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

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

MONDAY, MARCH 10, 1986

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Angottitauruq, Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Arlooktoo, Hon. Michael Ballantyne, Hon. Tom Butters, Hon. Tagak Curley, Mr. Gargan, Mrs. Lawrence, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. McCallum, Hon. Bruce McLaughlin, Mr. Nerysoo, Mr. Paniloo, Hon. Dennis Patterson, Hon. Red 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): I would like to draw Members' attention to the fact that today is March 10th and is Commonwealth Day. It should also be noted that this year marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association of which the majority of you are members. It is appropriate that the Secretary of State is with us today and I would like to read into the record today a few thoughts on this Commonwealth Day, 1986.

Speaker's Remarks On Commonwealth Day

The Commonwealth has been the most successful example of international co-operation. It has served as a bridge between the races and cultures, countries and continents and has provided a sense of belonging among its members. In time of crisis a member finds some emotional security in not being alone. He is aware that an organization of friends is behind him to lend a helping hand. This Commonwealth has tried to provide a healing touch whenever a crisis situation has developed in any part of the Commonwealth. It is a body without any military force but has only moral authority. It restrains the nations from straying into wrong paths. Its appeals have a significant bearing on world opinion and international relations. The Commonwealth has engaged itself constructively in various fields and tried to better the lot of the deprived mass of humanity through a number of programs and a network of institutions and organizations working on the philosophy of mutual co-operation and consultation.

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association is an organization of legislators. Here they are engaged in a joint search for solutions to the problems of distress, conflict and the arms race, as well as to eradication of poverty, ignorance and disease. Here their hearts pulsate with the thought of bettering our world. Brought together by history, they are devoted to the common ideals of peace, democracy and respect for the dignity of man. The CPA serves as an instrument to strengthen these ideals.

On this Commonwealth Day, therefore, let us each make a promise that we shall continue to do our utmost to create a society which is just and equitable and that we shall stand by the people who are still oppressed by poverty, racial discrimination and colonial domination. Thank you.

Mr. Sibbeston, as Leader of the House, do you have a request to make?

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to invite Mr. Benoit Bouchard, federal Minister of State, into our Assembly.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: A request has been made to change the orders of the day to go into committee of the whole immediately to hear from the Minister of State, the Hon. Benoit Bouchard.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. SPEAKER: At the conclusion then, we will go back to the orders of the day and proceed from that point. We will resolve now then into committee of the whole with Mr. Gargan in the chair.

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

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER ADDRESS BY HON. BENOIT BOUCHARD, SECRETARY OF STATE OF CANADA

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): The committee will now come to order. We are dealing with an address from the Secretary of State of Canada, Mr. Bouchard. Would the Sergeant-at-Arms please escort Mr. Bouchard in? Thank you. Mr. Bouchard, please proceed.

Address By Hon. Benoit Bouchard

HON. BENOIT BOUCHARD: Mr. Speaker, honourable Members, it is an honour for me to be here and to have been accorded the opportunity to address this Assembly on a matter as important as languages -- aboriginal languages which are such a vital component of life here in the North, and Canada's official languages which have great significance for Canada as a whole.

(French translation) As a northern Quebecker I feel very much at home here in the North and I thank you for providing me this opportunity to renew acquaintances with so many of you and to appreciate anew the beauties of your terrain and the richness of the many cultures found here flourishing in the Northwest Territories. (French translation ends)

(Inuktitut translation) Thank you for your generous northern hospitality. (Inuktitut translation ends)

As you are well aware, a strong relationship exists between language and culture. Language is more than a means of communication, more than a means of transmitting a message. Language is a manifestation of a people, its history, its mode of thought, its relationship to the environment. Because of the unique properties which characterize every language, we can truly regard each one as a treasure, each one as a contributor to the world's knowledge and richness. When one considers that almost 30,000 of the Northwest Territories population of slightly more than 50,000 are native, one can appreciate the importance of native languages here.

I understand that there are over 50 indigenous languages in Canada and that the origins of most of them are unknown. Over the years, vital elements of some of the native languages have been eroded to the extent that, in some cases, there now exist only small communities of elders holding the key to unlock the mysteries of what were once vibrant expressions of a people, their means of communicating their joys and sorrows and the unique qualities of their lifestyle. It is important to stop further erosion of native languages. With care, and the proper elements of support, native languages can be revitalized. While we cannot regain what has been completely lost, we can rebuild from what remains to ensure that the languages retain the dynamism which they need to survive as a modern day means of communication.

Mandate To Assist Native People

Part of my mandate as Secretary of State of Canada relates to assisting native people in defining and participating in the social, cultural, political and economic issues affecting their lives in Canadian society. Perhaps the best known aspect of our native citizens program is the core funding which we provide to aboriginal representative organizations. This program of grant support, amounting to over \$14 million annually, helps organizations to effectively represent the social and political concerns of their constituents. The program serves four national aboriginal organizations and 56 regional, provincial and territorial aboriginal organizations representing status Indians, non-status Indians, Metis and Inuit.

The native citizens' directorate in my department also funds native friendship centres, a constitutional review program, and programs for aboriginal women, native communications, northern native broadcast access, and native social and cultural development. These programs are all aimed at assisting Canada's native people to retain their cultural heritage. The Secretary of State office which we have established in Yellowknife provides assistance in program delivery and ensures that we have the benefit of local views.

The reason I am here is to assist the Government of the Northwest Territories in this important enterprise of building a base for the strengthening of aboriginal languages. I am here to sign on behalf of the Government of Canada an historic agreement which will make \$16 million available to the Government of the Northwest Territories...

---Applause

...over a five year period for the enrichment of aboriginal languages. I am pleased that the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada have established through this agreement such a wide-ranging and comprehensive plan to enrich aboriginal languages. I feel that your government and mine are entering into a true partnership in this endeavour.

Take for instance this year, 1986. Let us consider the diversity of projects and activities which will be funded. Work is already well under way on some of them. There is the task force on aboriginal languages, made up of aboriginal people, which will provide a vehicle for consultation with aboriginal people and which will advise the territorial government on a long-term strategy on how to improve public services in the aboriginal languages and how to develop them to the point where they can be used as working languages. The fact that a recent phone-in radio show in Inuvik attracted callers from five different language groups shows the inherent capacity which exists, waiting to blossom. The momentum of the task force's endeavours is already evident and I know that all Members of this Assembly look forward to receiving the task force report when it is tabled.

There are the community language projects which will support community-based language research, and fluency and literacy training to residents. If you believe, as I do, that language mirrors the spirit and history of a people then these community projects provide a way of conserving and appreciating the thoughts of very special and particular language groups. In this respect, I want to pay tribute to the contribution of community groups and native cultural associations who have kept the flame burning for native languages through their support and inspiration. I must say that I am pleased that I will have the opportunity on this trip to visit the Dogrib community of Fort Rae, along with your Government Leader, and that I will be able to see at first hand the ways in which that community protects its cultural and linguistic heritage.

Role Of GNWT Departments

Additionally, we must consider the role of the various departments of your government, such as the Department of Culture and Communications, which will administer this language agreement. The Department of Education of the NWT also has a key role to play in using the funds the federal government is making available under the contribution agreement which is being signed today. The training of instructors in such languages as Inuvialuktun and Loucheux is crucial, as are the adult classes in Inuvialuktun and the publishing of grammars, clarifying the two dialects of that language. The Inuit children's television project is of particular interest, because if native languages are to flourish, they will require the active involvement of young people, who will carry the torch from one generation to the next.

