable Member that we have been working with the women's association to see whether or not we could move that particular building. I believe the RCMP has agreed that we can have the building but there are some problems with it remaining on the site where it is now situated and we are looking at alternatives as to how we might be able to help the women's association.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Erkloo, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question 33-85(2): RCMP Building For Women's Group, Pond Inlet

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also would like to ask the Government Leader -- my understanding is that they will definitely have to move the building to another location. Is it possible to leave the building on the lot where it is now?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 33-85(2): RCMP Building For Women's Group, Pond Inlet

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From the information that we have received from the RCMP, it is very difficult for us to have the building remain on that particular site. Therefore we are trying to find a way in which we could move that particular building to an alternative site without causing serious damage to the building itself.

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

Question 34-85(2): Review Of Labour Standards Act

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During the winter session I made a fuss over the seismic operation that was going on and at that time I was not too sure what avenues to take, but I would like to ask the Government Leader what the government's intention is with regard to the Labour Standards Act and if there is going to be any type of review to update this particular act, when is it going to take place?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 34-85(2): Review Of Labour Standards Act

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would just like to indicate to the honourable Member that I have instructed my staff to review that particular act with the intention of dealing with the questions during the winter session which related to seismic work and workers and the manner in which they were recruited as well as paid. I have also had my Executive Council colleagues, Mr. Curley and Mr. Patterson, providing me with additional requests from other regions. The Beaufort/Mackenzie Delta development zone group raised the particular issue recently. I must say that I also had an opportunity to meet with some of the companies that were involved in seismic work at the Beaufort industry group meeting in Inuvik and they are aware of the concerns that the honourable Member raised, as well as other Members in this House, and they are prepared to have discussions on how to improve the situation and the wage scales that were associated to that particular work. So we are in the process of reviewing that particular act. I have given instructions to my staff and we will be looking at alternatives and I will be looking at alternatives with my Executive Council colleagues as well. Further Mr. Speaker, if any Member here has any ideas as to how to improve the act, certainly there is opportunity to advise me as to how we might best deal with that particular act. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 35-85(2): Report On Conference On Aboriginal Rights

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is for the Government Leader. I know the Government Leader just recently attended the Ministers of Justice conference on aboriginal rights. Are we going to hear a statement from the Government Leader on positions that our government took and the issues that were raised and perhaps plans that this government has in the intervening time between now and the next conference?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 35-85(2): Report On Conference On Aboriginal Rights

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, I certainly can provide a report to the Members of this Assembly as soon as I have the information available to me. I just want to say though, Mr. Speaker, that the conference itself was not one that one could be very pleased with, in fact the reality is that rather than moving closer in a sense of coming to an agreement on the arrangements by which we could agree, it seems that we have moved further apart and really in fact we do not have an agreement at this time. We are not working from the agreement that was reached at the First Ministers' Conference and in fact, what we have done is we are now beginning to have no agreement and at the basic positions that were initially presented by the aboriginal organizations.

So the reality is that we have moved backward as opposed to moving forward. I must also indicate that premiers and government leaders from across the country that were extremely supportive, are now finding it very difficult to support the positions that they initially took, and a lot of it has to do with public support, not only the support of the political leadership. The reality is that many found that the public support that they thought they had for the agreements that they reached was non-existent and as such I think they were going to have to do some work to improve the public support and improve the public will to give the political leaders that political support that is so necessary to come to any final and substantive agreements.

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

Question 36-85(2): Study On Pangnirtung Airstrip

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Local Government. During our winter session I wrote a letter to Transport Canada requesting for a study on Pangnirtung airstrip because it is too close to the community. I realize that it would be very expensive to do an assessment like that but I would like to ask the Minister of Local Government if he can correct this problem before a serious accident occurs in the community. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the question as notice and reply to the Member tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Oral questions. Item 5, written questions. Mrs. Lawrence.

ITEM 5: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question 37-85(2): School Purchases And Business Incentive Policy

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a written question to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. The business incentive policy gives northern business a 20 per cent advantage over southern businesses on purchases under \$5000. Most purchases made by schools are done in small quantities and the policy effectively forces schools to pay 20 per cent more for supplies such as textbooks. School budgets to my knowledge have not been increased to absorb the extra cost of buying in the North. In effect schools have to buy 20 per cent less textbooks than they did before the policy was put into practice. Will the Minister find a way to resolve this inequity so that students do not have to pay the price for northern economic development?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Lawrence. Written questions. Item 6, returns. Ms Cournoyea.

ITEM 6: RETURNS

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I have a return to Question 19-85(2), asked by Pauloosie Paniloo. The 38 millimetre gun about which he asked, is a restricted firearm. It is a specialized firearm used for a specific purpose and in the NWT can only be used by the RCMP and renewable resources officers.

In the Baffin, each station has the firearm with ammunition on inventory. When the renewable resources officer is out of town, the firearm and ammunition are made available to or accessible by the RCMP. Training in the use of the firearm has been provided to all who are likely to use it. In the Keewatin, the region has the firearms and ammunition which are available to all area officers. Groups can make application for the use of these weapons and we are not in any position to determine if they would be successful in their application at this time.

As a note of interest, Renewable Resources are testing projectiles that can be fired from 12 gauge shotguns with moderate success. Answers to questions on releasing this ammunition to individuals or groups are being sought and the ammunition, to our knowledge, could be available in one to two years.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. Are there any further returns? Item 7, petitions. Mr. Arlooktoo.

ITEM 7: PETITIONS

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Petition 1-85(2), Swimming Pool for Cape Dorset. The petition is from Cape Dorset requesting a swimming pool. I would like to table that. It is in very good written form and it is already translated into Inuktitut, so all we need is to make copies of this petition. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Petitions. Mr. Arlooktoo.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have the same kind of form of petition, Petition 2-85(2), Arena for Cape Dorset. It is in regard to an arena in Cape Dorset. At the present time our skating rink is inadequate and also they cannot even use it in the wintertime. So that is the reason. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Petitions. Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Petition 3-85(2), Funding for Research on Duck Down. The petition is signed by the leaders in Sanikiluaq. I am just going to pinpoint the purpose of this petition. The Makavik Corporation has been funded \$146,000 but we heard that this

is inadequate for research on eider duck down. They would like to be able to teach the Sanikiluaq people how to do handicrafts with duck down but they did not get all their funding and there is a shortage of funding. I was wondering if the government can support us. They are requesting \$15,000. Also in the nearby communities they are going to be requesting funding for this kind of thing. I was wondering if the government will be able to support us with \$15,000 for the survey on duck down all around the islands of the Belcher Islands. They would like to get a study done about the economic base of duck down and they would like to be able to sell it commercially worldwide. So I would like to get this request approved sometime. Thank you.

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

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

ITEM 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following document: Tabled Document 6-85(2), Female Offender Study Committee, Report to the Minister, Department of Health and Social Services, Corrections Division. Thank you.

