

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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#### YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

#### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1985

## MEMBERS PRESENT

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, Hon. Dennis Patterson, Mr. Pedersen, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Richard, Hon. Nick Sibbeston, Hon. Don Stewart, Mr. T'Seleie, Mr. Wah-Shee, Hon. Gordon Wray

## ITEM 1: PRAYER

#### ---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): Before I get into the orders of the day, I wish to recognize in the gallery today delegates to the Youth Forum who are representing youth across the Northwest Territories. We wish you well on your discussions and look forward to meeting with you on Friday evening and hearing your presentation on Monday. Welcome to Yellowknife.

#### ---Applause

Orders of the day, Tuesday, October 22nd. Item 2, Members' replies.

Item 3, Ministers' statements. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Appaqaq.

#### ITEM 4: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 36-85(3): Kayak From Sanikiluaq For Expo

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Economic Development. First of all I would like to say in my home community of Sanikiluaq, the old style of kayaks made out of sealskins that we have now have not been bought; the ones that we used to teach our students in. My question is: Could Economic Development buy the kayak for Expo '86? Even the smaller communities have to be recognized by Expo. There are a lot of different styles of kayaks in the different communities and we would like a Sanikiluaq kayak at Expo. We would like this kayak on display at Expo. My question is could Economic Development buy the kayak?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 36-85(3): Kayak From Sanikiluaq For Expo

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The MLA for Sanikiluaq, thank you. I think it is a good idea to buy the kayak for Expo '86. We have told all communities in the Northwest Territories that we have hired someone to speak to the communities about buying carvings and things for display. I think he has bought a kayak for Expo '86. He has bought stuff for display at Expo '86 showing NWT culture for transportation.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Appaqaq, it looks like you might be paddling your own kayak after all.

#### ---Laughter

Are there any further oral questions? Mr. T'Seleie.

Question 37-85(3): Action On Motion 11-85(1)

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Local Government. Back in the winter session this Assembly had passed a motion regarding airports in the Northwest Territories. I would like to know what action the Executive Council has taken with regard to that motion.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 32-85(3): Status Of Arctic Air Facilities Policy And To Question 37-85(3): Action On Motion 11-85(1)

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, unfortunately I do not have good news for the Member and while responding to you, Mr. T'Seleie, I could also take the time now to answer Mr. Wah-Shee who asked the same question yesterday.

The arctic air facilities policy expired in March of 1983. As a result, there are 11 NWT communities still awaiting airport construction and development. In the winter session of the Assembly a unanimous motion was passed which called on our government to press the federal government for a renewal of the arctic air facilities policy. In May I wrote the Hon. Don Mazankowski, the Minister of Transport, outlining our concerns and asking that he begin negotiations to renew the policy. One option that I put before him was that he transfer the matter of arctic airports to our government. In May I did travel to Ottawa and attempted to meet with the Minister then. I was not able to meet with him personally but I met with his officials. I also met with the Hon. Benoit Bouchard who was then the Minister of State for Transport. Both Mr. Mazankowski and Mr. Bouchard indicated that the federal government was not prepared to state its position at the time but they said by early fall they would be able to indicate the federal government's position in this matter.

To date, I have not received a reply from either of the Ministers. I wrote again to Mr. Mazankowski in September. To date I have not received a reply to that letter. Because the federal government has not indicated its willingness to consider jurisdictional transfer of this program it has not yet been placed on the agenda of the office of devolution. I understand Mr. Mazankowski may be planning a northern tour this November and I hope to meet with him to ask him again what the federal government's plans are in this matter. So, I apologize to the two Members that I am not able to respond positively to their questions but it is a matter that is really in the federal government's hands. The federal government has jurisdiction over airports and it is really up to them.

Considerable changes are presently being made in the structures and roles of Transport Canada. The federal government is currently reviewing its role in airports. In the course of that review I expect the territorial government will be contacted for its views and we will be making our position clear. I will be seeking either a new policy for arctic airports or, preferably, the transfer of jurisdiction and resources for airports to our government.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. At the proper time on returns if you would re-enter that document. You would not have to read it all just so that it would be in the proper place on the order paper. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Arlooktoo.

Question 38-85(3): Items For Display At Expo

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism regarding Expo. I just wanted to get some clarification if they have bought any items from constituencies. I would like to see them buy some items that could be displayed at Expo. Like in my constituency there are very good carvers -- I think I will be attending Expo. I would like to see some items displayed from my constituency. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

## Return To Question 38-85(3): Items For Display At Expo

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want the Member to know that I realize that Cape Dorset has very good artists, highly recognized people, regarding their prints. I am not really aware if your own community is very organized by the people. I have been talking to this guy who has been buying all the items, carvings for Expo and I will be talking to him. We are not just talking about the Inuit communities, we could be talking about Dene communities too. They should have displays at Expo. I would like to see items from all the communities on display at Expo -- like companies not the co-ops. I will be getting some more information from this guy who is collecting all the carvings. Thank you.

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

Question 39-85(3): Hiring For Expo

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. Seeing as how there are quite a bit of young people from a lot of the MLA's constituencies, I would like to direct a question with regard to the employment of people at the Expo site. I would like to ask the Minister whether he has considered consulting with the MLAs of the different constituencies, whether they would be submitting names for him to consider, or whether this is going to be a departmental matter and the MLAs will not have too much to say on who is going to be hired or not.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 39-85(3): Hiring For Expo

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say to the Member that, along with my colleague the Minister of Education, I made an extensive statement with respect to a number of positions that we expect Expo '86 to create, particularly for the young people of the NWT. In view of that we did identify over 100 positions for Expo '86 for the duration of the project. That will be about six months. What I would like to say to you is that we have an employment co-ordinator, a very able co-ordinator, Sharon Firth. She has been travelling around the major centres and communities, contacting the community representatives. As well I believe there have been posters that have been posted in all the educational institutions, high schools. I know that already she has more than enough applications. I would still encourage, though, Members and the young people that are here, and if they want to have a special presentation, I would be very pleased to have one of our officials make a presentation to them about Expo and the opportunities that Expo '86 will provide. If the co-ordinator would be interested in seeing that, I think it would be a real opportunity that the concept of Expo be presented to the young people while they are here. Thank you.

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

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism again. I do not believe he answered my question. My question was whether the MLAs of the constituency -- I believe he said 100 positions were going to be created for the youth. It could possibly mean that there could be four people from each constituency that would be included to be employed by Expo. My only concern is whether or not the MLAs are going to be included in the selection of these people or is it the Department of Personnel that is actually going to be doing the selecting and MLAs would have very little effect?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Curley.

Further Return To Question 39-85(3): Hiring For Expo

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I want to assure the Member that I am neutral in this position and therefore the project is not my department's project. It is a project of the government as a whole and the people of the NWT are sponsoring it. Therefore I am in no way able to influence the staff that are hiring the personnel. I would like to say to the Member that he is welcome to submit names from his constituency and I hope that he will do so. I know that Sharon Firth would love to see each MLA submit opportunities for young people. I know that likely in some places the positions will rotate but my understanding is that it is going to be a pretty rigorous

responsibility and the jobs that are offered are going to require complete commitment from these young people. But again to say to the honourable Member that I welcome his suggestion and I will be pleased to pass on the names that he is forwarding to me. Thank you.

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

#### Question 40-85(3): Markets For Sealskins

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Renewable Resources or will it be directed to Economic Development? There was a study done on sealskins. Some of the skins were made into leather and colored into different colors. I wonder if either Ministers can inform me what the development is up to date. The reason I want to know is that we, people in the North, need any kind to make some money.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Curley.

#### Return To Question 40-85(3): Markets For Sealskins

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I would like you to know that we are recognizing the fact that sealskin selling prices are going down. At the start of Expo '86 some of the furniture will have sealskin leather in trying to get people to recognize the fact that there are sealskins for sale. Sealskin sales with the fur, not like a leather, are going way down. We got Nunasi Corporation to study through Special ARDA how to make and what we can make out of sealskin as leather. With the finish of the report we will be talking more about it this coming winter on how we could further use sealskins. We recognize the fact that we would like sealskin prices or sales of sealskins to go up in the future.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Are there any comments with regard to Greenpeace that you wish to make relative to that question? Ms Cournoyea.

#### Further Return To Question 40-85(3): Markets For Sealskins

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, in reply what I can say is the Department of Economic Development is looking at changing the market to a different way of selling sealskin, but unfortunately, in Europe this last couple of months, the European Economic Community has voted to continue another three year ban on sealskins. The Department of Renewable Resources is trying to also negotiate possibly with the United States of America whereby some of the trade embargoes are being opened for other things such as hogs and logs. The Speaker and myself were just recently down to the United States and it appears there may be a formula where if we can change some of the regulations between the United States of America and Canada that perhaps that would be another avenue; by opening up the regulations that are set between the two countries. As well, I believe that the Department of Economic Development is pursuing alternative markets in Japan. However, it is unfortunate that it does not look as if in the next couple of years we would be able to resolve that problem. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Speaker -- Madam Minister. I am used to being at home.

---Laughter

Oral questions. Mr. Wah-Shee.

Question 41-85(3): Private Ownership Of NCPC

MR. WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, I do not know who will take this question, perhaps the Leader of the Government. This is in regard to the announcement that was made on the negotiations that are taking place between the Government of the Northwest Territories in regard to the transfer of Northern Canada Power Commission. It seems to me that they are interested in forming a territorial crown corporation. My question basically is, has the government considered whether there was any public interest in regard to having a private corporation instead of having a crown corporation, because as the Minister is aware the crown corporations have a habit of having cost overruns, lack of efficiency, etc. So, I wonder if the government has considered whether there was any interest at all in the public in this area.

AN HON. MEMBER: Call it Dene Power.

MR. WAH-SHEE: No, I do not like the idea, forget it.

MR. McCALLUM: Not very good.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

## Return To Question 41-85(3): Private Ownership Of NCPC

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to indicate to the Member the government has committed itself at least that the NCPC should be transferred and that the financial arrangement be restructured so that the consumers in the Northwest Territories can be better able to benefit and the control aspect of NCPC be closer to the people of the NWT. In view of that decision we have made contact with the federal government. I believe the federal Minister is very close to making a decision about the future not only of the headquarters relocation, but the overall transfer of NCPC. He will be meeting with me and my counterpart from the Yukon sometime next week along with the members of the NCPC board of directors. So we will know for sure exactly where we stand.

As far as the structure of the ownership, the Executive Council is open to that. We have not made a final decision on that and mainly because we wanted to be sure that we at least get the commitment from the federal government to transfer it. Then we would be able to deal with the matter of the ownership as to whether or not there should be a private ownership as well as public ownership with the corporation. I can also assure the Member that there have been representations made from the corporation as well as Alberta Power Company with respect to the private interests in NCPC. I would like to be able to say to the Member also that once I have some further news from the federal Minister I will personally write to all the MLAs because it does affect every one of the Members' constituencies. Thank you.

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

## Question 42-85(3): Provision Of Minimal Navigational Aids

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Local Government. A short time ago he rightly pointed out that airports generally are the responsibility of the federal government. Yet the Minister may recall that both the honourable Member for Yellowknife North and myself had been approached by constituents who fly into very small communities just north of the lake here, with the problem that there are some areas that have not even minimal navigational aids and safety aids. We have asked the Minister whether it is not possible to have at least a non-directional beacon in these communities and flare pots or something like that. That these could be provided at very small cost. I know the Minister at one point said his officials are looking into it. My question, Mr. Minister, is have they finished looking into it yet? Are we going to hear something very soon about that possibility? Surely -- I will not be argumentative. That is the question.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I cannot do any better than to simply continue saying that my officials are looking into it. It is a matter that is there for my consideration in the priorities of the department. I will try to have a reply for the Member within the next few days. I will do my best to provide an answer as soon as possible.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister is taking the question as notice. Are there any further oral questions? Mr. Erkloo.

# Question 43-85(3): Date Of Hall Beach Recreational Facility

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Local Government. Mr. Speaker, I know that yesterday he answered my question before I asked. I think he knew what I was thinking. My question is about the Hall Beach recreation facilities. The Baffin Regional Council, during their meeting in Pond Inlet on October 3, 1985, put forward a motion and it was carried. The Hall Beach recreational facility was put forward for the fall or the winter of 1986-87. My question is to the Minister of Local Government. First of all I would like to say that I know he is supportive of regional councils such as BRC. I would like to know if his department is preparing now or doing something about it for the next budget session so that Hall Beach can get recreation facilities in 1986-87.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

## Return To Question 43-85(3): Date Of Hall Beach Recreational Facility

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I did give a lengthy reply yesterday indicating the reasons why the community hall in Hall Beach is being delayed for two more years. I appreciate that it is a matter of concern and as I understand it, it was supposed to have been built this coming year. But as I stated yesterday, the department had moved it back two more years because of the lack of funds due to the high costs of the Pangnirtung water reservoir. As I indicated yesterday, our government has recently dealt with a policy dealing with the provision of community halls and community gyms to a community. Under this new policy it would be more appropriate for a community gym to be added to the school when it is being constructed two years from now. So I am afraid that at this stage, I am unable to assist the Member in advancing the community hall or gym. All I can say is that the matter of a facility is now in the hands of the Department of Education and as I said, it is tied in with the construction of the school two years from now.