The role of your Department of Information in expanding the language bureau is also critical in assuring the vitality of aboriginal languages, and I am happy that the federal government is able to contribute to enhancing its capacity. The tasks of improving access by aboriginal people to all levels of the public service and assisting non-profit aboriginal organizations in the Territories with their native language requirements touches a responsive chord because the federal government has gone through a similar process in regard to official languages. I am hoping that some of the positive experiences which we have had with regard to the official languages of Canada will serve as models for action on behalf of aboriginal languages.

The agreements being signed today between our two governments form a joint recognition of the importance of languages in our Canadian federation. Support of native languages is central to the social, cultural and economic development of Canada's northern peoples and the Government of Canada's view of how it may contribute to that evolution.

(French translation) Similarly, support of Canada's official languages is central to the development of the Canadian federation as a whole, and each part of the federation bears one part of the responsibility for its flowering. I therefore commend the Government of the NWT on its decision to introduce official bilingualism to the Northwest Territories.

Implementation Of Action Plan

I was pleased to meet with your Government Leader last December in Ottawa, and to reach also an agreement on the nature of the federal government's contribution to the action plan for official languages. I am very happy indeed to see the willingness of your government to promote simultaneously aboriginal languages and official languages. I am also pleased to note that the action plan does not deal solely with a legislative and judicial framework, but rather with the day to day service needs of real francophone people. We will be providing you with funding to hire a bilingual lawyer, a bilingual legislative draftsman and a consultant to prepare the bilingualism action plan. In addition, we will be seconding to your government an officer from the Secretary of State department to supervise the development of the action plan. After the plan is complete, my department will also take action to meet all translation requirements, and to provide any other collaborative measures which are needed.

I am already aware of the decision you have taken to extend by three years the implementation date for official bilingualism in the NWT. I think that, in view of the time limit imposed by the act, the administrative delays in finalizing the agreements and the dimensions of the task to be accomplished, this decision is realistic indeed. Nevertheless, I also understand from the honourable Government Leader that the extension will be coupled with the implementation of direct services to the francophone community. I commend you for appreciating that the need for services is paramount and for your desire and willingness to create a climate in which francophones may live their lives fully in their own linguistic ambience.

I want to point out that the form of co-operation which our two governments are entering into today is greatly attuned to the new orientation which I have been seeking in regard to official languages since becoming Secretary of State of Canada, that is, the carrying out of more joint projects with the provinces and territories in a spirit of partnership and of respect of the distinctive characteristics of each region. (French translation ends)

In my view, official languages and aboriginal languages play complementary roles in our federation. It is incumbent upon us as governments to give them the support which they require so that all Canadians, regardless of whether they speak the language of the majority, may be proud of the language spoken by their ancestors in this great land. In espousing a uniquely northern model of linguistic and cultural development, the Northwest Territories is contributing in a remarkable way to the preservation of social and cultural phenomena which would otherwise vanish from this country and from the world. That loss would leave all of us poorer.

The Government of Canada is proud to help in this important task of linguistic enhancement and cultural preservation. The initiatives being taken through the agreement we are about to sign, respond to the needs of young northern natives, while at the same time tapping the expertise and wealth of experience of the elders who hold so many of the wonders of their language within their own hands.

Over the next five years, our two governments will be watching with interest the gradual revitalization of aboriginal languages in the North. I look forward to signing the Canada/ Northwest Territories agreement on contributions for aboriginal languages which will give impetus to this revitalization process.

(Slavey translation) I thank you for your northern hospitality. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mahsi, Mr. Minister. (Translation) I understand that the Government Leader would like to make a short statement. Mr. Sibbeston.

The Government Leader's Reply To Hon. Benoit Bouchard

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: On behalf of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories, I would like to thank the Hon. Benoit Bouchard for gracing us with his presence here today. I hope that my efforts in a number of languages are as good as his.

Language and language rights are important and delicate matters to the people of the North. I want to publicly thank the Minister for his co-operation, assistance and encouragement in recent months when my officials and his met concerning this matter. Today he and I will be signing a very important agreement, to provide \$16 million over five years for the development and encouragement of aboriginal languages, to the Northwest Territories. We will also, as the Minister indicated, be undertaking a program to provide French language services to the francophone people in the North. And I am very glad for that. This agreement demonstrates the determination of both our governments and our desire, to preserve and promote the native languages and cultures in the North. I will say a few words in French, to pay my due respect to the Minister and the French-speaking people in the North.

(French translation) In recognizing the need to strengthen and foster aboriginal languages, we, as a government, have not abandoned our commitment to the introduction of French as an official language of the Northwest Territories. I would like to assure the Minister and the Members of this Assembly that our commitment to French remains. I am fully aware that members of the francophone community have been disappointed that official status for French must be delayed by three years. I perfectly understand this disappointment for it is very similar to that felt by our aboriginal people in 1984 when the Official Languages Act was first passed and they saw that their own languages were being by-passed and relegated to a secondary status.

When I became Government Leader I re-examined our position on languages and I was struck by two important things with respect to French. First, the commitment to provide translated documents required by the act was an onerous one and well beyond the capabilities of our government to achieve within the time frame set out in the act. Secondly, it seemed that we had focussed on the dry formalities of translating legislative documents, neglecting the living aspect of language -- its everyday use by people. So the decision was made to delay the formal requirements of official status until we were better equipped to handle them and to concentrate our efforts on providing basic services and basic information to people in French. Again, I would like to thank the Minister for his assistance in this matter. He has provided us with funds to hire bilingual lawyers and other staff so we can continue to work toward official status and at the same time can begin to provide basic services to French-speaking people in the North. (French translation ends)

(Inuktitut translation not available)

(Slavey translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I am happy to be speaking to you today. Later today I will be presenting here at the Legislative Assembly the report of the task force on aboriginal languages. It will be written in the aboriginal languages and English. I will be presenting them here. Later in the Assembly we will have an opportunity to review this report. I believe that the suggestions made by the task force are good ones and well worth the Members' consideration.

It is the long-term goal of the Executive Council to raise the aboriginal languages of the NWT to full official status. This will take a great deal of effort but I believe the final result will be worth it. Some day all people in the North, whether they speak English, French or one of the seven aboriginal languages, will be able to speak their own language and know they will be treated with respect and equality. This is a goal that can be achieved and that must be achieved. We have made a good start today.

I look forward to hearing the comments of Members of the House when we discuss the recommendations of the task force. I would also appreciate hearing from you, Mr. Bouchard, when you have had an opportunity to review the task force report. You have helped us a great deal in our efforts in this matter and I hope that you discover some suggestions. (Slavey translation ends)

...the agreement between the federal government and our government with respect to the funding of aboriginal languages again. Qujannamiik, mahsi cho, merci beaucoup and thank you.

---Applause

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): I would like to thank the Government Leader, Mr. Sibbeston, and also Mr. Bouchard for his presentation. The committee will recess for 15 minutes while Mr. Bouchard and Mr. Sibbeston sign the contribution agreement at the witness table. I will ask the Government Leader and Mr. Bouchard to proceed to the witness table. We will recess for 15 minutes until the chairman is called back. Thank you.

I would like to ask the Ministers to remain in their chairs while the agreements are being signed and the photographers are allowed to be inside the ropes while the signing is taking place. Thank you.