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

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time I would like to table a document: Tabled Document 7-85(2), which is a letter of May 10, 1985, addressed to me from the Community Education Council, Resolute, concerning education and teachers required in Resolute. Before the Minister replies to me on that earlier question, I would like to table this document so I can get that answered.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table the following document: Tabled Document 8-85(2), NWT Oil and Gas Royalty Regime, Energy, Mines and Resources Secretariat, May 1985. This is in response to the Members asking a question during the budget estimates and I would like their comments before the session is over. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Tabling of documents. The subject is tabling of documents, not tabling of remarks. Are there any further documents? Item 10, notices of motion. Mr. Ballantyne.

ITEM 10: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 2-85(2): Sexual Abuse Of Children

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, June 12th, I will move the following motion: I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Tu Nedhe, that the Government of the Northwest Territories introduce an awareness program within the education system and use other appropriate media to alert and educate children and parents as to the dangers of sexual abuse and to teach children how to avoid potentially dangerous situations. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Notices of motion. Mr. Curley.

Notice Of Motion 3-85(2): Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board Appointment

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, June 12th, I will move the following motion: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Mr. Jack Heath of Inuvik be reappointed as chairman of the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board for a period of three years. Mr. Speaker, I will be asking for unanimous consent to proceed with the motion at an appropriate time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Item 10, notices of motion.

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

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kivallivik that Bill 5-85(2), An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly Retiring Allowances Act, be read for the first time. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: You are having the same trouble I had on Friday. You are one step ahead of yourself at the moment. We are still on notices for first reading, Mr. McLaughlin, and that bill has had notice. Notice of motion for first reading of bills. Item 12, motions. Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask unanimous consent to the notice I gave earlier.

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being requested. Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Curley.

ITEM 12: MOTIONS

Motion 3-85(2): Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board Appointment, Carried

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS the appointment of Mr. Jack Heath of Inuvik, to the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board, will expire on August 27, 1985;

AND WHEREAS Mr. Heath has contributed significantly to the work of the board;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Mr. Jack Heath of Inuvik be reappointed as chairman of the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board for a period of three years.

MR. SPEAKER: Your motion is in order. To the motion, Mr. Curley. Question being called. To the motion. Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, just to indicate to the Members that there is a provision in the act, I believe, that Public Utilities Board members are appointed, at pleasure, for a period of three years. I notice that that was not indicated in my motion but I would just like to reassure Members that all members of the Public Utilities Board are really actually serving at pleasure but indicated for a period of three years. So in view of the reviews taking place with the National Energy Board and NCPC there is continuous review with the membership on the board. I would just like to reassure you that we are doing this really so that we do not have a vacant position during the summer in a critical period. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Butters, as seconder have you anything to add to the motion? Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Item 13, first reading of bills. Mr. McLaughlin.

ITEM 13: FIRST READING OF BILLS

First Reading Of Bill 5-85(2): Legislative Assembly Retiring Allowances Act

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I will get it right yet. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kivallivik, that Bill 5-85(2), An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly Retiring Allowances Act, be read for the first time. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: To the motion. Ready for the question. Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any?

---Carried

Bill 5-85(2) has had first reading. First reading of bills.

Item 14, second reading of bills. Item 15, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Final Report of the Special Committee on Housing; 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 FINAL REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

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

---SHORT RECESS

The committee will now come back to order. We are dealing with the Final Report of the Special Committee on Housing. Would co-chairmen Mr. McCallum and Ludy Pudluk -- Mr. McCallum, do you have an opening statement?

Comments From Special Committee On Housing

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I would like to just lead off with some general comments on the report itself, and indicate to Members of the committee of the whole that the report is a combination of a very comprehensive review of housing and community development. Since early in its travels, the special committee on housing learned and realized that housing was part and parcel of total community development. As well, the committee realized housing was not just the responsibility of a government crown corporation, but that the responsibility of providing good housing permeated all government departments.

The special committee was told, and it saw first hand, that housing was needed in every community, that houses are in poor condition, overcrowding was prevalent and that people in the community believed that present programs are inappropriate and outdated. The regulations that accompanied a lot of the programs actually hindered those in need. We were told that community development requires that community leaders know of housing requirements and other government plans. In fact, we heard from government officials who expressed a concern that the co-operation and co-ordination of all government departments regarding government programs and plans was required.

The special committee on housing has a belief that a more responsive government that allows community participation in decision making, is a government that would really operate and work well. The report contains 82 recommendations concerning 10 categories, including categories on implementation, the process of implementing the recommendations. In relation to this implementation process, the committee believes the corporation requires more consistent direction to update its programs and make them more appropriate to present and future objectives. The policies should be more consistent, though regional disparities, if you like, and regional differences are acknowledged.

The special committee believes that the federal and territorial governments and their housing agencies require a little bit of a prod to better their commitment to meet public demands. We believe that there should be no change in the organizational structure required at this time. We believe that the direction given by the recommendations contained in the report will assist in bringing about a more efficient agency. The implementation process is essential if the recommendations are to be properly implemented.

I believe, Mr. Chairman, that there are a few things that should be said about the report generally. First and foremost, is that housing is now front and centre in the Territories. We believe that this report could be used as a very useful reference book, and as such, should be. I think arriving at a consensus, by the committee Members, on these recommendations and such a large number of them, after 16 months of work and after so many travels to communities and meeting with people, must rank as some kind of a tremendous and exciting feat. We believe as well, that the committee has the same objectives as the government and the corporation, in regard to housing for territorial residents.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that many people should be extended thanks for their involvement, and as such, within the book, recognition is accorded. But I want to make special mention of the work of the co-ordinator, Ms Penny Aumond, and her staff, Dick Bushey and Violet Huffman; the transcript production staff of Mrs. Marie Coe; the interpreters who served the committee well in many native languages; the Clerk of the Assembly, Mr. Hamilton, and his staff; personnel of the government; Ministers and their departments; and agencies. Finally, for my part, to the Members of the committee and my co-chairman, my personal thanks for contributing to a document that I think will give the proper direction to the government and its agency in meeting their stated objectives. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Remarks Of Co-Chairman

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank the chairman of the special committee on housing. Also I would like to thank the people who participated in the discussions and the meetings that took place in the communities throughout the Territories. It was a very tedious task, however, with the amount of travelling that we had to do in the summertime and throughout the winter. There were times when I wanted to stay in my community through the summertime. However, in the 14 communities that we travelled to, we did encounter some transportation problems, and occasionally got stuck in some of the communities.

The report that we have in front of us has recommendations containing information about most of the problems that the people in the communities throughout the Northwest Territories have. There are different housing situations in the communities. I believe that the recommendations contained in this report are applicable to all the communities in the Northwest Territories, if they are to be totally implemented. During our travels to the communities a lot of people participated in the meetings and expressed their concerns. It was very obvious that there is a definite housing problem, and some situations and some statements and comments were very sad to hear. Our constituents will be expecting a lot to come out of this report, based on our recommendations contained in it. I do not have very much to say at this point.