Lastly I will just say that the matter of providing capital projects or buildings in any particular region is a difficult matter because each of the regions is allotted so much money each year for capital projects. In the case of Baffin, the region does its best to make sure that all of the essential facilities are provided to a community. As I am sure you are aware, before decisions are made, it is referred to the Baffin Regional Council. The matter of a community hall for Hall Beach had been moved back two years. This at one time had the approval of the Baffin Regional Council. I appreciate now that the matter is being dealt with anew and attempts are made to advance it. For now, however it is in the capital plans for two years from now.

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

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all I want to say that I am sorry, I was supposed to call the Hall Beach recreation committee but I forgot to call. It has been over a year or two now that they have been trying to raise funds and they are still trying to raise funds and I cannot say how much they have saved. I just want to know what your priorities are. I would still like you to speak about this because it is quite important in Hall Beach.

MR. SPEAKER: I believe that the Minister has dealt in detail with your question, Mr. Erkloo, unless there is some matter that comes to mind that you would like to bring up. Mr. Minister.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I will just indicate to the Member I am aware of the situation and I will review the matter. I will have discussions with the Local Government regional office and the regional director in the Baffin in the next few days and see what they suggest in terms of possibilities. In these matters, I guess decisions are made, in this case that the matter be put back two years. I take the view that nothing in this world is impossible and we will take another good hard look at it.

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

Question 44-85(3): Article In Montreal Gazette On Resolute

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I put forward Tabled Document 4-85(3), on October 17th. The people in Resolute Bay are concerned with this article. I have spoken with the residents of Resolute, Larry Holt, Normand Fradet and George Graham. They have said that the residents would like to know who wrote this article; they do not agree with it. I would like to ask the press, Information or the Government Leader if he could help me with my problem.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I could not understand the question, maybe if the honourable Member could rephrase the question, the interpretation did not give me a question at all.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson has indicated that he may be able to throw some light on the subject. Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 44-85(3): Article In Montreal Gazette On Resolute

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, the Member is referring to a very poor quality article written on Resolute which appeared in the Montreal Gazette, weekend edition, several weeks ago. I would just like to say that there are references made to the school and apparent quotes from a school teacher which I have investigated and found to be not only misquotes but entirely inaccurate.

AN HON. MEMBER: Shame!

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I have asked the Department of Education in the Baffin Region to see that the editor of the Montreal Gazette is informed of the true facts and is informed of the shoddy job done by the particular reporter in question. As to the tenor of the article, which is also misinformed and offensive, I would recommend that the honourable Member work with the Minister of Information to develop a response which could be given to the Montreal Gazette and also given to the public of the NWT through a statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. I think that is worthy advice. Ms Cournoyea.

# Further Return To Question 44-85(3): Article In Montreal Gazette On Resolute

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, what I will commit the Department of Information to do is to put together an article on Resolute Bay that could be sent down to the newspaper in question and hopefully in that case taking the more positive aspects of that community and that region. Certainly that particular region contributes a great deal of fine habitat for one of the major areas of polar bear population. We will commit the department and the Department of Renewable Resources and work with other departments to put together an article that would tell the more positive aspects of that community. Thank you.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. Oral questions. Mr. Erkloo.

## Question 45-85(3): Funding For Pond Inlet Radio Station

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Department of Information. In the different communities the radio stations get their funds from the Department of Information. My understanding is that each radio station in a community has to become a society in order to get funds from the Department of Information, and those societies must make a report each month; otherwise they would no longer be societies and no longer given funds as it happened in Pond Inlet. My question is if they are going to start making monthly reports as they did before, is it possible for them to become a society like they were before and could they get some funding again? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Ms Cournoyea.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker. The particular situation of a report in relationship to receiving funds is not familiar to me and so therefore I would like to take this question under advisement and provide a written reply tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The Minister is taking the question as notice. Are there any further oral questions? Mr. Gargan.

Question 46-85(3): MLA Input Into Hiring For Expo

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, perhaps I would like to direct my question to the Government Leader. Since the Minister of Tourism has indicated that he would like to keep himself maybe impartial or neutralized or diluted as far as employment of people on the Expo site, so I would like to direct my question to the Government Leader and ask whether perhaps he might be able to entertain the possibility that in the constituencies where people have applied for employment at Expo that the MLAs would be included perhaps maybe, with the selection of the people that might be able to work at Expo.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

# Return To Question 46-85(3): MLA Input Into Hiring For Expo

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just to indicate that I believe the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism gave the assurances to the Member that he would consider the advice of the Members of the Legislature. It would be without question that very soon I will be probably seeking a response to the same question. None the less I believe that also the Minister of Education has been involved in developing a decision paper on training for those people that would be involved in providing services at Expo and I think that that would include individuals to be named hopefully by other Members of the Legislature but I will leave that particular decision to the incoming Government Leader to provide us with a response at the session in January or February with the idea of also an indication hopefully in the budget of the appropriate financial resources which would approve or respond to the concerns of each individual Member in this Legislature.

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

Question 47-85(3): Position Of GNWT Regarding Arctic Airports

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Local Government and it is with regard to the arctic airport policy again. I believe this morning we have the presentation done by the Minister of State for Science with regard to a plan for space age technology to happen for the year 2000. My concern is with regard to the earth again because we still do not have adequate facilities to deal with issues that concern the immediate lives of the people in the North and I am sure we support this kind of policy but what kind of a position does the federal government have with regard to the arctic airport policy and what kind of initiatives or what kind of lobbying or what kind of position is this government taking with regard to this very crucial issue? I am concerned about some of the communities that do not have airports and yet we concern ourselves with a lot of space age technology. I would like to get an answer from the Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister. Have we decided who is going to field this question?

Return To Question 47-85(3): Position Of GNWT Regarding Arctic Airports

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To indicate to the Member that the particular issue has been of concern to this government. I must say to the honourable Member that both Mr. Butters and I, as Government Leader, had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Mazankowski on raising the particular concern with him. I believe that Mr. Sibbeston's department has developed the documentation of identifying those 11 communities that require either upgrading of their airports or new construction of airports and have sent the appropriate documentation to the Ministry of Transport, with the identification of the airports in that priority numbering system. I think that we have done as much as we can. We have approached the Minister of Transport, Mr. Mazankowski, asking him to identify in his department the appropriate funds so that this government could take over the responsibility for the construction or reconstruction of the airports in the NWT. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

## ITEM 5: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

#### Question 48-85(3): Birth Certificates For Elders In Fort Resolution

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a written question to the Minister of Justice. I have recently been informed by constituents that there are problems about the exact age of several elders in Fort Resolution. As a result these elders are not receiving their old age pension even though some of them have been eligible for several years. Because of inaccurate records in early years it has been the policy of the Department of Justice to substitute the year of baptism for the year of birth where there is doubt. In some cases this assessment of birth dates gave the elder a date of birth different than that shown on their THIS card or general hunting licence. In other cases the birth date of an elder was contrary to a birth date listed on the treaty list. Could the Minister look into this problem as soon as possible in order to correct any mistakes and ensure that those who are entitled to pensions are receiving them? Mahsi cho.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any further written questions? Item 6, returns.

## ITEM 6: RETURNS

I wonder Mr. Sibbeston could you put that return in at this stage, just giving the number of the question that it is the return to. If you do not have the number, the person's name that you are replying to will be sufficient.

#### Return To Questions 32-85(3) And 37-85(3)

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I wish to put into the record the reply that I had read earlier with respect to Mr. Wah-Shee's question yesterday and which Mr. T'Seleie made again today.

## Letter From Commissioner Confirming Appointments

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. I would like to read into the records at this time a letter dated October 22, 1985, addressed to The Speaker. It reads as follows: "Thank you for providing me with a certified copy of Motion 5-85(3), recommending the appointment of two new Executive Council Members. I am pleased to confirm the appointments of Mr. Michael Ballantyne and Mr. Red Pedersen as Members of the Executive Council of the Northwest Territories to take effect on the third day following prorogation of the sixth session of the 10th Legislative Assembly. At that time I will accept the resignation of the Hon. Richard Nerysoo and the Hon. Nellie Cournoyea.

"I also acknowledge receipt of a formal notification that by Motion 4-85(3), the Hon. Nick Sibbeston will become Government Leader on the third day following prorogation of this session." Signed: "John H. Parker, Commissioner." That concludes returns. Item 7, petitions. Mr. Appaqaq.

#### ITEM 7: PETITIONS

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a petition here with very few signatures. I am going to be putting it forward as Petition 3-85(3). It is from the alcohol and drug committee. They are requesting some kind of funding. I believe it will be directed to the Minister of Social Services.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any further petitions? Item 8, reports of standing and special committees. Mr. Ballantyne.

ITEM 8: REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Report Of Standing Committee On Finance

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have been asked by Members of caucus if I would stay on as the standing committee on finance chairman until my appointment to the Executive Council goes into effect. I have a very short report I would like to read into the record from the standing committee on finance.

Mr. Speaker, in late August the standing committee on finance had a summer meeting in Sanikiluaq. We were fortunate to be able to visit this community and to meet its people. By virtue of its location in the Belcher Islands off the coast of Hudson's Bay, Sanikiluaq is the most southerly community in the NWT. The visit was a first for Members of the committee. Sanikiluaq was a very busy community at the end of August. The community was hosting a conference of elders from Quebec, a number of construction projects were under way, including construction of the new school, which we had the privilege to tour. Despite the influx of people to the town, the people of Sanikiluaq were gracious in accommodating our committee. On behalf of the Members of the standing committee on finance, I would like to extend our thanks to the people of Sanikiluaq for their hospitality. Many individuals were involved in planning our visit. In particular we would like to recognize Moses Appaqaq, MLA, and members of the hamlet council who met with us. Lucassie Kittosuk, secretary manager and Zack Novalinga, field services officer who made the arrangements for our meeting and provided a tour of the town and Robert McLean, who is the co-op manager provided us with board and lodging during our stay.

Mr. Speaker, I think I speak on behalf of our Members of the standing committee on finance when I say that we found our trip to Sanikiluaq to be a most constructive experience. To travel to communities is to become more sensitive to local concerns. This understanding will benefit all of us in our future work with the Assembly. Thank you very much.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Item 8, reports of standing and special committees. Item 9, tabling of documents. Mr. T'Seleie.

## ITEM 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Tabled Document 11-85(3), some research that I have done concerning capital expenditures in the Inuvik Region by constituency.

Mr. Speaker, I have always had a feeling that I have been short-changed I guess...

---Laughter

 $\ldots$  in terms of capital expenditures. This has nothing to do with the Executive review. I have with the past Executive Council -- I have had three Ministers representing my region and I represent more people than either Mr. Nerysoo or Ms Cournoyea. The research that I have had done is that I represent about a quarter of the Inuvik Region population...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. T'Seleie, you have the privilege of putting a document in but not carrying forth the debate. I presume that your document is with regard to the expenditures of money in that region and we accept the document, thank you and you'll have your seat.

---Laughter

Item 9, tabling of documents. Item 10, notices of motion. Mr. Pudluk.

ITEM 10: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 6-85(3): Special Committee On Rules, Procedures, And Privileges

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, October 24th, I will move the following motion: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, that in accordance with Rule 87(1), a special committee of the Assembly be established, to be named the special committee on rules, procedures and privileges; and further, that the terms of reference of the committee be established by this House. I will be asking unanimous consent to deal with this motion today.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Are there any further notices of motion? Mr. Butters.

## Notice Of Motion 7-85(3): Extension Of Sitting Hours

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that at the appropriate time I will request unanimous consent to put the following motion: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that the Speaker be authorized to set such additional sitting hours as he may consider necessary in order to ensure that the business of the House can be dealt with.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. Are there any further notices of motion?

Item 11, notices of motion for first reading of bills. Item 12, motions.

## ITEM 12: MOTIONS

Motion 2-85(3). Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to proceed with this motion today.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McCallum. For your information, this motion being called twice it will have to be reintroduced. Motion 3-85(3). Mr. Gargan.