---SHORT RECESS

Can we have some order here please in the gallery? Order, order! The committee will now come back to order. Does the committee agree that the matter of the address by the Secretary of State of Canada is concluded?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): I will rise now and report progress. I would like to thank the Minister, the Hon. Benoit Bouchard.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan.

ITEM 16: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF ADDRESS BY HON. BENOIT BOUCHARD, SECRETARY OF STATE OF CANADA

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been hearing an address from the Secretary of State of Canada and wishes to report this matter concluded.

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. Thank you.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. We will return to the orders of the day, for Monday, March 10th.

Item 2, Members' replies.

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

ITEM 4: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 160-86(1): GNWT Contract Regulation

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question, Mr. Speaker, is for the Minister of Finance or, if he wishes, the Government Leader could respond. My question, Mr. Speaker, concerns the government contract regulations and some of the responses made in this Assembly last Friday regarding the reluctance of the Executive Council to provide reasons why a low bidder was not selected following a tender process. Last year, Mr. Speaker, the Auditor General of Canada, in his report to this Assembly...

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Speaker, point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Point of order, Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Speaker, my point of order is looking at the Hansard records, that some of the oral questions that are coming from Mr. MacQuarrie and Mr. Richard are very long. I studied the rules on oral questions this morning and I would like to point out to you that I think these oral questions are a bit too long.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. T'Seleie. I must say that I agree with you. I have attempted for the last five years to control oral questions without any success, because it was the will of this House that oral questions be allowed and that notice of oral questions be given. I have on occasions questioned the matter at hand, that the question was not a reasonable one and then have a Minister get up and give a full and complete answer -- he had it all ready. So I have found myself in a position that it is the will of the House, it has been and it has by way of precedent been allowed and I do not see that at this time it can be stopped. If anyone wants to have a change in rules, I would certainly like to see one, but at the present time and with the operations that we have had in the last four to five years, the questions are of normal lengths and procedures. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Auditor General pointed out in his report last year to the Assembly, referring to a particular contract in Fort Smith, that the government had not documented its reasons for accepting other than the low tender. The government responded to the Auditor General's report, indicating their agreement and that they would follow the regulations in that regard in the future. The public accounts committee made a similar recommendation to this Assembly last year. That recommendation was adopted by the Assembly, the recommendation being that the government, the Executive Council, should be following the regulations which require the reasons to be documented for awarding a contract to other than the low tender. That, Mr. Speaker, would appear to be at variance with some of the responses in this Assembly last Friday. And I would ask that the Minister of Finance or the Government Leader clarify for the public, that there are such regulations, that they are being adhered to.

The second part of my question, Mr. Speaker, lengthy though it may be, is that I have found now that last year around the time that the public accounts committee was considering the Auditor General's report, that the Government regulations were changed in fact, to delete the requirement, among other changes. The requirement was deleted for documenting reasons for awarding contracts to other than the low tender. And I would ask, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister or the Government Leader give some explanation as to why such a change in the contract regulations was made last year, when at the very time the Auditor General had drawn it to the attention of this Assembly and the public that in one instance the reasons had not been documented. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the Member for giving me brief notice of his question by way of a letter which I opened at 10:00 o'clock this morning. I will be studying this letter and also the text of his remarks of a few moments ago to see if there is anything additional to what I would be responding to at this time. I point out that the government does carry out its business in accordance with the contract regulations and there is both oral and written substantiation to such decisions in the Executive Council record.

The second part of the question dealt with regulations being deleted. The requirement does exist. It is a requirement of an Executive decision of the nature that we have been examining to be documented. That is the case. If there is anything further to the question that is being put to me, I will take the remainder as notice and provide a written reply with regard to the process.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not really clear. Are you saying you will reply further taking the question as notice?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Well, as Mr. T'Seleie pointed out, it was quite a long question so I will take a look at the record.

AN HON. MEMBER: Difficult question, not...

HON. TOM BUTTERS: No, it is not a difficult one, a simple answer.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I am assuming then for the sake of the record that you are taking the question as notice and will be replying in a written form. Oral questions. Mr. Paniloo.

Question 161-86(1): Land Application Process, Clyde River

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be asking a question directed to the Minister of Local Government. In my constituency they have been requesting platforms for houses and never have been answered. The people who requested last year have not received a response up until now. Is there any way you can get this process going a little bit faster because the hamlet usually approves and it does not take long? The paperwork that has been sent usually comes back. Perhaps you could get this process quicker than has been done previously. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am sorry but I did not get the question on the translation. It came across as the community requesting platforms. I really do not know what the Member is referring to. I am sorry.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Paniloo, would you try your question again?

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) The platforms for houses, foundations that have been requested by the people. It takes so long for them to get the piece of land that they have requested. Is there any way you could make this process quicker than it has been? That is my question.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand the Member is referring to land applications and the length of time taken to process those. We have within the department begun to streamline that section because there have been a number of complaints from all parts of the NWT about the length of time that it takes to get a land application processed. So we are in the process right now of streamlining that whole operation. Perhaps the Member can, at some point in time, give me the specific details on which communities and which people and I will see what I can do. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Is that satisfactory, Mr. Paniloo? Supplementary.

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. These are the problems coming from Clyde River. These people have been approved by the hamlet council. The government is taking an awful long time to respond to their requests. The four houses will be coming in during this upcoming season and that is the only problem. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Wray, I understand then that you are going to take this as notice and give us a reply later. Oral questions. Mrs. Lawrence.

Question 162-86(1): Composition Of Stanton Yellowknife Hospital Board

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister responsible for Health. I would like to know, what is the make-up of the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital Board and how are the board members selected and appointed in order to represent the communities? Mahsi cho.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is a good example of a written question. I will provide the names and number of people on the board to the Member. I will take that as notice. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is being taken as notice. Oral questions. Mr. T'Seleie.

Question 163-86(1): Response To Question Re Low Level Flying Activity Over NWT

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be brief. Two weeks ago, Friday the 21st, I had a written question, Question 42-86(1), to the Government Leader concerning low level flights. I would like to ask the Government Leader what is the delay in getting a return on that question and whether or not I can expect an answer this week?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 163-86(1): Response To Question Re Low Level Flying Activity Over NWT

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, the delay is simply the time it takes to get information from the Department of National Defence and I will take renewed steps and renew my efforts to provide the Member with a reply by the end of this week.

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

Question 164-86(1): Application By Iligiittut Ltd. For EDA Grant

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. Will the Minister confirm that Iligiittut Limited, a company which has been discussed in this House over the past week or so, applied for an EDA grant for a feasibility study for a 35 apartment complex in Rankin Inlet and applied for the grant for the feasibility study after the contract for the building was in the pocket and the piles were already in the ground?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I will take the question as notice and provide a reply later. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is being taken as notice. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Supplementary To Question 164-86(1): Application By Iligiittut Ltd. For EDA Grant

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a supplementary then, if the Minister in responding would indicate precisely when the application was made, how much it was for and the specific purpose which the company indicated the money would be spent on.

MR. SPEAKER: This is an example of where questions from an oral to a written situation get into some problem. He took notice of the question you gave him and then you have asked a supplementary of a question that notice has been taken of. It really does not work within the system properly. However, Mr. Minister, can you oblige in this particular instance?

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I will take the question as notice and take it into consideration. Thank you.