I would like to see these recommendations implemented and when the special committee on housing was established we had a purpose to serve to our constituents. We have the report now. There was a delay during our travels and some problems during our travels. We encountered some problems, and because of that we were not able to complete some of our travels. However, we appreciate the input. In 1984 when we suggested that we delay the presentation of the report, I appreciated that because it gave us more time to hear the concerns that the public has with respect to housing. I appreciate that we are able to present this report. In 1972 there were recommendations made by the Housing Corporation. I am not saying we should throw those away and not consider them. However, times have changed and times are different from 1972 and there is more of a need for housing and the needs for housing are different from 1972. We do have to meet the needs now and today and not the needs from the past.

So based on that, we feel that housing is a definite problem and we are trying to make the housing situation better. I am not trying to say that I do not agree with the NWT Housing Corporation in their deliberations. However, they do need assistance from us and it is obvious at this time that the people require assistance. I think that the special committee on housing is right in between the needs of the Housing Corporation and the general public. We rely on the Housing Corporation. I would like to express my feeling that I think we have to work together to solve the housing problem in the NWT. I would be very happy if the recommendations were to be approved by this House. It is obvious that there may be some discrepancies, but with participation and assistance from everybody, I feel that we can accomplish our goal.

I would like to thank everybody who served on the special committee on housing and I would also like to thank the interpreters for the assistance that they provided during our travels. It is obvious that there were differences in dialects and that there may have been some misunderstandings, but those problems were overcome with the assistance of the interpreters. I am quite open to any comments that anybody may have with respect to the report and I would like to hear the concerns and any ideas you may have with respect to the recommendations contained in this report before the recommendations are implemented. I would like to thank my co-chairman of the special committee on housing and the Members of the special committee on housing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. MCCALLUM: Perhaps, Mr. Chairman, I could suggest a means by which we could deal with the report. Perhaps I could suggest that we get general comments from Members of this committee and at the conclusion of those comments, that we could then move into the adoption of each of the recommendations.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Is this agreed by the committee?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Just a few comments, Mr. Chairman, relative to the manner in which Executive Members might approach this document. In view of the extremely short time that the Final Report of the Special Committee on Housing has been in the hands of the Members of the Executive, I am sure the House will appreciate that the Executive Council's collective response to the final report at this session, will be to receive the recommendations included in the report without comment or response. In so saying, however, I wish to assure this House that the Executive recognizes and commends the excellent work pursued and concluded by the joint chairmen and Members of the special committee on housing. As this debate proceeds, Members serving on the Executive will be contributing questions and comments as Members of the Legislative Assembly and bringing before the committee of the whole, constituency concerns, references and attitudes related to the direction of priorities identified by the authors of the report. I believe that my colleague, the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, may have a few comments to amplify his position.

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

Comments From Minister Responsible For The Housing Corporation

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before general comments take place and before we go through the specific recommendations, I would like to make a few comments as Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation and then subsequent to this, I will be making any comments in my role as Member of the Legislature for the constituency of Kivallivik. As Minister responsible, I welcome the report. The interim report has already been useful to myself and to my colleagues on the Executive in terms of the recommendations that we have already begun to initiate and I think it has been useful to us when it came to deciding on the allocation of resources. I think all Members are aware of the substantial increases in the Housing Corporation budget within the last 12 months, in both the O and M and in the capital side of things. I think the special committee has had a role to play in this. I welcome the document as a guideline for future direction of housing.

I think that the travel and the effort put in by the committee is to be commended. However, I should I guess for the record, put in a word of caution in that in the brief time we have had the report and in the brief time we have had to look at the recommendations, many of the recommendations could come with a very high price tag and many of the recommendations are regarding areas in which this government and this Legislature does not have direct control. There is, as you can appreciate, a lot of federal money; the bulk of it is federal money. Agreement would have to be reached with the federal authorities on some of the recommendations and this may not be possible. Some of the recommendations are already in place but I would just like to caution Members of the Legislature that I do not think, at least in this Assembly's lifetime, that we will be able to see full implementation of all 82 recommendations. The federal government just does not work that fast and, as I say, many of the recommendations will have to be negotiated with the federal government and until we do that, we have no idea of what success we might have but past history has shown that those negotiations are very long, very tedious, and sometimes not fruitful.

So I will not take up much more time, except just to say that I thank the committee for their report as the present Minister responsible for Housing and I am sure that for any other of the Members around this House who may have the good fortune or misfortune to assume the portfolio in the future, the report will be a useful document to them and I would hope that in the future, housing having now received the priority which I think it should have had years ago, that priority will stay there at least for the next few years until such time as we have overcome the housing problems of the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Wray. General comments to the report. Mr. Ballantyne.

Positive Steps Already Taken

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will keep my comments short. I think this was an exercise for all of us who were on the committee and I think also for the Minister of the Executive and for the board of directors of the corporation, it has been a very healthy one. I think it raises the profile of housing needs in the NWT and during the time that we have been travelling and working on this, I have seen that the Minister has taken many positive steps with support of his Executive colleagues. I have seen Gary Jaeb and the board of directors also have looked at the problem and have taken many positive steps. I do not think it is a matter of who should get credit; I think the fact is that we are all working toward the same goals and I think there have been significant improvements in housing in the last 15 months.

I for one, would compliment the Minister. I think the Minister has taken on a very difficult portfolio and with the constraints that he talked about and the constraints we are going to find with this report, of funding, a federal government co-operation. I think there are valid limitations on what we can do. But our intent as a committee was to give the Minister ammunition to try to put it in one document if it is at all possible. I think we have made a noble effort, if nothing else, to put in one document a history of housing and try to document the problems as we have seen them. Hopefully it will be a working document over the months and years to come that we would refer to. Hopefully over the months and years to come we will see some significant progress in the whole area of housing in the NWT. I just want to end my comments but to me I think it has been a very positive exercise, at this point in time, for all of us -- the corporation, the board of directors, the Executive, the Legislature, the special committee on housing -- to work together for the same end which will provide better housing for the people of the NWT. Thank you.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I should also congratulate the Members who concluded the report although they did not get into as many communities in my constituency, particularly Repulse, Coral and Chesterfield. But I think overall they did their share of getting complaints and so on.

I have a number of points that I would like to raise because, although the Members are now trying to tell us that this has been a joint effort and joint project, I think we need to point out -- as a Member, I would like to say that in some of the charts and the statistics that the Members have come out with, in a way it is sort of a partisan report. The tone of it, when you really get to the breakdowns and figures and everything, is one aspect that I sort of regret a bit because it is painting a picture as though this Executive Council has not been fair to the regions. I would like to say to you that we on the Executive Council are not party to the 1983-84 housing allocation. That was done by the previous Minister of the Housing Corporation, which we inherited. I think he did make some good progress in this part of the Eastern Arctic and I think if anyone is to be blamed I think the previous Minister of Housing should also be included, because we certainly did try to put in more money to this part of the region.

Houses Allocated To Aivilik

I can show you in 1979, when I got into the Legislature, there were zero new housing starts in Rankin Inlet; Chesterfield in 1979 it was zero; Repulse Bay, zero; Coral Harbour, zero. That was under the previous administration. Rankin Inlet was zero as well. In 1980 for Rankin Inlet there were five new houses built; Chesterfield, five; Coral Harbour, one; Repulse Bay, six. I would just like to go through this a bit. In 1981, in Rankin Inlet, there were five; Chesterfield, zero; Coral Harbour, six; Repulse, five. In 1982, my constituency received, in Rankin Inlet, zero; Chesterfield, zero; Coral Harbour, zero; Repulse Bay, zero.