## Motion 3-85(3): Position On The Anti-Trapping Movement

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Motion 3-85(3) reads as follows:

WHEREAS hunting and trapping are part of the aboriginal culture of the indigenous peoples of the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS these activities are an integral part of the very existence of the aboriginal people of the North;

AND WHEREAS these important and crucial activities are being threatened by the animal rights movement:

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the Executive Council that it voice its concern and support for the hunting and trapping activities of the aboriginal people of the Northwest Territories and that the Executive Council make recommendations for action in support of the hunting and trapping community at the winter session of the Legislative Assembly.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Gargan, you have first kick at the cat, if you wish.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to first of all mention the Minister of Renewable Resources for her efforts in dealing with this very important issue that does affect her own constituency as well as a lot of the other constituencies in the North. I believe this government, because of the composition of the Members here, because the majority of the people here are aboriginal people, should deal with an issue like this at the highest level.

The other point that I would like to make is that it was actually the hunting and trapping activities of the aboriginal people that built this country, Canada, as well as the Northwest Territories and this government. For the aboriginal people too, Mr. Speaker, a lot of the activities of the communities are based on this very important occupation for the native people and that if we were to kill that particular industry we would have a lot of people on welfare. I believe that this occupation is very important to get the aboriginal people away from welfare. I do not know what the other Members' positions are but I certainly would like to deal with this important issue, if it is possible that we might be able to, because the anti-trapping movement in Europe is sort of slowing down or slowly dying, I do not know, but this is the picture I am getting. The anti-trapping movement is slowly losing a lot of forums that at one time supported them but we should not let it die nor should we give it a chance to back up, so we would like to possibly have some kind of lobbying force on behalf of the Government of the Northwest Territories from this Legislature. I do not know what the other Members' feelings on it are but I just encourage that the Members support my motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Gargan. As seconder, Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess it is really no surprise that I support Mr. Gargan's motion. Members know that I am familiar with the trapping industry. I am familiar with what happened with the sealing industry and at this point in time nobody knows what the cost to government has been by the killing of the sealing industry and my suspicions are that the costs in terms of welfare, rising crime, it is much higher than what the government could have originally spent to try and save the sealing industry. I think that it could have made a big difference if the Government Leader at the time, had gone onto the ice floes the same as Brigitte Bardot did off the Newfoundland coast. The motion recommends that the Executive come back to the Assembly with some recommendations about how the long hair fur industry can be saved. Mr. Speaker, my argument is that trapping is a viable way of life economically and I cannot understand the government not supporting a motion like this. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just have a very short statement. Many constituents of mine especially aboriginal people in Rainbow Valley and Detah express a very great concern about the future state of the fur industry. I have indicated to them that I will support any initiatives that this government makes in order to protect the fur industry. I applaud Ms Cournoyea's efforts. I think she has been very effective and I think that this government can continue to be effective to protect the rights of trappers. So I support strongly Mr. Gargan's motion. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Butters.

#### Amendment To Motion 3-85(3), Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I think that the motion will get, as similar motions of this nature in the past have received the full support of the House. I think to make the motion more correct, a couple of minor amendments might be added, if I could place those. I would move an amendment that we would delete in the second line of the motion, the word "voice"; and in the third line of the motion, the word "concern"; that we would add after the word "it" in the second line, the word "continue"; and after the word "its", the two words "effective efforts". So the first part of the amended motion would now read: "Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the Executive Council that it continue its effective efforts and support for the hunting and trapping activities of the aboriginal people of the Northwest Territories..."

I say that, sir, because it reflects the statement made by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, that there has been a lot of work done by Ms Cournoyea and the Executive Council in this area. I think that we should recognize that this has occurred and that there have been some major achievements to date as a result of those efforts. So I think this amendment recognizes that.

MR. SPEAKER: Do we have a seconder to the amendment? Mr. Patterson. Mr. Clerk, will you get a copy of the amendment, please? The amendment as I have it would read: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the Member for Sahtu, that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the Executive Council that it continue its effective efforts and support for the hunting and trapping activities of the aboriginal people of the Northwest Territories, etc. Is that correct, Mr. Butters?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Your amendment is in order. To the amendment. Ms Cournoyea.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Department of Renewable Resources and the work I have been involved with the various organizations that have been set up in southern Canada and in the NWT and the aboriginal organizations who have taken on this very complex problem, I certainly feel that I would like to thank the honourable Member for bringing a motion forward to support this work. Certainly it is an appropriate time and the support of this Legislative Assembly in the past has allowed us to do the work that we have been able to carry out in the last couple of years.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: If this Assembly was not supporting the actions of the Department of Renewable Resources, the budgetary requirements to do the job would not have been made available. So I just would like to say thank you and that I hope that this motion will allow us to have the necessary support from the Executive and the budgetary requirements to enable us to carry out the job in the next few years. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Minister. The motion as amended.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour of the amendment to the motion? Opposed, if any? The amendment is carried.

---Carried

Motion 3-85(3), Carried As Amended

To the motion as amended. Question being called. Mr. Gargan, do you wish to wind up the debate? All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Are there any abstentions? Then let the record indicate that Motion 3-85(3) has been passed unanimously, as amended.

---Carried

Motion 1-85(3). Mr. Gargan.

Motion 1-85(3): Establishment Of Special Committee On Economic And Social Development

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Motion 1-85(3) reads:

WHEREAS NWT residents have not had the opportunity to adequately express their views on economic and social development in the NWT since the Berger Inquiry;

AND WHEREAS this government has committed itself to providing full participation to northern residents in the planning and development of northern economy;

AND WHEREAS social and environmental impacts are inevitably linked to all facets of northern economic development;

AND WHEREAS it appears that NWT residents have not received appropriate benefits from past development projects and that they have not been given a proper choice of futures;

AND WHEREAS it also appears that residents of the NWT have not received adequate revenues from past economic development projects;

AND WHEREAS northern economic development and its implications for northern society is the most pressing concern of community leaders throughout the NWT;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for High Arctic, that, in accordance with Rule 87(1), a special committee of this Assembly be established to be named the special committee on economic and social development;

AND FURTHER, that the terms of reference of the committee be established by this House with a view to providing the committee with a clear mandate to review all aspects of economic development in the NWT in relation to the needs and wishes of NWT communities;

AND FURTHER, that the committee report to this House with recommendations for future economic and social development in the NWT.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan, your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Gargan, you have first rights.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you. I believe there was a suggestion to move this motion to the committee of the whole.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you so moving? Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, if the mover would concur that I make an introductory remark before moving referral to the committee, I would appreciate it. I do not want to preclude a mover. There is an agreement to move it into committee of the whole.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Curley, if we could once get it moved and seconded then you can have an opportunity before the vote is taken. Mr. Curley.

Motion That Motion 1-85(3) Be Referred To Committee Of The Whole, Carried

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I would then move that the motion be referred to the committee of the whole for further consideration.

MR. SPEAKER: I have a motion that Motion 1-85(3) be moved into the committee of the whole. Is that correct, Mr. Curley? Do I have a seconder? Mr. Butters. To the motion, Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, we appreciate that the Member consulted with the Executive Members on the motion. We believe that the motion is substantial and that it affects a number of major areas, particularly with respect to social, environmental and economic matters and therefore I think it would be important that the government side at least has an opportunity to make a presentation and that Members have a fair opportunity to raise questions and so on. We would like to be able to report about some of the aspects of the government initiatives with respect to particularly Energy, Mines and Resources where we are now developing a proposed Resource Development Act and I think that would also be related to this motion. Therefore, on that basis I would appreciate support for referring it to the committee for further deliberation. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: To the motion to refer it to committee of the whole.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Motion 1-85(3) has been referred to the committee of the whole.

I believe somebody wished to ask for unanimous consent. Mr. Pudluk. Mr. Pudluk would like to deal with the motion relative to setting up or establishing a special committee on rules, procedures and privileges. Are there any nays?

---Agreed

You have unanimous consent, Mr. Pudluk.

Motion 6-85(3): Special Committee On Rules, Procedures, And Privileges, Carried

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS a review of the rules of this Assembly is required;

AND WHEREAS there is a need for matters of privilege to be addressed;

AND WHEREAS procedures in this Assembly should be examined;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, that, in accordance with Rule 87(1), a special committee of this Assembly be established to be named the special committee on rules, procedures, and privileges;

AND FURTHER, that the terms of reference of the committee be established by this House.

Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Your motion is in order. To the motion, Mr. Pudluk. Does the seconder wish to speak?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Mr. Butters has a motion. I believe he is seeking unanimous consent to give the Speaker the authority to set sitting hours. Does Mr. Butters have unanimous consent? Are there any nays?

---Agreed

Mr. Butters, you have unanimous consent.

Motion 7-85(3): Extension Of Sitting Hours, Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS there are a number of items of business still to be considered at this session;

AND WHEREAS the regularly scheduled sitting hours remaining may not provide sufficient time to adequately consider the business still to be dealt with;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that the Speaker be authorized to set such additional sitting hours as he may consider necessary in order to ensure that the business of the House can be dealt with.

MR. SPEAKER: Your motion is in order. To the motion, Mr. Butters. Are you ready for the question? Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Item 13, first reading of bills.

Item 14, second reading of bills. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Sorry, Mr. Speaker, I would like to return to first reading of bills, please. Unanimous consent to return to first reading.

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent being requested to go back to first reading of bills. Are there any nays?

---Agreed

Proceed, Mr. Nerysoo.

ITEM 13: FIRST READING OF BILLS

First Reading Of Bill 2-85(3): Coroners Act

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 2-85(3), An Act Respecting Coroners, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: I have a motion on the floor. Are you ready for the question? All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 2-85(3) has had first reading.

---Carried

First reading of bills. Mr. Nerysoo.

First Reading Of Bill 7-85(3): Miscellaneous Statute Law Amendment Act, 1985

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 7-85(3), An Act to Correct Technical Errors and to Deal with Matters of a Non-controversial Nature in the Statutes of the Northwest Territories, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: I have a motion on the floor. To the motion. Are you ready for the question? All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 7-85(3) has had first reading. First reading of bills. That appears to conclude first reading of bills. Item 14, second reading of bills. Mr. Nerysoo.

#### ITEM 14: SECOND READING OF BILLS

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to seek unanimous consent to proceed with second reading of Bills 2-85(3) and 7-85(3).

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent being sought for Bills 2-85(3) and 7-85(3) for second reading. Are there any nays?

---Agreed

You have unanimous consent. Proceed, Mr. Nerysoo.

Second Reading Of Bill 2-85(3): Coroners Act

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 2-85(3), An Act Respecting Coroners, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to revise the Coroners Act to reflect the modern role of the coroner as a means of investigating and inquiring into the circumstances surrounding sudden or unexplained deaths, and to reform the procedures during investigations and inquests in the light of modern practice.

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 2-85(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Mr. Nerysoo.

Second Reading Of Bill 7-85(3): Miscellaneous Statute Law Amendment Act, 1985

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 7-85(3), An Act to Correct Technical Errors and to Deal with Matters of a Non-controversial Nature in the Statutes of the Northwest Territories, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to correct technical errors and to make changes of a non-controversial nature in various acts.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 7-85(3) has had second reading.

---Carried

Second reading of bills. Mr. Patterson.

Second Reading Of Bill 3-85(3): Education Act

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that Bill 3-85(3), An Act to Amend the Education Act, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Education Act to provide for the appointment of a school counsellor and the designation of a person by the Minister to assist a school counsellor with an inquiry; to provide for the powers and duties of a school counsellor; to provide for the procedure to be followed when a child is not attending school regularly; to provide for an offence where any person interferes with a school counsellor, a person designated to assist a school counsellor or a child attending school; and to provide for regulation-making power respecting compulsory school attendance. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. To the principle of Bill 3-85(3).

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Ouestion.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any?

---Carried

Bill 3-85(3) has had second reading. Mr. Clerk, Bill 2-85(3), Bill 7-85(3) and Bill 3-85(3) are now ready to be placed in committee of the whole. Second reading of bills. Item 15, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Report of the standing committee on legislation on the NWT Elections Act, Bill 1-85(3), Bill 4-85(3), Bill 5-85(3), Bill 8-85(3) and Bill 9-85(3), with Mr. Wah-Shee in the chair.

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

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION ON THE NWT ELECTIONS ACT AND BILL 1-85(3), BUSINESS LICENCE ACT; BILL 4-85(3), LABOUR STANDARDS ACT; BILL 5-85(3), LEGAL SERVICES ACT; BILL 8-85(3), PETROLEUM PRODUCTS ACT; BILL 9-85(3), REGULATIONS ACT

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): There will not be any coffee breaks because in light of the matter raised by Tom Butters, we do not have that much time to conduct the business of the House. Anyway we will have a coffee break for 10 minutes.

#### ---SHORT RECESS

The House will come to order. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Report Of The Standing Committee On Legislation On the NWT Elections Act

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will proceed with the recommendations in a moment, if I may just make one comment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Carry on.