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

Question 165-86(1): Corrections To Tabled Document 37-86(1)

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is not really a question but I am asking the Minister for the correction of Tabled Document 37-86(1) which was tabled March 7, 1986, regarding constitutional and political development in the NWT. On the first diagram in Inuktitut, in this graph devolution and division are switched around here. Again in English there is Legislative Assembly and cabinet. In Inuktitut there is cabinet first and Legislative Assembly. Down on the bottom; western territory, Dene and Metis claim -- in Inuktitut it is the other way around again. TFN claim should be in the eastern territory not in the western territory. I wonder if the Minister could correct this for me and for the Inuit Members.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is, will a correction be made in this regard so that the paper is correct? Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 165-86(1): Corrections To Tabled Document 37-86(1)

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I must apologize to the Member that I was not aware of that error. I thank him for advising me of that and I will certainly take steps to have that corrected. Perhaps it might be appropriate that the discussion of this paper be put off until a correction can be made.

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

Question 166-86(1): Minister As Shareholder In Siniktarvik Ltd., Rankin Inlet

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Public Works. Could I ask the Minister whether he has ever held shares in a company called Siniktarvik Ltd.?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 166-86(1): Minister As Shareholder In Siniktarvik Ltd., Rankin Inlet

HON. GORDON WRAY: Mr. Speaker, yes I have and those were placed in a blind trust at the direction of the Department of Justice some two years ago. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. MacQuarrie.

Question 167-86(1): Definition Of Patronage

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will try to make the question brief, I am referring to a book called Department of Public Works and Highways, Yellowknife, Specification Project No. 835501, which is for upgrading a tank farm at Rankin Inlet. In the book, I find under supplemental general conditions for those who would tender, a couple of interesting sentences: "The contractors and all of his subcontractors agree not to establish or operate a facility to provide living accommodations or meals for the work force employed at the site. Commercial accommodation is available in the settlement from Siniktarvik Ltd. at the Rankin Inlet Lodge, phone 819-645-2807." Could I ask the Minister whether that incident would fit within his dictionary definition of patronage that he supplied to the House the other day?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Shame!

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

MR. SPEAKER: Privilege, Mr. Wray.

Point Of Privilege

HON. GORDON WRAY: Mr. Speaker, I am going to take this question under advisement because what the Member has referred to is a direct charge against me as a Member of this House in participating in patronage. Once again the Member is coming to this House with false information. What he sees there is normal standard practice and has been for years. It is covered under the government's commercial accommodation policy. If he picked a document from Baker Lake he would find Iglu Hotel; if he picked one from Eskimo Point he would find Tugalik; if he picked one from Pangnirtung he would find Pangnirtung Hotel. It is a policy of this government that has been in place for a number of years. In fact he is not quite correct because there is an addendum to that contract which also lists the Keewatin Guest Lodge...

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, Mr. Wray. This is a question.

HON. GORDON WRAY: My point, Mr. Speaker, is that he has made a charge in this House and I ask the Member if he would withdraw that remark.

MR. SPEAKER: There has been a request on the honourable Member's part for withdrawal. Have you a comment?

MR. MacQUARRIE: Mr. Speaker, can I ask that you check the record? I ask whether this example fits within the Minister's own definition of patronage that he supplied to the House.

MR. SPEAKER: I will take the point of privilege as notice and look the matter up and give you a reply no later than tomorrow. Oral questions. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Supplementary To Question 167-86(1): Definition Of Patronage

MR. MacQUARRIE: Supplementary to that and in response to the comments of the Minister, I am aware of the addendum that the Minister referred to, dated February 27, 1986. I would ask the Minister whether in bringing about this addendum which lists other businesses as well, does that not confirm

that there were other businesses available that could have provided food and lodgings and is the Minister aware that the addendum, February 27th, is two days after questions were asked in this House about contracting in the Keewatin?

MR. SPEAKER: That question would fall under the same note of privilege with regard to a slur and intimidation and I will rule on that by tomorrow. Mr. Wray, do you wish to answer?

Return To Question 167-86(1): Definition Of Patronage

HON. GORDON WRAY: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I do, because I wish to answer the shameful conduct that has been shown by the Member in this regard. The Keewatin Guest Lodge was not known to our officials as a facility that could provide accommodation to large construction crews. It is not listed in the NWT Business Directory and in fact only shows up in the Explorer's Guide as bed and breakfast in the home of a certain individual. It was not a facility that we considered as a commercial facility for large construction crews. The owner, however, phoned the Department of Public Works on the 24th of February and the addendum was made on the 27th of February, the day on which the contract was extended until March 12th. So everything that was done, again, was done in accordance with government regulations and was above board. I do not know what the Member is trying to allude to, but I do regard his conduct as being shameful and undignified to this House. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. MacQuarrie.

Question 168-86(1): Reasons For Referring Contract Bid To Executive Council

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A different question for the Minister of Public Works. On Friday, March 7th, I had asked the Minister, in Question 157-86(1), why he had decided to take to the Executive Council the matter of not giving a low bid to Arctic Star Distributors in the matter of a rehabilitation contract. The Minister said "In this particular case, I looked at it and felt that for reasons which I will not disclose, it was worth taking this to the Executive Council", and the Minister refused on the basis that there is Executive Council confidentiality. Mr. Speaker, I would like to put the question again to the Minister and put it in this way. There was a time, Mr. Minister, before this became a matter for Executive Council discussions, a time when you as a Minister decided that you ought to take it to the Executive Council, therefore no Executive confidentiality applies at that point and I ask you very specifically, Mr. Minister, what reasons did you have for deciding to take this matter to the Executive Council to ask them not to grant the contract to the low bidder but to someone else instead?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will take the question under notice.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is being taken as notice. Oral questions. Mr. T'Seleie.

Question 169-86(1): Applications For Position Of Assistant Interpreter-Translator

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Culture and Communications and it concerns the recent job ad that went out in my constituency for the hiring of an assistant interpreter-translator for my region. Since the ad has gone out, constituents have been phoning me regarding the requirement which is stipulated in the job ad. That requirement is that applicants should have a grade 10. I would like to ask the Minister whether or not he will consider extending the deadline on the closing of applications since there are potential applicants who have not applied for this position because the job ad has stipulated that grade 10 is a requirement. I would like to ask the Minister whether or not he would consider extending the deadline for the closing of the application on this job advertisement.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Yes, I will consider that and I will advise the Member of the outcome of my considerations within a day or two.

MR. SPEAKER: Taking the question as notice. Mr. T'Seleie.

Supplementary To Question 169-86(1): Applications For Position Of Assistant Interpreter-Translator

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to also request that the Minister ensure that for this job there is someone on the selection board who speaks the Slavey language since it seems to me that the job requires that there be someone on the selection board who is fluent enough in Slavey to be able to judge the proper qualifications of the applicants.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 169-86(1): Applications For Position Of Assistant Interpreter-Translator

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will take that as a separate question and provide the Member with my assurance that that will be done not only in this case but it will be departmental policy to have a fully bilingual person on all interviews for aboriginal language positions. Thank you.

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

Question 170-86(1): Resurfacing Of Access Road To Fort Providence

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Highways. I have just come back from Fort Providence, Mr. Speaker, and the resurfacing of the access road to Fort Providence I understand has been cancelled. Also, I would like to say, Mr. Speaker, that the expenditure of these particular moneys has already been approved by the committee. Yet this resurfacing program has been cancelled. I would like to ask the Minister what possible rationale he has for the cancellation of that resurfacing program. Also, whether there is going to be any type of calcium program or if that is cancelled because I understand even that is not possible now.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will have to take that question under notice. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being taken as notice. Oral questions. Mr. Wah-Shee.