So in a sense, Mr. Chairman, I think the statistics we are going to come out with should be fair and seem to be fair. Finally, in the statistics for 1983, which again another administration carried out, Rankin Inlet only had four new houses built; in Chesterfield there were five; Coral Harbour received zero and Repulse Bay had five new houses. So I would just like to put these out in the forefront because when we look at the 1984-85 statistics as far as the breakdown into the constituencies is concerned, it seems quite radical, as though the Executive Council has been trying to put money into the constituencies of Members of the Executive Council. I do not think that was the case. I think it was responding to houses that were not built before. There were new rehabs during that period but that was to bring up to standard the old houses that were collapsing -- as the Member for Yellowknife North would say -- and they were badly in need of repairs.

I would like to thank again the previous Minister of Housing when he responded finally to my recommendation -- I remember making one and pursuing it for many, many years when I was in the Legislature -- to build apartment units for single parents or single people. I remember the president of the Housing Corporation and I having a chat about it. Finally they accepted it and I am proud to say to you that many of the occupants today are very happy about these units and they are well taken care of. We have two nineplexes here and they are turning out to be among the better apartments that the Housing Corporation has ever built. So I just wanted to put these facts in some perspective because we are going to be asked to implement the recommendations within six months. I do not think in some respects it is going to be possible within six months, although as far as the long-term recommendations are concerned, we will, I am

sure, respond in some way because I know my colleague is going to be working hard to try and deal with the federal Minister on the matter. Before we get on to recommendations I thought it was important. But there are points that I think, I as an ordinary MLA will be asking questions of the co-chairmen because I think if you look at the report totally all MLAs should really be impartial as far as implementation of government programs are concerned.

Role Of Politicians In Monitoring Implementation

I think there is also a possibility that MLAs are going to be attempting to get into the implementation process. I do not know whether that is acceptable in any part of the legislatures throughout Canada because that is really the role of the MLAs in general, to watch what the government is doing. As far as I am concerned, you do not have to be given a direct paid job as an MLA to continue to monitor and review government programs but I think in this report we are going to see that some MLAs are asking for a direct role in monitoring projects and implementation. We did not do that in the special committee on education. We were aware that it was going to be tough to get the recommendations through the government so we recommended fairly to the government that the Minister responsible set up a task force for implementation, comprised of members from the private sector and from the government. The Executive Council of the day accepted it and Dennis Patterson was then able to work with the task force on implementation. But in this report I think we should be very careful whether or not we really want the politicians to carry out and monitor, as paid politicians, overlooking officials in the government as though they were somebody from on high. I think they know you are pretty powerful individuals and your role as an MLA here proves that you can inquire and direct the government. So that is one reservation that I have. Other than that, I think you have presented us with a very challenging report. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Curley. General comments to the report. Does the committee agree that we go recommendation by recommendation? Mr. T'Seleie.

Allocation Of Housing Not Addressed

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I just want to say that I was a Member of the committee and I did not make it to the last meeting of the committee when they hammered out all the recommendations. So really this is the first time I have seen it. As a Member of the committee I do not have much choice but to support the report but I am a little bit disappointed that the report did not address too much the allocation of houses. There are some recommendations in here that touch on allocation of housing and they are mostly recommendations 52 to 56, I think, that refer to needs studies and that sort of thing. But there is no real specific recommendation about allocation. I would have liked to have seen some recommendation about allocation of housing. That is the only comment that I have, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. T'Seleie. General comments. Mr. Nerysoo.

Response To Request From Fort McPherson

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to indicate my appreciation to all the Members of the task force for the work that they have done. I have, though, one particular concern. If you recall, I had introduced a motion of initially reporting back -- to having the task force prepare a report at the last session, that was not seconded by anybody. I think one of the reasons I did that was to ensure that if a request from a community was made to the special committee, particularly as it related to community hearings, that they would respond. I believe that in this particular case I was concerned about Fort McPherson and Arctic Red.

In the case of Fort McPherson who wrote a letter to the special committee asking them to hold a hearing, that hearing itself could have taken into consideration Arctic Red, as opposed to holding two hearings. Now, no one responded to the community, and I just wanted to make Members aware here, that Fort McPherson is also one of the communities that have been involved, for a number of years, in the home-ownership program, and they had, I believe, some recommendations as to the improvements of that particular program, particularly since it was one of the only communities that really used the individual type of arrangement. In the case of Fort Good Hope, in the case of Fort Resolution and really in the case of Fort Smith, and in the case of even Fort Simpson, the applications for those particular projects really came on a collective basis, and in the case of Fort McPherson it was on an individual basis. Some of the problems that arose out of the manner in which they applied and were involved in the home-ownership program, were very different from those

that were associated with projects that were part of a collective project. So, in that sense, I think that that was one of the reasons that I wished to have the particular committee hold a hearing in Fort McPherson, but that situation did not occur, and really there was no response, I believe, to that situation.

Now, generally, I see that many of the recommendations that have been proposed, I believe the present Minister responsible, in some instances, has already responded to. I did, though, wish to raise one other particular issue, and maybe I have to read the document a little more since I just had a quick glance at it, but there is nothing that I saw that had anything to do with the possibility of more senior citizens homes to alleviate a lot of the housing shortages in the community. There are some instances, in fact, in many of the communities of single senior citizens residing in three bedroom homes, which they really did not need. However, the types of apartments that are now being built, the one bedroom apartments, could respond adequately to the needs of the senior citizens as opposed to having the bachelor-type arrangements that had been developed previously. So, I just wanted to raise those points with you. I think maybe it is a matter of a recommendation more than anything else, that probably eluded the Members of the special committee, and certainly I will be raising that also with the responsible Minister.

Land Assembly Problems

The other point, I guess, that still is an outstanding issue, and I believe that it is being dealt with here or at least it was raised, and it is in fact being dealt with, has to do with the whole question of land development in particular communities. I think that one of the problems that was not addressed in that particular issue was the fact that in some Dene communities, because we had not received any particular plans, or they had not developed any plans for the development of their communities -- that was, in fact, some of the basis for the lack of land developments that occurred in communities, not only the fact that there was no land assembly program, but there were no plans for development of particular sectors of the community. That, in itself, has caused, I believe, some serious deficiencies in the way communities have been developed.

Another point that I am not sure has been addressed here, is the fact that, in some instances settlement councils or the appropriate community authorities, are refusing to provide land for housing projects, particularly those related to individuals. That probably did not arise here. In some instances, there was duplication of sale of land where two or three people were being sold the same piece of lot, and that in itself caused some serious concerns in communities. I have a number of examples of that and could show where one piece of property was sold to three different individuals. In fact, six or seven pieces of property were being sold to three or four individuals, and yet no one was really aware of that. Then when it came time to build houses, that caused certain problems. So, I just wanted to raise the point that there are other additional issues that probably have to be raised, and I wished to raise them as a matter of record so that the report would not itself ignore the particular concerns that I have. It is a matter of addition more than it is a matter of challenging what has been in here.