MR. MacQUARRIE: If I may just make one comment about an earlier recommendation, namely recommendation 19. Since that recommendation was passed someone pointed out to me that there might have been a word changed that would make clear what seemed to be the committee's intent and on listening to that representation I would have agreed. We passed the recommendation and so perhaps I could just note that certainly the intent of the committee in making that recommendation was that proxy voting be opened up to permit any elector who will not be in his home community on polling day or one of the advance polling days to be allowed to vote by proxy. We had just used the word "will not be in his constituency" but it was clear that we meant someone who would not be at home in his home community. So, I am sure that that will be observed as various people who will be working on this at some point to prepare legislation. Recommendation 30 did you say, or 31, Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Recommendation 31.

# Motion To Accept Recommendation 31 Of Report On NWT Elections Act, Carried

MR. MacQUARRIE: Recommendation 31. I move that the forms required by section 62(2) be consolidated into one form.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): The motion is in order. Please proceed. To the motion.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Very briefly, it was just felt that we should be attempting to simplify everything. It was observed that the information required probably could be put into one form, although now with some change to recommendations 29 and 30, it might make it more difficult to observe the intent of recommendation 31 but I am sure that committee Members would still wish this motion to advance and if it can possibly be done, to be done. That is it, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): To the motion. Recommendation 31.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Question has been called. However, we do not have a quorum, so I am going to ask the Sergeant-at-Arms to ring the bell. We are on recommendation 31. The motion is on the floor. To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

#### ---Carried

Before we proceed further, I would like to inform the committee Members that there was an agreement, I believe, and the Speaker did make it clear at the beginning that we would not have coffee breaks in the afternoon but rather we would break for coffee at 4:00 o'clock and not at 2:30. So, that is just for your information.

AN HON. MEMBER: Beginning tomorrow?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Beginning tomorrow. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Motion To Accept Recommendation 32 Of Report On NWT Elections Act, Carried

MR. MacQUARRIE: Recommendation 32. I move that section 101 dealing with premature publication of election results be deleted.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Your motion is in order. To the motion, Mr. MacQuarrie.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. MacQuarrie.

#### Motion To Accept Recommendation 33 Of Report On NWT Elections Act, Carried

MR. MacQUARRIE: Recommendation 33. I move that the Assembly seek a legal opinion on the extent of French language required in the administration of the Elections Act.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Your motion is in order. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, as I pointed out in my preliminary remarks, the committee observed that there are provisions in the present act outlining the rights accorded to native languages and the obligations of using native languages in elections but the committee also noted that we have on our statute books a law requiring that on a particular date we will have to be providing some official French language service and that obviously the date of the next election is beyond the date at which we will require French language service and therefore it is going to apply. We thought that we ought to recognize that that is coming and seek a legal opinion as to the extent that French language would be required in future elections.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to correct one particular issue. Depending on when the election is called because the legislation itself says January 30 or December 31st, 1987, it could be that our obligations are after that particular date depending on our situation here. But I would really suggest to the Members that -- at least at this particular time, I may change my opinion after I move to the other side of the House -- but none the less that the Department of Justice of the Northwest Territories provide the legal opinion, as opposed to the Department of Justice Canada. I think that that would be a better approach.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. To the motion. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you. Good advice from the Member but we just feel of course that regardless of the fact that there could be an earlier election it appears that if the things follow through the way they are now the election would be some time in early 1988. So, we must look ahead.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): To the motion. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just, not only I guess reflecting the legislation itself that is now in place but I think reflecting the possibility of, in particular in the case of Mr. Patterson and in some instances where French is a major language that we would probably have to consider providing that service to those particular people.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The next several are merely technical admendments and I expect there will not be discussion on most of them. Recommendation 34. I move that section 10(2) the words "stereotype blocks" be replaced by the words "offset reproduction".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. MacQuarrie.

Motion To Accept Recommendation 35 Of Report On NWT Elections Act, Carried

MR. MacQUARRIE: Recommendation 35. I move that the marginal note in section 15(9) be changed from "summer" to "seasonal residents".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): The motion is in order, Mr. MacQuarrie. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. MacQuarrie.

Motion To Accept Recommendation 36 Of Report On NWT Elections Act, Carried

MR. MacQUARRIE: Recommendation 36. I move that section 16, Rule 19, be amended to require that each candidate be given a copy of the statement of changes and additions.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Motion is in order, Mr. MacQuarrie. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. MacQuarrie.

## Motion To Accept Recommendation 37 Of Report On NWT Elections Act, Carried

MR. MacQUARRIE: Recommendation 37. I move that section 26(2)(c) be amended to allow for maps outlining polling divisions to be posted as an option to the posting of polling division boundary descriptions.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Motion is in order. Question has been called. Mr. Nerysoo, to the motion.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In this particular case I am not opposed to the idea of maps being posted in addition but I do believe that you might have some legal problems if they were intended to replace descriptions itself. So I would suggest that maps be, as I indicated, as a matter of addition of information and as a matter of information to candidates and not replacing necessarily the descriptions itself.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. MacQuarrie, to the motion.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, I appreciate the Member's concern. There will have to be accurate polling division boundary descriptions in any event. But this is at a point in the act where there is a requirement for posting for purposes of public information, just where constituencies are. It was felt that for many people the option of just putting a map there would be more clear to them than a long boundary description. So it is not meant to replace the drawing up of detailed boundary descriptions.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. MacQuarrie.

# Motion To Accept Recommendation 38 Of Report On NWT Elections Act, Carried

MR. MacQUARRIE: Recommendation 38. I move that section 30(1) be amended to substitute the words "returning officer" with the words "chief electoral officer".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. MacQuarrie.

#### Motion To Accept Recommendation 39 Of Report On NWT Elections Act, Carried

MR. MacQUARRIE: Recommendation 39. I move that the word "law" be changed to the word "act" in section 103(1).

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. MacQuarrie.

## Motion To Accept Recommendation 40 Of Report On NWT Elections Act, Carried

MR. MacQUARRIE: Recommendation 40. I move that the reference to "three days" be changed to "two days" in section 91(3) and (5), and that the reference to "second and third" be changed to "first and second".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Mr. MacQuarrie, your motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Motion is carried.

---Carried'

Mr. MacQuarrie.

# Motion To Accept Recommendation 41 Of Report On NWT Elections Act, Carried

MR. MacQUARRIE: Recommendation 41. I move that an equitable system reflecting the amount of work required be developed for the tariff of fees regarding the payment of returning officers and election clerks.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, perhaps I should give a brief explanation there. It became clear that there is certainly a great difference in the amount of work required of a returning officer for example in Sanikiluaq and a returning officer in Yellowknife South, which is the largest constituency; in the amount of work they have to do to get other election officials and that sort of thing. While the committee felt that every returning officer should have a base and adequate amount to do the job that there should be some reflection of the amount of work included in the tariff of payment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. MacQuarrie.

Motion To Accept Recommendation 42 Of Report On NWT Elections Act, Carried

MR. MacQUARRIE: Recommendation 42. I move that the act be amended to include the procedure for setting the tariff of fees for NWT election officials.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. MacQuarrie.

Motion To Accept Recommendation 43 Of Report On NWT Elections Act, Carried

MR. MacQUARRIE: Recommendation 43. I move that section 69 be amended to delete the reference to the word "printer". It is not just to the word "printer" but to the printer generally in that section.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. MacQuarrie.

Motion To Accept Recommendation 44 Of Report On NWT Elections Act, Carried

MR. MacQUARRIE: Recommendation 44. I move that all forms used in territorial elections be reviewed by Elections Canada and simplified where possible.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. MacQuarrie.

Motion To Accept Recommendation 45 Of Report On NWT Elections Act, Carried

MR. MacQUARRIE: Recommendation 45. I move that the Elections Act be completely rewritten in simpler language.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, it is clear that many of the provisions in the existing act are lifted from the Canada Elections Act and many of them are more confusing than is necessary. You certainly will not be able to entirely rid the act of complicated language but we are made aware that, for example

in Quebec, after satisfying legal requirements an approach can be taken to write the whole act in simple language that the vast majority of people can understand. We recommend to the Assembly that someone be engaged after the technical changes are made in the way that we would like to make them in order to write it in this simple form.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Motion is carried.

---Carried

That concludes the report of the NWT Elections Act. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, I would suggest that does not entirely conclude it. Members felt that there ought to be an opportunity -- there may be areas where the committee had not been directed to look at things and there could be Members who still wish to recommend further changes. I do not know what the committee wishes but certainly as a Member I would be open to an opportunity for Members to do that sort of thing.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Does the committee agree that this matter is concluded? Agreed? Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize for not having been here to deal with one specific recommendation. I wondered if I could just make a quick comment and that was on recommendation 23. I would say that there is a fine line between soliciting and providing information. I suggest that any such provision would have to be very carefully drafted so that it does not result in it becoming impossible to obtain proof where an offence has been committed. I just wanted to raise that with you because you do not want a situation where it is possible to have a situation where any kind of offence that might be committed with regard to, in this particular case I believe proxy votes -- abuse of proxy votes -- that proof would be impossible to get. I just raise that as a caution. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Ms Cournoyea.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, in discussion with Mr. MacQuarrie I did feel that it was necessary to ask a few points of clarification and also to make a recommendation. I realize we have gone a long way in regard to proxy votes and this is a positive effect on people who may be out of town at the time of voting. However, I had hoped to get some clarification whether the committee had discussed the possibility of accommodating some outpost camps by allowing a provision to be made where the voting boxes could be brought to the camps and having a person officially designated, so people would not feel as though they were being pushed to give votes just because someone was carrying a proxy or wondering if people really voted the way they suggested. I feel that there are some significant camps in the communities and people oftentimes do not think about voting when they are getting ready to leave the community and oftentimes the polls are not open or the returning officer is not appointed at that time. So I am wondering if there was any discussion for a provision to allow a pilot or a person with the ability, to take a voting box actually out to the camps where people were out for a significant number of months.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: The committee did not address that matter because it was not raised by anyone on the committee but in discussing it with Ms Cournoyea my response was essentially that I got the impression that committee Members were saying we should be doing everything possible to make it possible for people to exercise their franchise in one way or another and so I think that most committee Members certainly would have been open to some suggestion of that nature had it been raised and the fact that it is being raised now I would certainly say that I am open to it. What it might involve is some sort of mobile polling station and I am informed that in fact in Australia that there is a precedent for this where, I.guess, certain officials do travel to outback areas in order to gather votes in that way and indeed that could very well be a possibility for some of the outpost camps here. So, if the Member were to pursue that I can say that as one Member I certainly would be open to supporting that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Ms Cournoyea.

 ${\sf HON.}$  NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I would like to recommend that a provision to allow voting by mobile ballot be explored, incorporated, sorry.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Ms Cournoyea, could you repeat your motion, please? Could you read your motion, please?

Motion To Provide For Voting By Mobile Ballot, Carried

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I move that a provision to allow voting by mobile ballot be incorporated.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess it came as kind of a surprise to me that during the course of this discussion on the Elections Act that, I do not know how it works but that there were provisions for people outside of the Northwest Territories to vote. On this providing a mobile ballot, I think that it comes as a natural result of where people are, because as I was mentioning last week that the elections happen at a time when, at least in my constituency anyway, many people are out on the land and that is their livelihood and we cannot ask people to forego their jobs simply to vote. So, I think that a provision in the Elections Act that spells out in some detail about how people who happen to be on the land at that time can vote, I think would really be a credit to this government. Just to say, Mr. Chairman, I support the motion. Mahsi cho.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Mr. Appaqaq, did you want to speak to the motion? The vote has already been called, I am sorry. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

#### ---Carried

Does the committee agree that this matter has now been concluded? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

## Bill 1-85(3), Business Licence Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. We are now dealing with Bill 1-85(3), An Act to Amend the Business Licence Act. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The purpose of this particular bill is to establish and to recognize businesses to which the business licence applies and I just want to say that in the amendment to the previous legislation there was an omission of a particular section that recognized those businesses that would be recognized since March 14, 1980, and as such we are intending to rectify that particular situation to recognize the existence of businesses since that particular date.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Mr. MacQuarrie, have you got any comments from your committee?

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. During the review it was noted that the coming into force date of the act would be the 14th day of March, 1980, and it was explained that an error had occurred in previous legislative change and that this was necessary to regularize the situation. After hearing the government's explanations the committee agreed to recommend the bill as it is to committee of the whole.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): General comments. Clause by clause. Thank you. Members should not confuse the chairman. Clause by clause. Clause 1, application. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 2, requirement for licence or registration. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 3. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. The committee will now report this bill for third reading. Bill 1-85(3). Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 4-85(3), Labour Standards Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Bill 4-85(3), An Act to Amend the Labour Standards Act. Mr. Nerysoo.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, this particular change is a response to concerns that were raised by Mr. Gargan, Mr. T'Seleie and other Members of the Legislature, I believe also Mrs. Lawrence, about the concerns raised about seismic workers in the NWT. More importantly it is a response that the government has considered as being important in light of the kind of changes that have occurred within the past five years particularly as it relates to seismic workers. The kind of working hours, the kind of weeks that we were talking about have changed because of the so-called rotation work schedules that have been introduced and been utilized within the last five to 10 years.