Question 171-86(1): Representation On NWT Business Council

MR. WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Economic Development. I wonder if the Minister could indicate whether he will entertain more members on the NWT Business Council. Will the Minister be prepared to involve the native corporations on that particular council?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I think by way of response, I would like to assure the Member that I am at the moment reviewing the representations as well as the terms of office of the members which are expiring shortly. My officials and I are reviewing the process and will be consulting with the caucus before the decisions are made. I have not at the moment brought forward the reappointments to the board. I know there has been one resignation so far on the business council. I would like to take the Member's concern into consideration as I review the proposal and would like to assure him that I will be bringing the matter, before too long, to the caucus for advice. Thank you.

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

Question 172-86(1): Response To Question Re Investigation Of Contract To Iligiittut Ltd.

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For the Government Leader. The Government Leader had indicated, I think on Friday, that he was considering whether he would call for an investigation into the matter as to whether the government had been misled in granting a contract to Iligiittut Limited with respect to leased accommodation in Rankin Inlet and the Government Leader indicated that perhaps today he would be able to answer that question so could I ask whether he has made a decision to proceed with an investigation or whether he is still considering?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 172-86(1): Response To Question Re Investigation Of Contract To Iligiittut Ltd.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I am able to tell the Member that I did state once that at this stage I am not prepared to have an investigation conducted into the matter. I did assure the Member that I would extensively review the matter and I am doing so. I will advise the Member as soon as I can on the results of my review.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. This appears to conclude oral questions for today.

Item 5, written questions. Are there any written questions? Item 6, returns. Mr. Curley.

ITEM 6: RETURNS

Return To Question 138-86(1): Economic Planner For Fort Good Hope

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Return to written Question 138-86(1), asked by Mr. T'Seleie on March 3, 1986.

The community-based economic development planning program of the EDA domestic market subagreement provides funding to communities and/or regional development organizations to hire an economic planner. Up to 100 per cent of the approved costs, to a maximum of \$75,000, is available to communities participating in the program.

An application has been received by the EDA secretariat from the Fort Good Hope Dene community council. Approval is expected before the end of April, 1986. Since funding will be provided directly to the community, the Dene community council should take the lead role in selecting an appropriate candidate. It is a normal condition of the program that the regional superintendent of Economic Development and Tourism approve selection. It is also a normal condition of the program that the selected candidate live in the community in which he or she will be working. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Returns. Mr. Pedersen.

Return To Question 129-86(1): Fish Contamination

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to written Question 129-86(1), asked by Mr. T'Seleie on February 28th, about the lower Mackenzie River fish study.

The Department of Renewable Resources is fully aware of the problem with poor quality fish being caught in the lower Mackenzie River. As a member of the Norman Wells project joint environmental working group, the department has been kept informed of the study presently being undertaken by the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the Dene Nation.

Poor quality fish were first observed by people of Fort Good Hope and Arctic Red River in 1983. Since that time the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans has taken some preliminary fish samples from the Fort Good Hope area which indicated that there is a problem with the physiological condition and quality of some of the fish. Further sampling by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans in April, 1985 found that three of 16 burbot caught, had livers in poor condition. That same month the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the Dene Nation entered into a joint agreement to undertake a major study to investigate the abnormalities being found in the Mackenzie River fish. In October 1985, fish were sampled from waters near Arctic Red River, Fort Good Hope, Fort Simpson and Fort Franklin. A minimum of 15 burbot and 15 whitefish were collected. Laboratory dissections of the fish samples to determine quality and physiological condition are now taking place. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans has stated that all the samples will not be analysed in detail until the summer of 1986.

A total of \$110,000 has been committed by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada to this project. Preliminary results of the study indicate that there is a relationship between the poor liver condition found in burbot and a liver parasite. Before taking any further fish samples, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans wants to wait until all samples have been analysed in detail. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans has assured the Dene Nation that they will continue to study Mackenzie River fish as long as there is a problem. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Returns. Mr. McLaughlin.

Return To Question 153-86(1): Funding For Aulatsivik Centre In Cape Dorset

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to Question 153-86(1), asked by Mr. Arlooktoo on March 5, 1986, regarding funding for a centre in Cape Dorset.

Kingait Aulatsivik has been funded as a community alcohol and drug project in Cape Dorset since 1983, through the National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program of Health and Welfare Canada. The level of funding in 1985-86 is \$89,416. The Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council of the Northwest Territories which has the mandate to recommend funding of community projects has recently recommended that the Cape Dorset project receive \$140,183 in fiscal year 1986-87. This includes an amount of \$12,753 for rent and utilities and \$2666 for office supplies and equipment.

Officials in my department met with representatives of the project on March 4, 1986, at which time the project representatives expressed their satisfaction with the proposed budget including space allotment and equipment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Returns. Mr. Patterson.

Further Return To Question 95-86(1): Funding For Community Hall, Hall Beach

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to Question 95-86(1), asked February 26th by Mr. Erkloo, respecting the Hall Beach recreational centre.

On February 26th the Minister of Local Government was asked if Hall Beach was going to get a new recreational centre. He replied that this proposed project was transferred to the Baffin Divisional Board of Education and that Education and Local Government were looking into the matter but that no funds had been identified.

Although operation of the Hall Beach school has been turned over to the divisional board, capital projects like this have not. Originally, a multipurpose hall was planned for 1987-88, but because of the community gym policy this project was delayed until 1989-90 when the new school is to be built. A total of \$4.5 million is identified in our capital plan for the school project. The new school will include a community gym, home economics and industrial arts facilities, a resource centre and five classrooms.

Return To Question 94-86(1): Teacher/Interpreter To Be Full-Time Employee

I have another return, Mr. Speaker, to a question asked by Mr. Paniloo. (Translation) It has something to do with Mary Kilabuk. Mary Kilabuk is an employee of the Pangnirtung education council. As such, the terms of her employment are the responsibility of the Baffin Divisional Board of Education and the Pangnirtung education council. I will therefore ask the divisional board to look into the matter and provide you with a response.

According to my information, Ms Kilabuk is not a teacher but is secretary-treasurer for the local education council. She is currently paid as a full-time employee.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Returns. Mr. McLaughlin.

Return To Question 105-86(1): Trainees In Health Programs

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to oral Question 105-86(1), asked by Mrs. Lawrence on February 27th, regarding training opportunities for health programs.

Information provided through Department of Education programs indicates 28 NWT residents, one of whom is native, presently are studying outside the Territories in health related careers.

Under the auspices of the federal Indian and Inuit health careers program, four native Inuvik Region students are attending Old Sun College for a bridging program which began January 1986. The bridging program will last 18 months and will prepare the students for entry into their chosen health career program.

There are 12 native persons who have been identified who wish to upgrade their education in preparation for health careers. At the present time Old Sun provides the only bridging program appropriate for health career entrance and they will only take five NWT students every 18 months. The availability of upgrading programs is essential for the success of health career promotion for native persons.

There is a health careers advisor trainee who has recently been hired who reports to medical services branch, NWT. One native student is sponsored by the northern careers program at Blue Quill in Saskatchewan for certified nursing assistant training.