I do say that I wish to, again, commend all the Members of the special committee on housing. A point that I wanted to raise was this, that the idea of the special committee is to provide for direction, to advise and certainly to work with government in order to establish direction on programs that would benefit all people in the Northwest Territories. It should not necessarily be a group that challenges or is in opposition, you might say, to government direction. Particularly when you have a situation where direction itself is being received by a public-type board and people that have been appointed from the general public of the Northwest Territories are giving advice to an elected Minister, that particular public advice is of significant value. The people that are involved in any kind of committee, any board, are appointed on the merits that they have experience in these particular areas, and I think that they have to be recognized as being able to provide certain expertise and advice to a Minister. But, I commend the two co-chairmen and the Members of the special committee for the hard work that they have done, and certainly with the idea that they are supporting the direction of government and providing advice that will improve the housing situation in the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I, too, would like to say that based on the chance I have had to look at this report, which has not been much, I think it is an excellent report. I think it is a very important report which is going to undoubtedly profoundly affect the

direction that we take with housing in the NWT. I think it is very timely. I think at this point in our history we are ready to change directions and particularly in the area of home-ownership, boldly take new initiatives. I think housing is an important means of assisting economic recovery and job creation in the NWT. For all these reasons I applaud the committee for its hard work.

Time Needed For Public Support And Full Understanding

However, Mr. Chairman, I would like to express some reservations about the process that is recommended, recognizing that I am probably talking to an Assembly a majority of whose Members are Members of the special committee on housing. Therefore I hope my concerns will still be taken in a positive light. I would like to just say, based on my experience with a special committee of the Assembly which also had extensive public hearings and also really wanted to make major changes and that was in the area of education, that I think we have to be very careful not to get ahead of the general public. I am really concerned quite frankly that we not leave the public behind in dealing with this report as an Assembly. Now, I believe that the committee has already had a tremendous impact on public consciousness. I think that a great deal of the committee's work in getting changes implemented in the NWT is not just persuading the government but also turning around public attitudes and public consciousness. That is just what I would like to talk about for a minute if I may, Mr. Chairman.

I am fully in favour of discussing this report and all 82 recommendations this week. I realize that was one of the reasons that we held this session. But I would be very concerned about any suggestion that we should adopt or amend the recommendations at this point with the report not even a week old. I would just like to remind Members of the process that was taken with the special committee on education which, as a Member, I found very frustrating in some respects but I think in the long run that it did pay off. The special committee on education, which by the way had only 42 recommendations, I believe, tabled an interim report one session as this committee did and discussed the report in detail for two separate sessions of the Legislative Assembly. One was a spring session. Questions were asked. Members had a chance to go back and discuss it with their constituents. There was a great deal of very valuable discussion in the press and in regional council meetings and the like, about the recommendations. And finally, after a total, by my calculation, of four separate sessions in which the report was considered, it was passed as amended. I think that when it was passed it had full public support. It had full public understanding and, of course, the Members were fully conversant with it as well. And I think when it was passed it had the full support of all the Members of the Legislative Assembly and the government.

Consultation With Constituents

I am really concerned that if we rush through passing these recommendations this week without all Members being prepared -- and I will say frankly, I am not prepared to fully discuss it -- without Members having had a chance to speak to their constituents about it, I really think that the object that we all have, which is to get the public behind these changes, might well be lost. I would be really concerned that while the Legislative Assembly and the government might have decided this week what to do with these 82 recommendations, the general public is left behind. Now, I know that one might say that the public may know what is going to be in the report because they were at the meetings where they gave input and the public knows what they want. But with all respect I think there are some important new ideas in here, some of which were not recommended at public meetings or some of which were recommended against in public meetings. I frankly think that the Members of the Legislative Assembly have some obligation to sell this report to our constituents if we are actually going to make it work.

For my part, therefore, Mr. Chairman, I would like to have a chance at this session to go through each recommendation, to see it properly discussed. I would like to have an opportunity to ask questions of clarification. I would like to be able to take it back to my constituents, to meet with the local housing authority, to meet with the town council, to meet with people who made submissions so that when I vote on this report I will have a mandate from my constituents. I would also like to say that I hope no one thinks that in saying these things I am suggesting that we should delay implementation of the report or slow things down. I do not feel that way at all. I think that the report is before the government and I am quite certain that the Minister of Housing has already given it extensive thought and is already planning on what things he can move on and the government has notice of the recommendations and already, I am certain, is preparing to

respond. But I am concerned about people and you know, with all respect, tabling a report with 82 recommendations on Wednesday and passing those recommendations the following week is not going to give the public an opportunity to understand what is in the report and to give it the kind of support and understanding that it deserves.

So in conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I think it is an excellent report but I would really like to see it presented to the people before it is finally adopted. I am in favour of full and thorough discussion this week. I have a number of questions that I would like to ask and perhaps suggestions I would like to make. I am a bit nervous about seeing it rushed through to adoption and I say this because I think you are going to have better public support if we wait until the fall session to discuss adoption of the recommendations. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Patterson. We will take a 15 minute coffee break.

---SHORT RECESS

The committee will now come to order. Mr. Ballantyne.

Request For Caucus Meeting

MR. BALLANTYNE: ...such a short compressed time frame, and I think in all fairness to all committee Members the document that the special committee has developed was just presented to the committee, and we as a caucus really have not had the opportunity up until now, with everybody here, to discuss the process, the best way to handle it. I wonder if I could ask the indulgence of the committee, if we could meet for just a short caucus meeting to talk about the proper process for handling this report?

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Okay, I would like to have all of the Members down at the caucus room then.

---SHORT RECESS

The committee will come to order. We are on the Final Report of the Special Committee on Housing. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, before you look for further comments of a general nature from Members of this committee, I would just like to respond very briefly to three comments that were made by previous speakers, or at least two of them. In the report, it was indicated that there are some graphs or political remarks being made about the present Minister's role as opposed to the previous person that was involved, which, of course, is Mickey.

---Laughter

I am not going to say it. They will not delete it. I would just like to indicate to Members of this committee, that the graphs and figures are there for the years in which the corporation has been in existence, not just the years in which I happened to be responsible to this House for the Housing Corporation nor for the years in which Mr. Wray is responsible for the corporation. But the figures are there. They are there toward the back pages of the book starting on page 161 and on. So, not only was it highlighted, if that is the term used of Mr. Wray's role, but it was highlighted with my role, and it was highlighted with roles of previous people as well.

As for the comments of Mr. Nerysoo about Fort McPherson, I checked out with our people. We have no record of any request from Fort McPherson to meet with them. We wrote to them in May asking if they wanted us to come, in fact; we have not had a response. Now, I do not want to get into an argument, but just to set the matter straight from our perspective as a committee, this is the information that we have.