The other issue, Mr. Chairman, that is being introduced in this particular bill is to increase the minimum wage from \$4.25 to five dollars and to amend section 13 to provide for only one minimum wage. The reason, Mr. Chairman, for providing for only one minimum wage is to respond to the question and the issue of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. In that particular charter there is a section that does not allow for any of our legislation to discriminate because of age. As such we are responding to that.

Mr. Chairman, there are only two jurisdictions that have a differential of minimum wage in this country and that is Newfoundland and Saskatchewan. All the others have consistent and one minimum wage scale. That is the intent of the legislation itself.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Mr. MacQuarrie, do you have any comments from your committee?

# Comments From Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, in committee review it was noted that there were dual purposes with respect to minimum wage. Perhaps I could start with the other change, that is with respect to seismic workers. Certainly in dealing with that matter all committee Members seem to agree that that kind of change was needed and supported it unequivocally.

With respect to minimum wage. The committee noted that the government was proposing two things and that is to increase the minimum wage in the NWT to five dollars. Also to eliminate any reference to minimum wage based on age. The thrust generally of the committee was that -- it was noted that an increase from \$4.25 to five dollars with approximate aggregate increases in the cost of living since 1982 when the last change was made. Generally there was support for that increase. However, there were differences of opinion with respect to eliminating any reference to minimum wage based on age. However, even though there were those differences, in the end the majority of the committee agreed to refer this bill to this committee as it is.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if Mr. Nerysoo -- and also I would like to hear probably again from Mr. MacQuarrie. Even though obviously the decision to make no distinction because of age in anticipation of the Canadian Charter of Rights might be valid, I wonder, have people thought about the possibility or the reality that the net effect of not having a differential is that employers might not hire young people? I have had it brought up to me by three or four employers who have in the past have hired 14, 15 and 16 year olds on the basis of paying them a lower salary because the feeling was that there is a training component, that they are willing to do that as long as they do not have to pay the full minimum wage. I wonder if that has been taken into consideration and if perhaps it is not necessary for us to anticipate judgments on the Charter of Rights, that they will come up in due course. I wonder if that one possibility might outweigh the other. That is my question.

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you. We have considered that. My suggestion to the honourable Member though would be that a decision of a court of law may suggest, and if someone would challenge it at this particular time they may find, that all salaries would have been retroactive to the coming into force of the Charter of Rights as of April. That would mean that all the businesses that do have people that are under the age of 17, may find themselves in a position of retroactively paying all these people because of a decision in a court of law.

AN HON. MEMBER: Maybe.

Responsive To Charter Of Rights

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Yes, maybe. But the reality is, that possibility is there. What we are doing is responding now to instituting a change and that this would be in effect from this day forward, as opposed to being challenged and being retroactive. We have to be careful of that as well. I realize that there is a question and it is a question that was raised by the Members in the standing committee on legislation. The one point that I raise about the question of the charter is that as legislators you do not want the courts to be determining the laws themselves. If you do want that, then every issue will be taken to a court of law. I suggest that the arguments that have been raised and articulated, particularly by the Member for Yellowknife Centre who indicated that we should not be allowing the courts to determine the legislative process but to allow the Legislature -- my feeling is that it is in our interests to proceed at this particular time as opposed to allowing courts to force us to move; that we should be moving forward in anticipation. The Member uses the words "in anticipation of possible judgments" but more importantly we should be moving forward in recognition of the charter itself rather than allowing the courts to determine the direction we would be going. That is to me a more important issue than the idea of having the courts determining the direction we go. I think that is crucial. As legislators we have to be responsive to the Canadian Charter of Rights and if we are not prepared to do that I think that we could find ourselves in a very difficult process in the future of having really no control as legislators.

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

MR. BALLANTYNE: I understand the arguments put forward by Mr. Nerysoo and I accept those arguments. I wonder, have other legal alternatives been looked at? Not being a lawyer I wonder if it is possible that one could in the act take away the difference and have just a minimum wage for all. Then also in the act set up some special category of youth, for instance, from 13 to 17 whereby under certain circumstances it might be possible under some affirmative action auspices that they could get a certain percentage of that minimum wage? Has that option been looked at?

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

Consistency In The Law

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That particular item was looked at but one of the problems that has arisen over the past couple of years has been the idea of consistency in the law. There is a possibility you could try through policy but I really find that that would be very difficult to force in spite of the law being in existence. I just raise also the point of a decision that was made during our discussions on the standing committee on legislation. I go back

to this thing about the recent breathalyzer decision in the Ontario courts, where an individual argued that the law in the eyes of people in British Columbia and I believe in Quebec were not similar to the law in Ontario, just by a simple section, the application, and it had to do with being able to determine the quantity of alcohol to enforce the whole issue of drunk driving. Well, just those two little sections caused the Supreme Court to rule the whole question of breathalyzers, until those two sections came into line across the country, to be unconstitutional -- not the question of whether or not there could be breathalyzers. But I use that example because it is the same thing with regard to minimum wages. My feeling is that the minimum wage and the question of age restriction -- the case of being forced to retire at the age of 65 has already been proven unconstitutional and nobody wanted to allow for other people to work beyond that but I think that is an indication of the things that could happen because we are not responding. We could always consider the options available but my colleague will have that opportunity to reflect on the legislation and propose an amendment within the next three months.

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

Youth Employment Incentive Program

MR. BALLANTYNE: I agree that over the course of the next few months I suppose all of us can reflect on the results of what we are talking about. We are actually passing it today, and I think it is important that all the options are looked at. It seems to me that if we all agree that one of the major problems facing us is unemployment of youth and if this legislation for whatever reason might run contrary to the employment of youth, I think we should look at all other options. Because of the reasons that Mr. Nerysoo states, if we cannot do it in the legislation then I put forward one possibility but I will put forward another one which is, is it possible for this government to do as the federal government does, that is to provide perhaps within some program for youth, an enhancement program whereby this government provides 50 cents or a dollar an hour to employers who hire young people. So this government would take on that responsibility. I am just saying that I would hate us to do anything that will run contrary to a stated objective which is trying to encourage youth to get into the work force. I wonder, have we looked at any ways to counterbalance the effect of this, if we have to do it this way?

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, just to comment on that. I was going to allude to that possibility earlier. I know that there is some concern with this 75 cents factor that we are adding to the minimum wage and from my department I have been wanting to raise it with my colleagues anyway as to whether or not the time has arrived for us to consider incentives for the government to establish so that young people could be encouraged to work and certain subsidies provided to those businesses that hire the young people but we have not put forward any policies. My view would be that your question could probably be addressed by the policy side of the government rather than legislation because I think it would be difficult, as my colleague suggests, to put forward different categories of hourly wage through legislation. So, I had personally wanted to consult my colleagues and the Minister of Education because that kind of policy would have to have an extensive discussion, I would think, before the Executive Council had a chance to finally consider such a thing. It is always possible policy can be proposed but no proposal has been recommended at this time. Thank you.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I speak now as the Member for Yellowknife Centre not the chairman of the standing committee and I would like to express my concern about the intention of eliminating a distinction in minimum wages based on age. I say that the whole concept of minimum wage came into being in order to try to ensure that there would not be exploitation or undue exploitation of workers who must attempt to earn a living and provide for themselves. Governments wanted to ensure that there would be an adequate wage at least to those who had to rely on themselves to provide their own sustenance. They were compelled to work full time in order to survive and it was felt they must receive an adequate wage in order to be able to survive and indeed at five dollars an hour in the Territories, even if we approve that increase -- and I support it -- people would find it very difficult to live if they had a full-time job that only provided that minimum wage.

#### Students Are Not Being Exploited

But I would say that when you are dealing with students it is a different matter. Students generally are not relying on a job to provide their sustenance and I could say that as a parent when I had children who worked at a variety of jobs for something less than the minimum wage, I never considered that my children were exploited. If I had, I would have forbidden them to work but in fact I thought that it was useful for them to learn a little bit about the responsibility of doing work for someone, recognizing that maybe they did not do a great job when they first started out. I thought it was important for them to get used to handling a little bit of money and there were times when I would not have wanted them to have excessive amounts or to work excessive hours in order to get money because there were many other aspects to their lives that I thought were important, recreation, school and so on.

I certainly would not want to get into a situation where government was providing subsidies in order to encourage the hiring of younger people. I just would not go along with that. At any rate I would say that is a different matter. I do not think students are exploited if they receive less than the minimum wage. They are generally relying on somebody else for their sustenance and they can get by with a few dollars and in fact if we were to put this through and that discouraged employers from hiring inexperienced young people then that may very well work to their detriment, where they are not able to get these little jobs from time to time. I wonder and I would ask the Minister, will this apply to baby-sitters, for example, if it is approved? Will people be compelled to pay them five dollars an hour or is it only under the structure of regularized employment or something? I do not know. But at any rate even if it does not apply to them, I would still think that there are other kinds of jobs where I would not believe as a parent that my children were being exploited if they worked for less than the minimum wage.

## Social Policy Should Not Be Determined By The Courts

With respect to the justification that the government is bringing for eliminating any distinction, I can only say that I repeat to the Minister that I never did want the courts to determine social policy. I always felt that that was the proper prerogative of Assemblies who are answerable to the people. That was why I opposed the infringement of the Charter of Rights but I acknowledge that that is now a reality in Canadian life. We have to reckon with it. At some point or other they are going to have something very powerful to say about particular provisions in particular bills. My point of view now, then, is that if that is the case I still think that Assemblies should set their policy and their laws according to what Assembly Members believe is right for their particular society. That is what we must do. Then if we recognize that courts may at some point have something to say about it, I say let's find out what they really think about it and not what we think they might think about it. That is why I say we should not always anticipate these changes but rather set our policy as we feel is right and just and best for our society. Then if someone in our society believes that is not right, they have the opportunity to go to the courts to see what the courts say about it and then we will know what the courts say about it.

The Minister mentioned that perhaps if we did that in this respect, the courts might decide to compel a change retroactively. I can only cite the Manitoba case where, with respect to legislation when it was found that Manitoba's course of action had been unconstitutional for many years, the court did not say that they must translate every act since 1890 or something into French. They recognized that there were impractical things connected with that and they chose a course that was reasonable and in the light of present circumstances. I can only assume that they would do so in a case like this if this kind of case arose.

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

Wage Related To Work, Not Age

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I cannot respond to the question of policies and future policies of this government. I do say though that there ought to be cautions as well with regard to the idea of wage restrictions or age restrictions. The reality of what we are talking about is that it has nothing to do with age. It has to do with the fairness of wage. I suggest to you that there are students that are in fact working to support their families at the minimum wage at this particular time.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible comment.

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Under 17. No. I am talking about supporting their parents and the rest of their family -- having to work after school and having to work on weekends. I suggest to you that I would be more supportive of them than of the idea of trying to say that it should only be those people that are 18 and over who should be receiving the minimum wage. I would be a bit cautious about that particular situation. I just say that we are speaking of minimum wage and as legislators, we are setting those minimum standards. That was the intention of this particular bill. There are two jurisdictions that have higher minimum wages. Surely the way it should be connected is to the work and not to the age of the worker. I say also that presently Saskatchewan and Manitoba have a higher minimum wage, yet our cost of living is close to 30 per cent above those jurisdictions and higher in all other jurisdictions with the exception of the Yukon.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. General comments. Is committee ready to go clause by clause? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 2, minimum wage. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to comment on this clause and I refrained under general comments until we got to clause by clause. I have some similar concerns as have been expressed by the Members. I have no difficulty with the minimum wage for adults being increased. Five dollars is certainly a low figure and I agree with the Minister that it perhaps should be higher. I do not disagree with increasing the minimum wage for adults to five dollars.

Appropriate Topic For Youth Conference

I do have some concerns about applying the one minimum wage to all age levels and removing the distinction. It occurs to me, Mr. Chairman, listening to some of the comments that this may be an appropriate issue that we should refer to our youth conference this coming weekend and ask what they feel about it. In one sense, to put the question fairly to them that they might discuss it. I think young people should be aware that there is a very real danger if this amendment goes through as proposed, that there will be fewer jobs for younger people as a result. I guess if you just ask a bunch of young people at a youth conference, "Are you in agreement with getting the same minimum wage as adults?", they are going to say, "Yes". But if you explain to them that it may result in fewer jobs for young people they may have a different opinion. I throw that out as a suggestion. We may want to ask the young people since they are all here.

Next, Mr. Chairman, I agree with Mr. MacQuarrie's remarks that the reason why we are increasing the minimum wage for adults, because of the increase in cost of living since it was last changed, do not necessarily apply to young people. I venture to say that the majority of adult workers must be concerned about making enough money in order to pay for their accommodation, for instance, to house the worker and his or her family, dependants. That is not necessarily applicable to a young 14, 15 or 16 year old person. By and large the young people are accommodated in their family. That is just as an example as to why the arguments for increase in the adult wage are not necessarily the same for young people.