The GNWT health training bursary program which provides tuition and/or expenses for studies to assist persons interested in furthering or obtaining a career in health care is supporting 13 NWT residents but none of the students are native.

Mr. Speaker, the full reply lists all of those people and the courses they are taking. The Department of Health and the Department of Education are working together to reach a final agreement with the University of Manitoba regarding an initiative to provide positions for native students, two for pre-medical program and two for medical school. Applications are required by April, 1986 and Mr. Speaker, the details concerning those positions are also in the full written text.

The Baffin board is currently working with the Department of Education to provide a training program for certified nursing assistant students. The Baffin Regional Hospital would be the students' base for clinical experience and they would be recruited to the hospital staff following successful completion of the program. The ophthalmic training program currently has two students registered in this two year program. One of the students is native. The Arctic College program for nursing assistants currently has nine students, five of whom are native. Clinical experience is based at the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McLaughlin, are you going to be tabling that document or is that a written return?

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I believe it was indicated once before that reading the full text was unnecessary as long as the reference was made to the details. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Fine, then you will be tabling that. Thank you. Returns. Mr. Pedersen.

Return To Question 152-86(1): Audit Of HTA Funds

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to written Question 152-86(1), asked by Mr. Angottitauruq on March 5th, regarding an audit of hunters and trappers associations' funds.

The contribution agreements with hunters and trappers associations and outpost camps require that they submit an annual financial statement to the superintendent of Renewable Resources. In addition, most of the HTAs are registered as societies, which means that to comply with the Societies Act, they must hold an annual meeting at which their financial statements are presented for approval to the membership. If the members of an HTA feel that there is a problem with accountability, either at this time or during the year, they may bring their concerns to the superintendent of Renewable Resources. He may then ask the HTA to obtain an audit or provide another suitable accounting for the funds. The superintendent has the authority to request that the HTA provide an audited financial statement if he believes that it is necessary, even if the members have not expressed a concern. The department does not demand a formal audit each year because of the high cost relative to the amount of money given to each HTA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

ITEM 8: REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

First Report Of Special Committee On Rules, Procedures And Privileges

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to present the first report of the special committee on rules, procedures and privileges. For the benefit of the Member for Sahtu and other Members, Mr. Speaker, I will not be reading the entire report. This committee, Mr. Speaker, was established last October and has had a number of meetings already. The committee solicited submissions from other Members. Matters were referred to the committee by the Management and Services Board, by the Speaker, by the Clerk and by caucus. The committee also invited comments from members of the media on various matters affecting the role of the media in the Assembly. Mr. Speaker, this is the first report; an interim report only. The committee wished to make a number of recommendations at this time, principally changes to our existing rules, many of those being minor changes. The committee will continue with deliberations on a number of major issues within its terms of reference: in particular, conflict of interest; questions of confidence; questions of privilege; the role of the committees of this Assembly; and the televising of proceedings of the Assembly and other matters.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to acknowledge at this time, the work and dedication of the committee staff, the Clerk, Mr. Hamilton; the secretary, Gail Mrazek; and the researcher, Mr. Schauerte, for their long hours and hard work which enabled the committee, Mr. Speaker, to present its first report at this time.

Motion That First Report Of Special Committee On Rules, Procedures And Privileges Be Received And Referred To Committee Of The Whole, Carried

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Member for Slave River, that the first report of the special committee on rules, procedures and privileges, be received by the Assembly and referred to committee of the whole for discussion. Thank you.

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

---Carried

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

ITEM 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 40-86(1), Science Institute of the Northwest Territories, Investigation of the Viability of a Remote Wind/Hydro-electric Power Supply in the Northwest Territories.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Tabled Document 41-86(1), Annual Contracts Report, 1984-85 Fiscal Year, Northwest Territories Housing Corporation. Thank you.

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

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, I would like to table Tabled Document 42-86(1), The Report of the Task Force on Aboriginal Languages, in the English version. It is written in seven different languages. Richard Nerysoo is the one that has started this task force, so I would like to thank him. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Tabling of documents. That appears to conclude tabling of documents for today. Mr. Sibbeston.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, in tabling the report, I thought it might be a good time to recognize the task force members who have provided and produced this report. So with your concurrence and approval, can I ask that they be recognized?

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to recognize the task force who put the document together. Welcome to the House.

---Applause

Tabling of documents. Item 10, notices of motion. Mr. Sibbeston.

ITEM 10: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 19-86(1): Report Of Task Force On Aboriginal Languages To Committee Of The Whole

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, March 12th, I will move the following motion: I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Aivilik, that the report of the task force on aboriginal languages be moved into committee of the whole.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Notices of motion.

Item 11, notices of motion for first reading of bills. Item 12, motions. Motion 17-86(1), Sitting Hours. Mr. Butters.

ITEM 12: MOTIONS

Motion 17-86(1): Sitting Hours, Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS it has been the practice of this House to permit the Speaker, when required, to set sitting hours of the House at his discretion;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nahendeh, that the Speaker be authorized to set such additional sitting hours as he may consider necessary in order to effectively carry out and conclude the business before the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Butters, do you wish to speak to it? Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Item 12, motions.

Item 13, first reading of bills. Item 14, second reading of bills. Mr. Butters.

ITEM 14: SECOND READING OF BILLS

Second Reading Of Bill 11-86(1): Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 3, 1985-86

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nahendeh, that Bill 11-86(1), An Act Respecting Supplementary Appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the Fiscal Year Ending the 31st Day of March, 1986, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to make supplementary appropriations and to reduce certain previous appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1986.

MR. SPEAKER: To the principle of the bill. Ready for the question?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 11-86(1) has had second reading.

---Carried

Second reading of bills. Mr. Wray.

Second Reading Of Bill 12-86(1): Taxation Act

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, that Bill 12-86(1), An Act to Amend the Taxation Act, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to amend the Taxation Act to provide for the supplementary assessment and taxation of real property, and to divide real property into different classes to allow for the application of different mill rates to those classes. Thank you.

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? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 12-86(1) has had second reading. Second reading of bills. Mr. Butters, you have three if you would like to take the three in a row.

Second Reading Of Bill 13-86(1): Write-Off Of Assets And Debts Act, 1985-86

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Thank you, sir. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kivallivik, that Bill 13-86(1), An Act Respecting the Write-off of Assets and Debts for the Fiscal Year Ending the 31st Day of March, 1986, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker is to write off certain assets owned by and debts owed to the Government of the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the principle of the bill. Ready for the question?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried. Bill 13-86(1) has had second reading.

---Carried

Bill 14-86(1).

Second Reading Of Bill 14-86(1): Revolving Funds Act

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife North, that Bill 14-86(1), An Act to Establish Certain Revolving Funds and to Set the Limit of Revolving Funds, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to establish certain revolving funds; to set a limit for each revolving fund; and to terminate certain existing revolving funds.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the principle of the bill. Ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 14-86(1) has had second reading.

---Carried.

Bill 15-86(1).

Second Reading Of Bill 15-86(1): Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1986-87

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nahendeh, that Bill 15-86(1), An Act Respecting Supplementary Appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the Fiscal Year Ending the 31st Day of March, 1987, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to make supplementary appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1987.

MR. SPEAKER: To the principle of the bill.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 15-86(1) has had second reading.