As regards the process by which we can go here, I think that it is proper for us to get further general comments or comments of a general nature from various Members of this committee, that is the committee of the whole, and then, if I may suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, you might want to deal with recommendations as they go along, and you can get comments from individual Members, if they so wish to comment on each recommendation. If there are no comments, then you could simply call for comments on the next recommendation. In that way, I think that we can satisfy some of the concerns that have been raised here by various Members as to how we will finally deal with this particular report. At the end of those comments on each recommendation, Mr. Chairman, as long as we are not going to either adopt them, amend them or delete them, then I would be prepared, as the co-chairman of the standing committee, to move a motion at the end of such comments. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Does the committee agree to this process?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Wray.

Graphs Indicating Distribution By Constituency

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I take it we are in general comments now. To follow up on Mr. Curley's comments and Mr. McCallum's comments on the graphs and charts contained within the document, I have a great deal of difficulty with the graphs contained on pages 96 and 97. I acknowledge that the figures are probably correct, but when I see them I question why they were put in the form that they were put in. The graphs while they represent distribution of money for public housing ignore, either conveniently or by error, money that is spent on all other programs within the corporation -- whether it be senior citizens repair, extraordinary maintenance program, home-ownership, rural and remote -- which account for a great deal of the money that is spent by the Housing Corporation in its capital budget.

I at first thought perhaps when the report was published, the figures were not available but then I notice that the notes on the bottom say that these graphs were prepared in January. Now, I know that the figures for 1985 were available no later than the end of February and certainly the figures for 1984 were available in January of this year. So I wonder as to why those figures were excluded. Is there a reason why those figures were not put in? The reason that the report was being printed is not a valid one because if the report was being printed in January 1985, then there would have been no need for this House to extend the mandate of the special committee. So the question that begs to be asked is, why were the graphs on pages 96 and 97 put in in the form that they are? Why were all the figures not included? Is there a reason for doing it this way? I am mystified because there does not appear to be a good reason other than what maybe some people suspect as being a political reason. If the committee could clarify it then perhaps they could alleviate some of our concerns that perhaps some political cheap shots are being taken within a document which is a document of this House. Thank you.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: I think I will respond to that. I understand the Minister's concern and I want to really emphasize there is no intent of this committee to get political in the sense that the Minister is talking about. Obviously we are politicians, this is a political document. We are not sports writers and this is not a sports document. So there is always an element of politics throughout any political document...

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible comment)

Graphs Indicate Basic Trends

MR. BALLANTYNE: No, let me finish. But this particular aspect that he talked about -- what had happened, as you recall, in the budget session was that there was a lot of concern about the validity of the needs study process. I think the Minister at that time admitted that there were flaws in it and that in fact some of the base data and base guidelines were not that complete. Now, this was prepared around that time or before that time and in the interim, though, there was

other information that was not provided to us that we did not have. We did not have the HAP bedroom sizes. We did not have the R and R allocation. I want to emphasize too the chart says very clearly what is excluded there -- I mean, it very clearly outlines that. I guess another part we did not have is the transportation component of the HAP units which sometimes is up to \$15,000 to \$20,000. The intent of this particular graph is just to show some basic trends. Nothing more than that. We would really have liked to have the five year plan. That would have been the ideal thing to get in here. That was not made available to us even though I understand it is a working document with the House.

So we admit and we say very clearly that although all the information is not there, it shows some basic trends. All we are saying is nobody has any problem with allocation of housing as long as it is done on concise, correct, overall information. The Minister has already said, as we know, that we are working on getting a better needs survey. We are working on improving that process. So there is no intent here to do anything I think untoward toward Members of this House. It just shows some basic trends and no one will have any problem with anything in the future as long as it is demonstrated there is an equitable needs survey. All communities are treated the same and the allocation process is based on that equitable needs survey.

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

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you. I still am rather mystified. If these graphs are intended to show basic trends then I still cannot understand why some very vital information, particularly strong in home-ownership, rural and remote, the enriched emergency repair program, all of which consume a large number of capital dollars within the Housing Corporation -- those figures were available. They were available certainly no later than the end of February, and I refuse to believe that the figures from the 1983-84 construction season were not available. They were available. Why were they missed out? Obviously, there is no good answer and I did not expect one, but I just wanted to point out to the House that these graphs do not represent basic trends. At such time as all of the moneys are included then that is the only time you can get a true picture.

Graphs Show Needed Catch-Up Construction Programs

So my problem is obviously then that it is in the report and there must be a reason for it being there and I am having a hard time understanding the reasoning behind it. The one thing the graphs do show is that the previous government and this government have acknowledged the fact that certain areas in the NWT are very badly treated or in fact have been left out of the housing picture for a considerable number of years and that a catch-up construction program is in effect in certain areas of the North. The Keewatin is one area. I do not deny that. It was bad when I came here and hopefully it will be better when I leave. The Baffin was another area -- Baffin Central was another area that had been forgotten and forgotten badly. So I think that the graphs show the areas of high concentration of public housing but I think it demonstrates that there was also a need in those areas.

But I am still mystified as to why all the others were excluded because the figures were available. Make no mistake about that, Mr. Chairman, and let this House make no mistake about it. Those figures were available and they are still available and I would be much happier if in fact -- I would be willing to undertake to provide in the form of a graph if you want, every year from 1979 right through to 1985, where moneys went and who it went to, for it to be included in the report because I think then we will have an accurate picture. Thank you.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: I do not want to prolong this. I just want to assure the Minister that there is no malicious intent. This takes only two pages which is only background material, out of 180 pages. I am glad to see that the Minister's only concerns are on those two pages.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): General comments. Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: I just want to add my support to my colleague for Kivallivik, because you will recall during the budget estimates that there was this partisan attempt to undermine the government as well as the Housing Corporation in terms of allocation of housing. There was this very serious attempt at that time. So that is a reason that I did indicate that I am sorry to see the report being presented as a partisan report rather than attempting to be fair and non-political. Sure, I

respect your position. I believe you are a PC member and so on but I do not think you were presenting the report as such. So in that respect I share the concerns of my colleague there because if we are going to show an accurate trend it should be reflected. These figures are not impossible to get and were available, as my colleague said. That is the only comment that I would like to make. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Curley. General comments. Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have one little comment on this matter. This issue was a source of some concern to me. I am pleased to hear the comments from an alternate Member of the committee about these particular graphs. I wonder, more as a point of order, Mr. Chairman, whether it might not be appropriate if the co-chairmen of the special committee on housing should be the ones who would answer on behalf of the committee with respect to matters such as this, rather than someone who is not even a regular Member of the committee...

MR. BALLANTYNE: Hey, hey, hey!

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: How did you get involved?

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: ...if the co-chairmen were to speak on behalf of the committee, whether they might agree to have these particular graphs updated to reflect the full picture up-to-date. And perhaps by the next session of the Assembly, we could have the information presented in a way which did not skew the results, as has been admitted occurred. Thank you.

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

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I disagree with Dennis Patterson that the alternate Members should not be answering the questions. When you open at page(i), he has a picture in there too. That means that he was there. He is an alternate, but he was taking part in this all the way. He was there because he would like to help out this committee. I think that he should be allowed to answer any questions too. Thank you.