Wage Related To Value Of Work

At a recent public meeting in Yellowknife with the knowledge that this proposal was coming forward, it was argued by a number of business people that they were opposed to this one category as opposed to a differential. Mr. Chairman, the reason given by those people who spoke against it had nothing to do with discrimination. The business people very effectively stated that the young 14 or 15 year old person being first employed in a particular business is given certain tasks and the performance of those tasks is assessed by the employer. As one businessman put it, if it is four dollars an hour that they are paying young people, that is all they are worth. And if the young

person is on the job for six months and improves, as I presume some young people do, the employer increases the wage because the value of the work being performed by the young person has increased in the eyes of the employer. I say that in that situation the employer is not discriminating on age. Some of the business people who have first-hand experience in these things clearly stated that if they were forced to pay by law the same minimum wage to a youth who is having his first day of work in his life, as they are forced to pay, by legislation, to an adult, by and large they will probably hire the adult.

Not Necessarily Required By Charter Of Rights

I have some difficulty accepting the argument that the Minister provides -- the Charter of Rights. I note for instance that this proposed amendment is not in the charter omnibus bill. The point I make, Mr. Chairman, is that I think it is the value of the work of the young individual that is important, and that removes the discrimination. I point to within the Government of the Northwest Territories. I recall seeing something produced, I presume by the Department of Personnel in the last year, as an explanation to MLAs of the salary structure for students who were employed by the government during the summer, that it depended on how far along in the student's education he or she was to determine whether he would get a 75 per cent regular salary or 80 per cent salary. There were various categories such as that and I think that the government in its wisdom, probably Personnel when it did that, was assessing: Is that student coming back to the North after one year of university able to perform in such and such a job as well as an adult, maybe a university graduate who has been working at the job for three or four years? So the government in its wisdom, I think, made a decision to discriminate on the basis not of age but on the level of education.

As to the argument that the charter dictates that we do this, I realized that was going to be forthcoming and I checked with our own Law Clerk if that is so and the answer, as lawyers are prone to answer, is "Not necessarily". I think that is the question for us, Mr. Chairman. As Mr. MacQuarrie has put it, are we going to prejudge what the judge will decide on the first challenge to the court? Having heard the argument of the business people or the employers just recently at a public meeting, I am inclined to say let us increase the minimum wage for young people because of the increase in the cost of living but let us increase both at the same percentage level. Let us bring the adult minimum wage from \$4.25 up to five dollars as the government wants to do in this proposal but let us raise the youth minimum wage from \$3.75 to some larger figure. Mr. Chairman, I am inclined to move an amendment at this point but I see you looking at your clock and I would do that after coffee break. My motion would probably be much better worded after sustenance. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): I appreciate the co-operation of the Member. We will have a short coffee break.

#### --- SHORT RECESS

Before we broke for coffee Mr. Richard was about to propose an amendment. Mr. Richard.

## Motion To Amend Clause 2, Bill 4-85(3)

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I move, that clause 2 be amended to read: The act is further amended by repealing paragraphs 13(1)(a) and 13(1)(b) and substituting the following: a) each employee who is 17 years or over, a wage at the rate of not less than five dollars an hour and, b) each employee who is under 17 years of age a wage at the rate of not less than \$4.50 an hour. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Could you give us a copy of that amendment, please? Mr. Richard, your amendment is in order. Do you wish to speak to it? Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the only thing I would add to what I had said prior to making the motion is that I realize that if the amendment carried there would have to be a further amendment to clause 3 by deleting it because it would then not be necessary.

To the motion, Mr. Chairman, I simply am concerned that by requiring employers to pay adult minimum wage to young people, my fear is that there will be fewer jobs for young people. I would ask Members to consider supporting the amendment. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): To the amendment. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was just going over the 1984 labour force survey. One of the things that it indicates here is that as far as employment goes, for natives, the labour force participating rate was 54 per cent compared to 84 per cent for non-native, reflecting a considerably lower involvement of native persons in the wage economy. But also on unemployment rates for all of the NWT, the overall unemployment rate is 17 per cent. For the people between the ages of 15 to 24, the unemployment rate for native people is just about 24 per cent; for non-native people it is below five per cent. So the people that are most affected by this minimum wage are going to be the native people. I also say that if we are going to hire on a person's worth, then I would have to question whether the students are not really looking for work because the wages are not high enough. For them to sacrifice their social life on weekends and during the evenings, to work in a low wage economy is maybe not favourable for them. So you can very well say that maybe we might be jeopardizing the students' chance of employment if we increase the wages. I believe it is just the other way around. I believe the students are not looking for work because the wage rate is just not high enough for them to go out and look for work. They are the ones that are on the highest unemployment category. For this reason I am not going to support the amendment to this particular resolution.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): To the amendment. Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not believe there are going to be too many adults working for five dollars these days with everything being so high. Another thing too is that there is not too much difference between \$4.50 and five dollars, especially in the small communities when everything is so expensive. I do not believe that I will support this amendment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): To the motion. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the arguments for and against this amendment are all valid. First, I am going to support the amendment because I think how the danger of young people not getting any employment, in my opinion, is more important than the fact that they will lose 50 cents. Having said that, I do not think this gets at the root of the problem at all. I think the root of the problem is providing incentives for young people to work. This is only one small part of that. I think that we, as MLAs, have to look at the big picture and look at other ways to encourage young people to join the work force. For those reasons I will support the amendment but I am listening very closely to the concerns put forward by the other honourable Members. I think together we are going to have to work at a long-term comprehensive solution to this problem. Thank you.

Motion To Amend Clause 2, Bill 4-85(3), Defeated

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): To the amendment. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is defeated.

#### ---Defeated

Clause 2. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, just to make clear that certainly I support an increase in the minimum wage. There is no question about that at all in my mind. There is even a question as to whether five dollars is adequate but I will support that. In the discussion a couple of points I heard people refer to were finding ways to give incentives to young people to become employed. I really do not agree with that idea at all. I say we should be finding ways to give incentives, if they are necessary, for young people to go to school or to go out on the land with their parents or to develop themselves culturally or recreationally or in some other way. That consideration of jobs after school, if they do not need jobs to sustain themselves -- and I would acknowledge there are perhaps some who would find themselves in that bind -- we should not necessarily be trying to find incentives for them to go to work. You are in the work force long enough in this world without advancing it any more than necessary.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 2. Mr. Ballantyne.

MR. BALLANTYNE: I will support clause 2 because I do support an increase in the minimum wage but I do not necessarily agree with Mr. MacQuarrie. Talking to a lot of the kids in my constituency, a lot of them see the possibility of a combination of work, training and education and that mix is

important because I think somebody brought up the point that there are kids who are actually working now, supporting their family, who need a mix of education, training opportunities and employment. So, I see some incentives now in that area but coupled with the other. I mean, a lot of the kids are telling me that they would like the opportunity to work and they also would like the opportunity to do upgrading, to receive training, so I think we have to look at a balanced approach in all those areas. I will support the increase obviously to five dollars. I do not think it really is enough but it is better than what is there now. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 2. Mr. Gargan.

Not Applicable To Areas Of Training

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to say that I do support the increase in the minimum wages but I would also like to say too that for the students who are looking for employment there is also an area of training in which maybe minimum wages do not apply and that under training there is maybe a whole range of salaries that could be used and so I think there are other options that the students could use. I believe it so I am in support of the amendment to the motion.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 2. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 3. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, just further on clause 2, now that the clause is going forward as drafted I would simply caution the Minister and the Commissioner to be careful on the date that they bring this matter into force that it not be too quickly because these young Pages tell me they are being paid \$4.50 an hour. You would not want to get the government into difficulty.

---Laughter

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Just for the information of the Members, we are on clause 3. Clause 2 has already been dealt with. Clause 3. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: I note that it is still referring to the matter of minimum wage, Mr. Chairman, so with respect to that, I had asked earlier whether the minimum wage that we set applies to baby-sitters and I never did get a response. Perhaps somebody does not know for sure but I would appreciate a response because perhaps once having raised the matter there may be confusion unless somebody is able to say clearly whether it does or whether it does not.

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: My legal adviser challenges the other legal adviser over there and says, no, that that is not the case.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Well, in which case, I would merely make the observation -- I notice that that was said with satisfaction, that it is not the case -- that if it is really a matter of justice that everybody should be paid the same then it seems to me that it ought to apply to baby-sitters as well. If it does not then perhaps they are being exploited in some way.

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, all I can say to the honourable Member is that the legislation would not apply. If he would recommend that it would apply, I think that is a policy decision that has to be directed to the new government and hopefully they will respond positively.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 3. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 4. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): The bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Does the committee agree that we report Bill 4-85(3) for third reading? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 5-85(3), Legal Services Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. We are now dealing with Bill 5-85(3), An Act to Amend the Legal Services Act. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish to declare conflict of interest. I will not be participating in the discussion or voting on any motion and, Mr. Chairman, for the record, I neglected to declare a conflict when there was first reading and second reading in the Assembly but I confirm for the record that I did not participate in the discussion. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): The records now indicate your conflict of interest, sir. Mr. Nerysoo, would you like to introduce Bill 5-85(3), please?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This particular bill is to amend the Legal Services Act to allow for a tariff of fees for legal services to be established retroactively by regulation after consultation with the Legal Services Board. Mr. Chairman, there is the practice in our government to negotiate a tariff of fees for legal services to be provided by the legal profession in the Northwest Territories through the Legal Services Board. I must indicate to the Members here that since 1984 we have not had the fee in place and we have been negotiating as a government with the Legal Services Board and now have negotiated retroactively to, I believe, August of 1984, and we will now be retroactively paying these particular fees, and this agreement will be in place for a period of two years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. McCallum, have you got any comments on this from your committee?

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, the standing committee reviewed the bill that would establish retroactivity for the tariff fees for legal services to be established by regulation and we recommend that the bill be referred to the committee of the whole as presented by the government.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): General comments. Does the committee agree that we go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 2, coming into force of regulation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): The bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Does the committee agree that we report Bill 5-85(3) for third reading? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

## Bill 8-85(3), Petroleum Products Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): We are now dealing with Bill 8-85(3), An Act to Repeal the Petroleum Products Act. Mr. Nerysoo, would you like to introduce this bill, please?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The intent is to repeal the Petroleum Products Act since the Fire Prevention Act now regulates the area of petroleum products and as such there is no need for the Petroleum Products Act to remain in existence.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. General comments. Mr. McCallum, have you got any comments?

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, the committee reviewed the bill to repeal the Petroleum Products Act and as the Minister has indicated, it is now covered under the Fire Prevention Act and we recommend that it is referred to the committee of the whole and suggest that you go clause by clause.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Does the committee agree that we go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. The bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Does the committee agree that we report Bill 8-85(3) for third reading? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

#### Bill 9-85(3), Regulations Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): We are now dealing with Bill 9-85(3), An Act to Amend the Regulations Act. Mr. Nerysoo, would you like to introduce this bill, please?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Bill 9-85(3) is to allow a regulation to come into force on a day earlier than the day on which it is registered, but only where the act, pursuant to which the regulation is made, authorizes the regulation to come into force on an earlier date.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. McCallum, have you got any comments from your committee?

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, as the Minister had indicated to us during the standing committee meeting and has reiterated now, it allows the regulation to come into force on a day earlier than the day on which it was registered. This provision could only be enacted when the act for which the authorization was made permits it or authorizes it. We do not have any difficulty with that. We recommend Bill 9-85(3) to the committee of the whole and suggest that you go clause by clause.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you, sir. General comments? Does the committee agree that we go clause by clause? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 1, application. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 2, coming into force of regulations. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Does the committee agree that Bill 9-85(3) is ready for third reading? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. This concludes all the items for the committee, and I will rise to report progress. Mr. Patterson. Point of what, sir?

MR. McCALLUM: Just a point of clarification, Mr. Chairman. I understood the Speaker to say earlier that there were other bills to be added to the orders of the day. Maybe he said orders of the day for tomorrow, but I thought that he meant today.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): For the information of the Members, the Speaker only indicated what was on the orders of the day for today, so that concludes the matters that the committee is dealing with, so I will report progress. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wah-Shee.

ITEM 16: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION ON THE NWT ELECTIONS ACT; BILL 1-85(3), BUSINESS LICENCE ACT; BILL 4-85(3), LABOUR STANDARDS ACT; BILL 5-85(3), LEGAL SERVICES ACT; BILL 8-85(3), PETROLEUM PRODUCTS ACT; BILL 9-85(3), REGULATIONS ACT

MR. WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering the report of the standing committee on legislation on the Northwest Territories Elections Act, and wishes to report this matter concluded. And further, that Bills 1-85(3), 4-85(3), 5-85(3), 8-85(3) and 9-85(3) are recommended for third reading.