---Carried

Bills 11-86(1), 12-86(1), 13-86(1), 14-86(1) and 15-86(1) are ordered into committee of the whole. Item 15, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Tabled Document 37-86(1), Constitutional and Political Development in the Northwest Territories; and Bill 1-86(1), Appropriation Act, 1986-87, with Mr. Wah-Shee in the chair.

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

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 1-86(1), APPROPRIATION ACT, 1986-87

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): The committee will come to order. We are dealing with the Tabled Document 37-86(1), Constitutional and Political Development in the Northwest Territories. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, while the document was moved into the committee of the whole by committee motion, I do believe there was an earlier agreement by Members that possibly we could deal with the budget first. The government would be willing to see the constitutional development document set down until the appropriation Bill 1-86(1) is concluded. I believe we have three departments, Economic Development and Tourism, Justice, and the Housing Corporation with the EMR Secretariat and the housing board thrown in between. So might I ask unanimous consent, sir, if that could be done? We would deal now with the Department of Economic Development and put this constitutional paper to the end of the budget document.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Minister, I would like to point out to you that there has been no previous agreement with regard to what comes on the order of things in committee of the whole. I would like to point out that you are the ones making this request to the committee to make this an agreement. So you are technically wrong there. This is just a correction. The committee is being requested for unanimous consent to change the order of things under the committee of the whole. The committee is being asked that Tabled Document 37-86(1) be delayed, to deal with it after we have dealt with Bill 1-86(1). Is that agreed? Unanimous consent. Any nays? Thank you. Unanimous consent has been given.

---Agreed

Department Of Economic Development And Tourism

We are dealing with Bill 1-86(1), Department of Economic Development and Tourism. Page 16.02. Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a point of order. Could I ask the government House Leader if the document on constitutional development and aboriginal rights is the first document after the budget? Is that correct?

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, that is the suggestion I made. It would immediately follow the appropriation bill, Bill 1-86(1).

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): The committee has already agreed to that. We are dealing with the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. I would like to ask the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism whether he is prepared at this time to make any opening remarks? Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman. May I proceed now?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Yes.

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you. (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Briefly, I will speak in Inuktitut. We are happy to present the Department of Economic Development and Tourism main estimates. We would like to hear your opinions on how we can better the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. We will be listening to your opinions. Last week I thought we were going to deal with this when the regional employees were here in town. We are happy to present this and you will have an opportunity to ask questions. (Translation ends)

The Northwest Territories is facing very uncertain times and it is likely that in future years the down-turn in the oil and gas sector and the mining sector will place a severe strain on our economy. The oil and gas industry in the Beaufort, alone, spends \$105 million a year in the North on goods and services. Even a partial drop in this revenue, coupled with any temporary or short-term closure of any mine, would impact severely on employment and northern business revenue. In addition, we know for example, that there will be at least 845 new entrants a year to the labour force over the next decade. From these numbers, Mr. Chairman, it is clear to me that without new co-operative measures by the Government of the NWT to stimulate new businesses and investment in all sectors of the economy, we will be faced with the worst unemployment situation in modern times.

I have given a great deal of thought in recent months as to how we, as a government, can respond to this challenge and it is clear to me that it requires the full co-operation of all departments and the private sector. In the past year I have seen several examples of this co-operation between my department and other departments in creating new jobs and opportunities for northerners. For example, we have instances of close co-operation with the Department of Renewable Resources on country food processing and commercial fishing, and with the Department of Public Works on the local hire of native northerners. This co-operative environment must continue and increase in the future to provide a more stable and diversified economic base in all regions.

On March 5th, members of the NWT Business Council and I met with Hon. David Crombie in Inuvik. A number of items were raised with him that related to the northern economy: specifically, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation -- federal government -- the lack of mortgage guarantees for multiple housing units and the concern about co-operatives and while there is a need to support them, it must be based on sound business practices; the progress toward the devolution of NCPC; the benefits to northerners from the recent budget; the very real problems businesses are facing with the insurance industry; the benefits obtained from the present economic development agreement and the need for further funding for a three year extension presently being negotiated; the North warning system, employment and business benefits for northerners; the devolution of federal programs to the territorial government; and the general state of the oil and gas industry.

Mr. Chairman, I can assure the Members of the House, the frank discussion with the Minister of Indian Affairs and the NWT Business Council, was useful in the respect that it is helpful to the government as well, for providing advice as to what kind of strategy we should be adopting to deal with the concerns of the business world.

Initiatives Introduced Last Year

Mr. Chairman, I have instructed my officials to continue with the program initiatives I introduced last year which have been successful in stimulating economic growth and employment, which have been well-received by the private sector. I speak specifically of the establishment of regional loan boards, the commercial fishing assistance and forest assistance policies, new venture capital program and hospitality and management training programs. In submitting the Department of Economic Development and Tourism budget, I have included the successful programs, an initiative from last year which I would like to continue and perhaps expand in the coming year. In addition the department will endeavour to stimulate investment in northern economy through participating in international conferences and by promoting the NWT to national and international investors. We will also be promoting trade from the NWT to the rest of Canada and to international markets. The new venture capital program will greatly assist us in stimulating the economy of smaller communities, by encouraging investment in those areas.

Beaufort Industry Group '85 produced a number of joint ventures and BIG '86 is generating a lot of interest. My initiatives also include the ongoing provision of management and entrepreneurial training program for northern businessmen. The privatization and business incentive policies, which this government has already embarked upon, should expand business opportunities for

northerners and over the next several years my staff will be working closely with officials of the North warning system to ensure northern benefit from the job and business opportunities arising from the construction and maintenance of this project. This government's involvement in Expo '86 reflects our commitment to tourism, arts and crafts and renewable resource sectors of the economy which are the most stable sectors and sectors which I believe we can build upon in future years. Programs introduced last year will enhance spin-off benefits resulting from Expo and I will be planning new initiatives in the coming year to complement our existing programs and further strengthen these industries.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, the present economic outlook for the NWT is uncertain and although the task is enormous, I am optimistic that with the full co-operation and support of my colleagues, we can stabilize the situation and go on to strengthen and diversify the economy to the benefit of all northerners. The approval of this \$27.1 million budget will reaffirm your support. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Would the Minister like to invite any witnesses before the table?

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, if I could have agreement to introduce my deputy minister and our senior financial adviser to the witness table with me.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Mr. Minister would you identify your witnesses for the record, please?

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, on my right is the deputy minister of Economic Development and Tourism, Mr. Michael Stilwell. On my left, Mr. Bill Graham, financial adviser to the department.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. General comments. We are dealing with the Department of Economic Development and Tourism on page 16.02. General comments. Mr. McCallum.

Policy On Privatization

MR. MCCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The comments I want to deal with first and foremost, Mr. Chairman, deal with the role of the Department of Economic Development as a co-ordinator of the Executive Council's policy on privatization. During the review of the department at the standing committee on finance, and I guess with every department that came before the committee, this might have been the first question that was raised of each of the departments. That is, how each department is responding to the government policy of what could be turned over to private business in each of the departments. I think it is safe to say, for Members of the committee, that there were some departments who were doing something in preparing to meet this goal or policy, while there were others that were not very far along in the process. In fact one could say generally the departmental responses were hesitant, if you like, or cautious in their approach to privatization.