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

HON. GORDON WRAY: Just to follow up on Mr. Pudluk's comments then. I take it that if Members of the House have questions on the report, and the intentions behind it and the recommendations, then all committee Members will be answering on behalf of the committee. I would have thought that the co-chairmen, Mr. Pudluk and Mr. McCallum, would have been the lead people in this to answer any specific questions we may have, because it is their names that are on the document. They are named as the authors of the document, therefore who better to question about the document? Thank you.

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

All Committee Members Free To Answer Questions

MR. PUDLUK: Order please, order please, thank you. If questions on the 82 recommendations are going to be asked by this House, and only two co-chairmen can answer that, that is impossible, just impossible. We cannot do the same as you guys do. When we start asking questions of the Executive Council, they always say, "I will take that as notice and get back to you tomorrow." We do not want to do that. We want to do it right here; that is why those Members should be answering questions. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Mr. McCallum, general comments.

MR. McCALLUM: Not a general comment, Mr. Chairman. It seemed to me that when the question was asked, you called on Mr. Ballantyne, rightly or wrongly, to do it. All I can say, in terms of it, is that the information that we required, and I think that will be noted within it, that information was not supplied. If, in fact, the Minister has particular information that can be used, then obviously we will take it. It will be used. I can only say that if it is available now, we will revise the charts, we will publish an addendum to it. The point of it is that allocation has not been based on objective estimates of need. I do not have any difficulty answering questions from any Member, whether they are Members opposite or Members on this side, about what will occur. Surely those Members on the other side must know, after this number of

years that we have been facing one another, regardless of the side, that I have not sidestepped anything, and I do not think that Mr. Pudluk, as co-chairman, in the 10 years that he has been here, will sidestep anything either. I am not that much of a Christian, as I told you before, that I keep taking shots on one side without giving them back, but...

AN HON. MEMBER: Almost.

MR. McCALLUM: I made one mistake once. I should have carried it through.

AN HON. MEMBER: Oh, oh, oh!

---Laughter

MR. McCALLUM: But as there was a precedent set by that infamous special committee on education, where everybody got into the act, we thought it was the only democratic way to go -- to let everybody in our committee get into the act as well, because if you recall, it was not left during the debates, which may have ranged over four sessions, but as I had indicated in a previous meeting the recollection that I have and that of Mr. Patterson's somewhat differ, as to how it went on. As Members who were in the House at that time may recall, every Member save one, because that Member did not attend all committee meetings as well, made comments. We have made a difference with Members of this committee -- even those who did not attend all of our meetings make comments, pro or con the recommendations.

So, all we are doing is carrying on with the precedent that was set by the special committee on education, that if a Member wishes to comment on a question, then I feel that he is free to do so. If Members, either on this side, or Members opposite, want to direct the questions to individuals, me included, then I would be happy to respond.

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

Motion To Adjourn, Defeated

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) ...at the present time, I would like to recognize the clock. When we reassemble tomorrow dealing with the special housing committee report, I would like the two co-chairmen to be available for questioning. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Paniloo, are you making a motion to report progress? So moved. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? This motion is defeated.

---Defeated

We will keep on general comments. General comments. Is it agreed then, that we go recommendation by recommendation? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Recommendation One, Implementation

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Okay, recommendation one, implementation. Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the co-chairmen how they would see this particular recommendation being implemented. Would they be hired guns from the Assembly or by the government? Are they going to be assigned a role, and whose supervision are they going to be under, whether it be the Speaker or the Housing Corporation as a project manager in charge of implementing the special committee's report?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I have to go back a little bit in history to give you an idea of what the committee was attempting to do with this particular recommendation. As the Member will recall, in 1971 or 1972, there was an NWT Council task force on housing. I am not sure who chaired it, but

I think that it was Mr. Butters, and he could correct me if I am wrong. When the report of that NWT Council task force on housing came up in the then Council, Mr. Butters moved a motion seconded by Dr. Hamelin, that contained two "whereas" clauses and had a "therefore" clause that said this: "Now therefore, I move that the Commissioner in Council of the Northwest Territories accept these four major recommendations established by the Northwest Territories Council task force on housing", and he went on to name them. They were then agreed. The question was asked, all were in favour and it was agreed.

Mr. Butters then went on to indicate that he wished to get into the critical path, that is, to take into consideration what would happen to the recommendations. Again, with some comment, the critical path was discussed. So there was some kind of an implementation scheme proposed but I do not believe that there was any kind of follow-up or enough follow-up done on the recommendations to ensure that these things did occur. Now, that is not to say not on all of them because one of the major recommendations was that the GNWT establish an NWT Housing Corporation headquartered in Yellowknife.

What we wanted to do with this was not to continue this special committee on housing for the duration of the 10th Assembly, but to ensure that its recommendations were being followed through. We wanted to be able to report at subsequent sessions back to the House to ensure that these things were being carried out, that the recommendations were being attended to. So, the committee formulated the recommendation that an implementation committee consisting of the two co-chairmen do that; that it stay until the end of the 10th Assembly, a matter of two years plus, and report back to the Assembly on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the final report. That was the rationale, if you like, behind the establishment of this implementation committee. We wanted to see that things were done with its recommendations. The committee felt this was the best way to determine that it would be done.

Now, obviously we are not talking of attempting to set up something that would be of any great cost to the government. As MLAs, both myself and Mr. Pudluk have access to come in to Yellowknife to determine that under the standing provisions as laid down by the Management and Services Board. But it was an attempt to ensure that the recommendations would be carried out. That was the essence of the committee's recommendation.

I am not too sure whether I answered all the questions. We are not going to be responsible to the Housing Corporation. We are not going to be in the employ of the corporation. We do not intend to be in the employ of any district office of the corporation. As MLAs we have access, as I said, through standing provisions laid down by the MSB to meet together, whether it may be to query the Minister during interims. But we have the kind of provision to do that and I guess that is basically it. Now, Mr. Pudluk may want to add something to it because the question was asked of the co-chairmen. If other Members want to comment on it, they can as well.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Ask Tagak for permission.

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

Members Assuming Role Of Project Directors

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That helps a bit as far as I am concerned but I think the Member is using a comparison that is from a totally different world of politics because there were no such ministerial responsibilities then to the Executive Member. I think there were only mainly one or two Executive Members of the day. In view of that, I would see why they needed to have a steering committee of the Legislature overseeing the recommendations of the Assembly. But today I think we are a lot closer to real parliamentary democracy where each one of you is charged with duties to continue to press the government on policies and whether or not public interest is being well-served. I could not see it today. I could not see in this age, when the committee has completed its report, that it has to carry on the implementation because this is the role of the Assembly -- it is supposed to be impartial -- in terms of its relationship with the civil service. As far as I am concerned, the Members are putting themselves into the role of the senior managers of the government and steering the recommendations through the public service and government policies. So I have problems with that. I could not see how in your conscience you, as ordinary MLAs, would want to be put in a place where you are actually becoming project directors of such a major project.