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: Members have heard the report of the chairman of the committee of the whole, are you agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Could we return again to committee of the whole and consider Bills 2-85(3), 7-85(3) and 3-85(3) in committee?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent to change the orders of the day, by the addition of Bills 2-85(3), 7-85(3) and 3-85(3). Do I have unanimous consent?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: I have unanimous consent, Mr. Clerk. You will add Bills 2-85(3), 7-85(3) and 3-85(3) to the order paper.

MR. McCALLUM: Point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Point of order?

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, the standing committee on legislation has reviewed Bills 2-85(3) and 3-85(3), but not Bill 7-85(3). I do not think I have any difficulty with Bills 2-85(3) and 3-85(3), but the committee has not looked at Bill 7-85(3) as yet and I would respectfully ask the government then, to deal with Bills 2-85(3) and 3-85(3).

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The Member is speaking of the Miscellaneous Statute Law, not the liquor legislation. I thought that it was the Liquor Act that had not been considered in committee yet, sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Does that satisfy you, Mr. McCallum? I am glad I am not the only one that makes mistakes today.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, as far as I am concerned, and I am here as a deputy chairman of the standing committee on legislation, I am prepared to deal with Bills 2-85(3) and 3-85(3).

MR. SPEAKER: Am I to understand that we have unanimity to conclude with Bill 2-85(3) and Bill 3-85(3)?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: We will add those then to the orders of the day. So we will go to Item 15, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters, with Mr. Wah-Shee in the chair.

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

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 2-85(3), CORONERS ACT

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): The committee will come to order. We are dealing with Bill 2-85(3), An Act Respecting Coroners. Mr. Nerysoo, would you like to introduce this bill, please?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Bill 2-85(3) is a bill that is intended to revise the Coroners Act first of all, I believe, in response to some questions particularly from the Members of Yellowknife who raised particular concern with regard to an inquest that had been done by a coroner and the terms of reference and the manner in which that particular investigation and other particular investigations would be carried out. As a government we have responded to the concerns. I guess I can try and take some quick credit here before I leave but none the less it is intended to respond to the concerns and questions raised around the issue of investigations being carried out by coroners. The government has given me approval to proceed with the act and the amendments appropriately to reflect the concerns raised by all Members of this particular House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Mr. MacQuarrie, would you like to comment on behalf of your committee?

# Comments From Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would certainly like to acknowledge that indeed the Minister intended to respond to concerns that were raised and did that in a reasonably quick fashion and also in a way that seems to be quite acceptable. I know, personally, I found the legislation acceptable. In a general way the committee did, as did others who had expressed concerns about the existing legislation. So perhaps I can make a few brief general comments and then as we are going through the bill maybe note places where changes had been recommended and where the government responded.

The government, in introducing this bill to us, explained that the new Coroners Act is being brought in to reflect the modern role of coroners and to reform the procedures during investigations and inquests in light of modern practice. The committee was advised that the government had relied on the study by the law reform commission of Saskatchewan on the matter of coroners legislation -- or at least had been guided by that work. Committee Members discussed problems that had occurred with some items when deaths occurred that had implications both for the jurisdiction of the NWT and for other jurisdictions as well. That was one area where there was considerable discussion and it was explained to the committee that under the new act agreements could be entered into with other jurisdictions in order to try to ensure when that type of death occurs that there are procedures in place that would ensure that they are dealt with in the most sensitive and effective way.

Your committee discussed at some length the provision in the bill that would allow for the removal during a post-mortem of a deceased person's pituitary gland. That is one of the provisions that you will find in this act and, as I say, there was a fair amount of discussion in committee on that. The GNWT pointed out that the NWT was perhaps taking a bit of a lead with this provision but that very likely other jurisdictions would follow suit.

The standing committee raised concerns with the method in which the list of jurors was obtained from the sheriff in Yellowknife. The Minister agreed to look further into this section to see if it could be reworded to make it simpler and perhaps to address some concerns that were raised by committee Members. The committee felt that the bill should clearly lay out the rights of witnesses before an inquest and the government agreed to ensure that this was clear in the act and to make counsel distinct from an agent at an inquest. The bill provides that an interpreter may be engaged to assist at an inquest and the committee requested that in view of our Official Languages Act this section be strengthened whereby an interpreter will be provided for any individual who does not speak English.

Under the clause that deals with jury verdict the committee discussed whether the section went far enough. The question arose as to whether a jury should not also render a verdict as to the apparent reasons for a person's death, that is, as to why a person died. The government indicated that the jury cannot go as far as to render a verdict that would lay legal responsibility and I think committee Members agreed that that is as it should be. This is not a court proceeding and there are opportunities for court proceedings. This was something different and so committee Members generally agreed. Members felt that a jury could establish clearly the reasons for death without laying direct blame or attempting to lay blame on a particular person. So eventually the committee recommended to the government that subclause 56(1) be modified and I will explain the way in which it was to be modified when we reach that particular clause. Finally the committee noted that subclause 66(2) should be changed to delete the reference to "office during pleasure"

dealing with the term of office of a coroner. After the completion of clause by clause review, the committee recommended that the bill be referred to the committee of the whole but with a number of changes that had been recommended. As we go through the bill I will refer to some of these changes because indeed it appears that the government generally has looked favourably upon the recommendations that were made and that many of these changes appear in the body of the bill that is now before the House. These are my opening remarks, Mr. Chairman.

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

#### Death Of Fort Smith Resident On Alberta Highway

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. While we were in committee, and the chairman alluded to it, I raised the concern about the possible arrangements that could be made when a death occurred of a Fort Smith resident on an Alberta highway. Then, of course, you have the situation where Alberta coroners, Alberta RCMP, take over. There had been an instance this past summer that occurred on the eve of a holiday that caused considerable concern to the family of the deceased who was killed in a car accident. Because of the holiday it was very difficult to get anything done in terms of coroner's work over a period of time because the detachment of the RCMP from Fort McMurray have jurisdiction in that particular area, as does a coroner, and there was a considerable amount of time before the parents were able to be notified as to the outcome, whether there was a coroner's inquest or any kind of investigation. I am not casting any blame on anybody. It was just unfortunate, given the circumstances but the Alberta highway of course runs very close to the town of Fort Smith and I am sure that there may be other places where this could enter into things as well.

In the course of our discussion on it, the Minister of Justice indicated that they were able to enter into some kind of arrangement with Alberta or they would be entering into an arrangement. My concern is for coroners, and not only dealing with coroners, I would hope that there is a possibility of the Minister entering into agreements with that particular RCMP division or detachment, if you like, who looks after this. As I say, there was a considerable period of time, I am talking of approximately four days or more before something could be done or information could be sent back and forth. I would hope that as a result of this particular upgrading of the Coroners Act those kinds of agreements would be pursued by the government on an emergency basis.

As I am sure most of the Members of the government are aware, the recreational lake around Fort Smith is in Wood Buffalo Park, Pine Lake. In order to get from Fort Smith to Wood Buffalo Park and Pine Lake you have to travel an Alberta highway. Our government, that is the Government of the Northwest Territories, does now have an agreement to do the upgrading and maintenance of that road on a third party agreement with the province of Alberta and obviously with the federal government as well. At that time, previous to the accident, the federal government were allowing the removal of gravel from the park to do some work in the town of Fort Smith, primarily at the airport, and so there was a great deal of traffic over that highway for a matter of about two weeks. Large tandem trucks would make approximately eight to 10 trips a day from the quarry in the park over that road and the road deteriorated a great deal. It was very difficult to get maintenance work done on the highway at the time and on a holiday weekend such as when the accident happened, there would be an increased amount of traffic over that road of just normal vehicles, cars going out to the recreational lake and because the highway was not maintained properly the accident occurred.

#### Agreement With Other Jurisdictions Needed

As a result, it brought into play Alberta, both the RCMP and the Alberta coroner. The body had to be shipped out of the Territories to Alberta and because that happened over a holiday weekend then there was very little information that could be exchanged, there was very little that could be done about it. This caused a great deal of concern, obviously, and added to the grief of the parents involved. I would hope that the government will act with some haste to get an arrangement whereby the RCMP as well as the territorial coroners could act in this instance rather than have the bodies sent out of the Territories to either Fort McMurray, as in this case, or maybe even to Edmonton.

I think that there is the capability within the Territories, both in this instance in Fort Smith for a coroner to operate, to do his particular work, for an inquest to be held, etc., and for the RCMP of the local detachment to take charge. There is a sergeant in charge of the local detachment, together with a number of other police officers but their hands are tied under the existing arrangement and it is not easy to move to get in contact with the RCMP in Alberta, in this

case because of the time, but I have this concern that since we are dealing with the Coroners Act here and upgrading it or bringing in something that is more meaningful to people that it will take that into consideration and I recognize that the Minister has indicated and assured me and Members that he will pursue this in terms of coroners. I would hope, again, as I say, that he would pursue it in terms of RCMP to see whether their jurisdiction can overlap in this instance. Now, there may be other places in the Territories where this may occur. It could happen on the Dempster, in some instance, out of McPherson. It could happen possibly on the Liard but it does happen in Fort Smith and I know since I have been living in that community for over 20 years, that there have been a number of deaths that have occurred of territorial residents, usually on holiday weekends, where this particular problem arises because it occurs in Alberta and then everything has to go through Alberta.

I am not disputing the legality of that. All I am wanting to impress upon the government and the Ministers who will be involved is that something can be done to alleviate the difficulty, the time lapse. For parents of youth who have these fatalities on this particular road, there is enough grief in the loss itself without having it compounded by not being able to get proper information for a period of time. It could be done on a quicker basis were the arrangement to be made in the town itself and to have it done in the Territories. I do not want to get into a situation dealing with the condition of the highway. I do not want to create any furore there but I think that is a concern as well. If the government is in the business of doing that work on a third party basis then I think something should be done about that as well.

However, I want to highlight, Mr. Chairman, that concern that I have. As I said, I have known a number of people who have been killed, basically on holiday weekends, over that highway and in the recreational area to which most people go not only from Fort Smith but Pine Point, Hay River, utilize Pine Lake. So, I want to raise that issue. I know the chairman mentioned it in his report and I wanted to bring forth that concern not just with coroners but, as I say, with the RCMP arrangements as well. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. General comments. Does the committee agree to go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Gargan, would you like to make general comments, or are we going to go clause by clause? General comments. Mr. Gargan.

### Autopsies And Respect For The Dead

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We did go through this particular act with respect to coroners and inquests but I have one problem because I have known in a lot of instances in my own constituency, the parents or the spouse or the friends of people who died who have been requesting that the bodies of persons that died not be shipped out or not have an autopsy done on them. A lot of times it is based on a death being something that is quite sacred, I believe, for the native people. But, there is always that question, you know, there is a question of death and there has to be an autopsy done or a coroner's inquest as to the cause of death. But to disregard respect for the wishes or the aspirations of the relatives, I really get disturbed by that.

A number of times in Fort Providence where death occurs, the parents of the deceased would request, "No, we do not want our child to be shipped out," or "We do not want them to be cut up." Yet, the authorities would say, "Sorry, but the law is the law." That is the only way -- they have no way of even considering that, even though a body is dead, there is a lot of respect for the deceased and there is some sacredness, I guess if you want to call it that, for people that die. We tend to ignore that and this attitude of "Sorry, but the law is the law" -- I do not know where you draw the line on that and whether there are any protective mechanisms in this act that would maybe respect the wishes of the relatives that are involved. I really would like to get an answer on that, Mr. Chairman, because it has been a concern of mine. It has been a concern of a lot of the aboriginal people in the North. I am really disturbed by that, and I am sure that this act accommodates the law, but where does it accommodate the aboriginal people that do have some, maybe religious belief for the dead? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Mr. Nerysoo, would you like to comment on that?

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess it is somewhat difficult to respond to that particular situation and the concern raised, but I just do say though, that there are particular reasons in some instances as to why autopsies are done. You know, it is a situation where the death is either accidental or maybe from a violent situation and as such the results could be used as evidence. Also, the case is that there are other factors that may have to be dealt with. It depends on the individual, and there may be questions in some cases -- if you are in a vehicle accident, the question is by the insurer of the vehicle as to the reasons why the death took place.

But I can understand, I guess, the concern that Mr. Gargan raises and where the death can be proven without necessarily requiring an autopsy, I think in those particular cases, I would hope that the coroner and those people involved will respect the wishes of the community in responding to such a concern. But, I still think that it is something that should be left really up to the coroner, of course with the influence of those individuals and parties that are affected in the particular incident.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Does the committee now agree to go clause by clause? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 2, definitions. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 3, binding effect. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 4, appointment of coroners. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 5, chief coroner. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 6, duties of the chief coroner. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 7, judge as a coroner. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 8, remuneration. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 9, duty to notify. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 10, issue of warrant and investigation. Agreed? Mr. MacOuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you. You zoomed by clause 9 without looking up, Mr. Chairman, so I assume that we are still on clause 9. I would just like to indicate that in this clause, there were a couple of matters that the standing committee raised and the government has responded to them. Perhaps we should just note that for the benefit of the committee. In subparagraph 9(1)(e)(3), this subclause was redrafted from one that the committee had originally seen because the standing committee thought that use of the word, "received" which was in the previous draft was somewhat awkward and the government agreed to modify that clause.