I also have a question with respect to recommendation 1(c) where you say the committee shall have unimpeded and prompt access to all documents. Does that include cabinet documents or FMB documents? What do you mean by having access to all documents? Thank you.

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

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I am not sure whether Mr. Pudluk wants to comment but again he may want to. I simply want to indicate to the Member that he is reading into it that we are going to direct the Housing Corporation and what it should do. We were only going to recommend in this report to the Executive Council. If I wanted to continue to be a civil servant, I would have stayed there. I have at the present time no...

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible comment.)

Committee Members To Monitor, Not Direct

MR. McCALLUM: At the rate you are giving these jobs away -- I will not get back into it anyway. But okay, that is only a smart remark. Let me start this all over again. All we are saying is that the committee believes that two of its Members should monitor, not direct, and for your benefit. Will I get your attention now? Two different words. Two different things. Monitor the way in which the directions have been accepted by the Executive Council, therefore it is by the government, therefore, by the corporation. We are not going to go in and talk to the corporation and say to the corporation "Hey, look, you did not do this." But we will report back on that. I would imagine as well that the Minister will report back. Hopefully, he will report back on which ones have been accepted. Now, prior to us putting this particular recommendation in, it was the understanding of the committee that we would have gone through the recommendations. The ball game has changed. That does not mean that the committee is thinking of deleting this particular recommendation but we believe that there should be a monitoring of the recommendations. But in no way are we talking about being involved as bureaucrats if you like.

I will accept the statement that the ball game has changed from 1972 on. We did not get anyone in this House responsible for anything until 1975, three years after it. It took until 1981 before you got anyone from this House who had anything to do, directly, other than being a member possibly of the board of directors of the Housing Corporation, to come back to this House to report on what the corporation was doing -- not responsible for the Housing Corporation but responsible to the House for what the corporation was doing. So what we were trying to do is just exactly as I explained before.

You asked the question about what documents -- mea culpa before we start it, okay? We asked for formal responses and papers and documents dealing with the operation of the Housing Corporation, that we have not received. In no way would I expect as an individual Member that we are going to get minutes of the FMB unless it is a brown bag to us. There is no way. It does not happen now. It is not going to happen then. Documents relating to the operation of the corporation because the corporation is public. But certainly we are not asking for the minutes of the P and P committee, the FMB, the Executive Council, or anything like that. They are not given out now and I don't see that you are going to change in midstream. So any documents that we would have -- that is a clause that is put in for most special or standing committees and it is in the terms of reference of the present special committee on housing. In the terms of reference in this report it says "The special committee shall in accordance with Rule 93(1) have the power to call for such persons, papers and records and to examine witnesses, as in its opinion are necessary to the conduct of its business." Recommendation 1(c) is worded differently but the substance is identical, without getting into any hassles with the lawyers of the House.

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

Recommendation May Usurp Role Of Minister

HON. GORDON WRAY: I, too, have some concerns with recommendation one. I tend to think that this could be a dangerous precedent, inasmuch as it could usurp the role of the Minister and of the Legislature. The way I understand my responsibilities as an MLA is that it is my ongoing and continuing responsibility to monitor all actions of the government and to monitor all programs of the government and to monitor any recommendations that we would make to the Executive Council to see that they have been carried out. That is the job of an MLA; there can be no question about

that. To designate two people with the specific purpose of monitoring this kind of thing would seem to me to be saying that we do not really trust the government, we do not really trust the Legislature to do this job. That is my first concern.

My second concern is that if special committee Members or other Members in fact, want to know how recommendations are going, which ones have been implemented, then they have a very easy method of doing so and that is simply by asking a question of the Minister of Housing during question period and asking if in fact these things have been done.

I think the third thing that I worry about is that in the last Assembly when I was on the other side and watched the interaction between ordinary MLAs and the Executive, it was always my assumption that the House would make recommendations to the Executive Council and then the Executive Council would respond to the House on those recommendations and it was up to the individual Ministers to respond on the implementation of those recommendations within their various departments. It was not the role of the ordinary MLAs to report to the House on implementation of government policy but up to government Ministers themselves because that is what we are doing here. When those recommendations are accepted by the government and acted upon, then they become government policy and who better to respond and report on government policy than the government itself? So I think it is a very dangerous precedent to start having other Members of the House attempting to report on government policy and on matters affecting the government.

I also have a problem with (c) because I cannot think of what documents and papers it would be necessary for an implementation committee to have to know if it is being implemented. I mean, it is very simple, standing up and saying to the Minister, "Have you implemented recommendation 23?" and he is either going to say yes or no. You do not need paperwork to do that. So I have some problems with recommendation one right off the bat and I will put those comments out right now. As an ordinary MLA, I would be very fearful of taking away the role of an ordinary MLA in this whole process because that is what an MLA's job is supposed to be in the first place and if we designate two people to do it, then what is the rest of the House going to do? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the joint chairman's recollection of the process used by the committee in 1972 is correct. But I would just emphasize that at that time there were no elected Members on the Executive Committee of the NWT; there were bureaucrats, super bureaucrats. There was no one to watch over the implementation process which we felt was necessary. That strategy of the critical path and monitoring was the best thing we could come up with at the time. There is a difference of night and day between that situation and the situation that you have today and Mr. Curley and Mr. Wray have indicated that difference much better than I could. So I rest the case right there.

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

Access To Information Essential

MR. MCCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Any committee that operates for this House would consider that any access to information that it requires for a report would be essential and I draw your attention to the terminology that we use and what we said in the foreword to coming to this particular recommendation. On page 15 regarding the implementation, we said that access to information is vital. We generally received good co-operation from government officials. We had some difficulties with the corporation and the procedures used to transmit information had some delays. As we went to print on the report, we had not received the corporation board of directors' response to our interim report, we had not received the Minister of Housing's response to the interim report, nor had we received the corporation's five year plan. We feel that the recommendations are necessary. The recommendations we make will prod the government, as I said in my earlier comments, to get going and come together on things.

The special committee, and speaking for the nine other Members, whether they were the original six or the alternate Members, we felt that the committee had a responsibility to ensure as part of our work and an obligation to this House that its recommendations were implemented properly and as soon as possible. That is the rationale that we used. Now, I do not question that 1985 is different from 1972 or whenever the report came in. Certainly there is a difference. Obviously the

question of the duties of an MLA are not specific to housing, they deal with a number of things in asking questions of government on what it has done. But the special committee felt that this is a responsibility it had to this House to ensure that its recommendations were properly implemented. Hence we made the first recommendation. We believe that with better direction the corporation can continue with what it should be doing and that is the reason for the recommendation as such. I can add no more to that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. McCallum. The Chair will now recognize the clock and I will report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan.

ITEM 16: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF FINAL REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering the Final Report of the Special Committee on Housing 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? Announcements and orders of the day, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Announcements, Mr. Speaker. There will be a meeting of the standing committee on legislation immediately after adjournment. There will be a caucus meeting tomorrow morning at 9:30 a.m.

ITEM 18: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Tuesday, June 11th, 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: Appearance of Tungavik Federation of Nunavut Witness; 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 Tuesday, June 11th, at 1:00 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT

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