Then again in subclause 9(4) in the draft that the committee reviewed, the word "bodies" appeared as a word to refer to organizations and institutions, and in view of the nature of the act itself, the standing committee thought that another word or words might be more appropriate and I note that the government has modified the bill and the suitable changes have occurred in what we see before us now, so the changes are acceptable to the standing committee.

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

Reporting Of Deaths

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, with regard to reporting a death in clause 9, I would like to ask the Minister, as far as the cause of death, if it is in question, it has to be reported or even if a death occurs, it has to be reported. But, I would like to ask the Minister if there is anything in this section that would not apply. I mean, where you do not have to report a death? What justifies not having to report a death? All avenues of why a person dies are here, and you have to report it to the policeman and he reports it to the coroner, but I guess according to this act, all deaths are questionable then, and regardless whether it is of natural causes or not, it is still questionable and the coroner could act on that basis. Am I correct?

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

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to indicate that, yes, they have to report all deaths, mainly for vital statistics and statistical information, but it is not necessary that all deaths will require a coroner's inquest. What we have done is develop the events that could lead to death in which the family, spouse or next of kin could request an inquest depending on the circumstances. I think that if we were too restrictive then in some cases we may not be able to respond to the family's request. It is not necessary in all cases to hold a coroner's inquest.

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

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I guess as far as I can remember, as far back as 1970, I think there was only one incident where a death occurred in which the body was not shipped out. In all the other incidents it has occurred that the bodies were shipped out either to Yellowknife or else to Edmonton. Although a concern was expressed by the relatives of the deceased there was no way that they were going to make any kind of concessions to the relatives. This is where I am having a lot of concern and I certainly would like to have maybe a provision or review this part of this act so you might be able to combine some of the aspirations possibly of the community or the relatives that are affected by the death.

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

Discretionary Responsibility For Post-Mortem Investigations

HON. RICHARD NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The section the Member is reading is with regard to notification of death. In the particular case that the Member is concerned about, as to whether all such post-mortem investigations would occur, we are now in this legislation giving a

discretionary responsibility to the coroner so that he can disapprove of a post-mortem investigation if he feels the cause of death is quite easy to identify and there is no need for the inquest to continue. That discretion was not there previously and we have amended the legislation to be reflective of that particular request and concern.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 9. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 10, issue of warrant and investigation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 11, disqualifications. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 12, powers of coroner. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 13, entry to dwelling house. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 14, warrant to seize evidence. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 15, post-mortem examination. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 16, exhumation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Glause 17, assistance of police officers. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 18, obstructing a coroner or authorized person. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Clause 19, interference with or alteration to the body. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 20, investigation report and certificate. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you. In clause 20 when this was reviewed by the standing committee, the question was raised as to whether under the draft we saw, the report and certificate would go to the chief coroner. The response was, yes, that the way the legislation was written that might be assumed. So we accepted it. However, we note that on reflection the legislation and House planning committee thought that it would be appropriate to include a provision stating specifically that the coroner forwards the report and the certificate to the chief coroner and this is now reflected in clause 20 and the committee certainly approves of that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 20. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 21, release of body where no inquest held. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Mr. Chairman, again with respect to clause 21, particularly in the draft that we were presented with at that time the standing committee noted that it was rather important that the word "pending" should be replaced by the word "upon". The government accepted that at the time but again in taking it back to have a look at it, it was felt that the subclause should be clarified to ensure that this subclause could not be relied upon as requiring a post-mortem examination in the case of every reportable death. So the subclause has been reviewed and has been redrafted as two new subclauses to clarify the intent of subclause 21(2) which the standing committee reviewed and this is certainly acceptable to the committee.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 21. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 22, where inquest required. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 23, where inquest not to be held. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 24, right to request inquest. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 25, directed inquest. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 26, certification. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 27, inquest into multiple deaths. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 28, procedure where criminal charge laid. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 29, procedure where criminal charge likely. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 30, civil proceeding. Mr. MacQuarrie.

The Purpose Of An Inquest

MR. MacQUARRIE: In the standing committee there was a fair amount of discussion about the purpose of an inquest. I believe it was clarified at that time to Members' satisfaction generally, that an inquest is not a criminal court of record. I think that it would be appropriate -- I know that there are people who would continue to feel that the purpose of an inquest is something other than what it is in fact. In a subsequent response to myself as the chairman of the standing committee, the Minister of Justice has provided an explanation which I personally feel warrants being read into the record so that it is clear when we are dealing with this just exactly what an inquest is. So it would take no more than a minute and I would like to do that, if I may.

In the response that was provided to me, I quote, "There was some discussion in the standing committee about the reason for stating that a coroner's inquest is not a criminal court of record. The Department of Justice and Public Services has had an opportunity to do further research into this matter and I would like to take this opportunity to pass along the results of their research to you for your information. Historically a coroner's inquest was considered to be a criminal court of record. It fulfilled a criminal law function in that it determined criminal responsibility for deaths. Later this function was reduced to merely committing a person to trial on homicide charges. In most provinces in Canada, this function has disappeared both in practice and in law.

"Bill 2-85(3), in accordance with the law in other jurisdictions and the report by the Saskatchewan law reform commission, does not contemplate that any criminal allegations will arise out of a coroner's investigation or inquest. Moreover the jury at an inquest is prohibited from making determinations of criminal or civil liability or making any conclusions of law. Thus, section 30 makes it clear that the coroner's inquest is no longer a criminal court of record. The same conclusion was reached by the Supreme Court of Canada in its consideration of the Quebec Coroners Act in Faber versus The Queen (1976) 2 S.C.R.9. Also, at common law the coroner's inquest was considered to be a court of record. While this was consequent on its criminal law function a court of record has certain powers and duties. It can impose punishment and cite for contempt and it is required to keep a record of its proceedings which are inclusive of what transpired before it. Bill 2-85(3) abolishes the first two incidents of the inquest as a court of record. The third is codified in section 54 of the bill which requires a record and subsection 40(2) of the Evidence Act which states that the record may be accepted as evidence if it is under the hand and seal of the coroner. Thus the incidents of the coroner's inquest as a court of record have been abolished or codified by statute." So those explanations I think are along the lines of what the committee perceived to be the function of an inquest and the committee appreciates the information.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 30. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 31, jury. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 32, qualifications of jurors. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 33, jury selection. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

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

Jury Selection

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The standing committee had questioned the appropriateness of merely using the Jury Act to select a jury for the purposes of a coroner's inquest. Various problems with that were raised by Members of the committee. The Department of Justice and Public Services, as a result of that concern, have reviewed the matter again and have in fact recommended certain changes which are now reflected in the bill that is before the House and just to note them: In subclause 33(1) "...the coroner shall request the sheriff to provide a list of the names of six persons qualified to serve as jurors" rather than "such numbers of persons qualified to serve as jurors as the coroner believes will be required for the inquest" and subclause 33(2) has been amended accordingly to refer to a request of "six persons from the list of jurors" rather than "the requested number of persons from the list of jurors" and subclause 33(5) has been amended to clarify the procedure when six jurors have been selected under the procedure in section 33, and are not able to in fact serve as jurors after they have been summoned. These procedures are outlined further in that subsection and I believe address the concerns that were raised in the committee.

This is further information provided from the government in their review of this and they say, "Insofar as a list of jurors is concerned the legislation and House planning committee is of the view that while the method of selecting a jury under the Jury Act is not tailor-made for the purposes for which a coroner's jury serves, the persons selected as jurors according to the requirements of the Jury Act would be acceptable as jurors at a coroner's inquest." There is a practical difficulty if the jury list under the Jury Act is not used to select jurors for a coroner's inquest. If that jury list is not used, that is, if different criteria for qualifying as a juror are used instead of those qualifications under the Jury Act, a coroner will not be able to use the existing jury list at all to select a jury and the coroner would have to make a new list so the government apparently was of the view that on balance it would be better to retain the use of the jury list under the Jury Act for purposes of selecting a jury for the coroner's inquest. In general, unless other Members of the committee who were at the meeting and had concerns raise them, I think the responses reflect a suitable response to concerns that were raised. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 33. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 34, irregularities. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 35, swearing of jurors. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 36, request for notice of inquest. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 37, public inquest. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: In this particular clause, Mr. Chairman, under the draft that was presented to the committee there was the matter of exclusion at some point and Members of the standing committee wished to make sure, to make it very clear, that in excluding an agent this did not mean excluding counsel and the government has amended this subclause accordingly so that that is made very clear. I note that the government has made another slight change, the word "assisting" is replaced with the word "representing" to be consistent with other provisions where reference is made to the agent. So the change that is made is satisfactory to the standing committee.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 37. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 38, standing. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 39, counsel. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 40, right to be heard. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 41, right to participate. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 42, counsel or agent of witness. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): This just sounds like bingo. Clause 43, coroner may summon witnesses.

Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 44, coroner to administer oaths. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 45, jury questions. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 46, warrant for arrest. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 47, contempt proceedings. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 48, maintaining order. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 49, evidence. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 50, admissibility of copies. Agreed? Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, the word "thing" appears in clause 50 and some Members of the standing committee felt that that was hardly an appropriate word. They may be disappointed to see that the word "thing" still appears. There is a detailed explanation available as to why it appears. I am not going to read it. If Members are really concerned they can see me later. I think the government justified itself in refusing to replace the word "thing" with anything else.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 50. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 51, reports. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 52, adjournment. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 53, coroner unable to continue. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 54, recording of evidence. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 55, interpreter. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: In reading the draft that was brought to the committee for review, Members felt that it deals with the use of interpreters and Members felt that it was too permissive, so this clause has been redrafted to take into account those concerns respecting the use of interpreters at a coroner's inquest. The clause has been redrafted to state that "A coroner shall engage an interpreter to assist at an inquest where he is of the opinion that an interpreter is necessary for the proper conduct of the inquest."

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 55. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 56, jury verdict. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Jury Verdict

MR. MacQUARRIE: Mr. Chairman, with respect to clause 56, as I said earlier, there was discussion that revolved around the purpose of an inquest, and in fact, eventually the committee Members accepted the explanation that was given by the government and which was further detailed in what I read here earlier today. But, at the same time, some Members felt that the wording that appeared in the draft that we were considering did not as fully as it should, explain what then is the purpose of a coroner's inquest, what should be the objective, what should be stated at the conclusion of the inquest.

The committee recommended that the government re-examine that and suggested more appropriate wording that had been pointed out to the committee in the Saskatchewan law reform provision, and in fact, I note now that the government has come back with wording that is taken from the Alberta Fatal Accidents Act, but in fact, I believe, it addressed satisfactorily the concerns that the committee had. Now it is clear, at the conclusion of the inquest, they shall reconsider the evidence and determine: a) the identity of the deceased; b) the date, time and place of death; c) the cause of death; d) the manner of death; and e) the circumstances under which the death occurred. The committee would feel that if an inquest determined all of those things that all facts related to that death ought to be before the public, and the committee was satisfied with that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 56. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 57, coroner's duties at conclusion of inquest. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 58, procedure where jury disagrees. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 59, Vital Statistics Act. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 60, application to quash verdict. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 61, protection from civil liability. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 62, supreme court rules. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 63, offence. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 64, agreements. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 65, regulations. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 66, saving provisions. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, there was just a slight change which the government introduced here from the draft which we had seen. The subclause here, 66(2), was amended to delete the words "at pleasure" because it was noted the Interpretation Act states that such an office would be held at pleasure.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 66. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 67, repeal. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 68, commencement. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 69. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 70, certification by medical practitioner or coroner. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 71, death without medical attendance. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 72, reportable death under the Coroners Act. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: During the review at this point, in discussing things with the government, it became apparent that the government perhaps ought to review the Vital Statistics Act and the government has indicated to me as chairman of the committee, that they have done so and have not felt it necessary to recommend any further changes to this clause as a result of their review.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Clause 72. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 73, issuance of burial permit before medical certificate completed. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 74. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Clause 1, short title. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Does the committee agree that Bill 2-85(3) is ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Does the committee now wish to report progress?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wah-Shee.

REVERT TO ITEM 16: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILL 2-85(3), CORONERS ACT

MR. WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 2-85(3) and wishes to report Bill 2-85(3) ready for third reading.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Carried

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

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

#### ITEM 17: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Wednesday, October 23rd 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: Bill 3-85(3); Bill 7-85(3); Motion 1-85(3)
- 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 Wednesday, October 23rd at  $1:00\ p.m.$
- ---ADJOURNMENT