The committee obviously agrees that there has to be some kind of cost benefit analysis done about what can be privatized and what cannot. I recognize that very much myself because of the number of long-term and long-time members of the Public Service Association in the government whose positions could possibly be in jeopardy if there was a wholesale approach to privatization. There are certain things I think that can be turned over to the private sector but it has to be done, in my opinion, with a lot of thought behind it. It is not just a swing from what is now in vogue to a wholesale changeover to privatization. I know that there are many initiatives taken by various government departments about turning things over to private business or to organizations or to corporations or whatever. I raise it now, Mr. Chairman, because it is the Department of Economic Development's role to co-ordinate, as I understand it, the whole approach to this policy of the government; to solicit from various departments some comments or some strategy as to what each department could do to meet whatever the policy of privatization is. The Minister obviously will have conflicting views given to him and it will present some problem, I would expect, for the Minister and his department, to try to bring about a consistent policy within the government as to what could be turned over to the private sector, especially with affirmative action, as opposed to those who are now as I say long-term, long-time public service people.

New Regional Economic Development Agreement

I have some concern as well, Mr. Chairman, with how the department is developing the new regional economic development agreement. I think that is the proper term, it used to be just an economic development agreement. The old EDA was restricted to three particular subagreements, one of which was really the sole responsibility of the federal government. There would be some play on behalf of the territorial government, but one of them, I think it is in human resources, that was the sole responsibility of the federal government, with some input from the territorial government. In the discussions on this department in the standing committee on finance, this particular topic was raised, with the hope that the government would not only deal with two or three subagreements, but the government would take some initiatives to take a look at new and distinctive subagreements that would have more responsibility of the territorial government.

There has been some concern of course that the government under the past agreement, EDA, was cost sharing some federal responsibilities. The subsidiary agreements then that the department would be negotiating with the federal government, hopefully on the same kind of financial arrangement, was a concern to the Members of the standing committee on finance. I would hope that as we go through the department that the Minister would be able to give us some idea as to what are some of these new initiatives; what kind of new subagreements could be brought into the new regional economic development agreement that would allow for greater participation of northerners. I think the participation of northerners in certain aspects of the agreement in the past, was at some time stifled by the kind of red tape that various organizations, individuals or businesses had to go through. I would hope that these hoops or maze would be brought into a condition whereby there would be easy access to some of these agreements. I recognize that it was a new kind of agreement and the government had to learn, had to go through things and work these out.

I would want to get some kind of comment from the Minister, Mr. Chairman, specifically on those two areas. There may be other areas as we go through various parts of the budget itself that would come to the fore, that Members would want to comment on. I would like some idea or some comment from the Minister on this whole business of privatization and the new regional economic development agreement. Thank you.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know the comments are somewhat long but I will try to be specific with the two major items. One is the privatization policy.

Mr. Chairman, I think the Member does know that the department has been co-ordinating the formulation of the policy which is now in place. This is mainly the umbrella policy to guide the government in privatizing some of its services and enterprises to the private sector, either by way of contracting them to the private sector or selling them off to the private sector.

Process Of Move Toward Privatization

I think the one area which is important for me to point out, is that the umbrella policy does have a provision where it wishes to protect the positions and the security of the personnel, as we move toward privatization of these programs or services to the private sector. If I may go on, Mr. Chairman, we also were charged with co-ordinating departmental plans brought forward to the Executive Council for further detailed consideration, before the deputy ministers and the regional committees are actually charged with the implementation of the plan. It is not because of the reluctance of the department that this delay has occurred. It has taken a lot more time than estimated to identify and assess exactly what the impact of the government would be, as we move toward the privatization of many of the major programs and services carried out by the government. I can assure you that we have received five complete plans from major departments in the government and we are waiting for four other departments which are now completing their drafts. Once these are fully completed I have been asked to bring them before the Executive Council. Once the Executive Council has dealt with these plans it will be then up to the Ministers in their departments to deal with the privatization of some of these programs that they wish to move ahead with.

Commitment To Not Jeopardize Existing Positions

I wish to be clear that our department will not be co-ordinating all the privatization of these services because it is up to the Minister and his deputy minister to work with the regions, as well as the regional committees that are being formed or will be formed in all the regions to

co-ordinate implementation, as well as dealing with the criteria that will be used to privatize. We are just as anxious as anybody else to complete the plan but most important I think the government is aware of the fact that we do not wish to jeopardize the personnel and my department, as the co-ordinator, is committed. We in no way wish to jeopardize these positions that are already there but I know there are concerns out there with the unions and members of the public service and so on. I think it is going to be important for all of us, as Ministers in the government, to ensure that we do protect these positions and if at all possible seek security and ensure that their jobs are not terminated. I would think that is going to be up to each department and the Minister to fully interpret what and how it will affect their department, when it relates to the personnel.

As for EDA, I think Members are well aware of the fact that we have been able to extend the approval process for another year and we are at the moment in full consultation and negotiations are being carried out with the development of program proposals with the federal department. We have a number of new items that we are proposing to include in the new agreement that would be put into force on April 1st, 1987. That is the key date. There have been a number of federal Ministers meeting along with the provincial Ministers to try and iron out the criteria and funding formula. Presently, because of the agreement reached with Indian Affairs, we have had a good formula as to the federal commitment with the territorial, which was based on 90/10. We have been directed by the Executive Council to try and ensure that we do get at least the 90/10 formula with our new agreement. It is a bit too early in the game to find out whether or not we will be able to achieve that with the new agreement.

New Items In Agreement.

For your information, I think it is important that we do have the six new items that we are proposing to the federal ERDA, or if not it would be an EDA. One is a business development subagreement, arts and crafts is another item, and a tourism subagreement. We are also putting forward a proposal for a minerals development agreement and renewable resources and applied economic planning that would be an expanded planning and implementing program I would think. So without going any further, Mr. Chairman, we will be prepared to deal with it as we go on. Thank you.

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

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the areas that we talked about in the review of this committee, in the area of tourism and parks, as it related to the new regional economic development agreement, was the idea of access roads. I would hope that within part of that tourism subagreement that the department would bring forward that particular concern. The chairman of the standing committee on finance I am sure has a resolution from the committee on that, that he will be making later. I would like to just look at a couple of issues. One of them dealt with the lack of policies for the expenditure of funding under priority funding that was raised last year. It was a concern, not only with this department but with other departments, that there was priority funding and we were asked to vote on that as a committee, but there were no policies set up for controls laying down certain specific conditions about the allocation of these funds. I would hope that the department, not only this department but other departments, have now developed policies that will address that particular issue so that Members of the committee, when they are voting on these funds, are assured that the government is allocating public funds in accordance with certain specified policies.

One other area I would like to discuss or have the Minister comment on, Mr. Chairman, is in the whole area of the development of a plan or strategy for total economic development within the North. Within his department especially and with the new economic development agreement there are certain particular initiatives, some existing programs, some new ones that he is talking about, directions to stimulate some kind of economic or business resource development that he talks about in terms of the new ERDA, all of these with the idea of trying to develop a master plan for the economic development of the Territories in total. If this really is the goal of the department, using all these particular factors, can the Minister indicate to me whether he has some idea of what this particular plan will be or a policy to integrate all the initiatives that are going on, to co-ordinate it into one master plan? I wonder if the Minister could maybe comment further on that. Thank you.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think just to reassure the Member as to the new subagreement that we are negotiating with the federal government, I think it is important to note that the point that you raise, the access roads through tourism and parks is one that has been well-documented and it is proposed that there will be funding for access road development in the parks. Again, it is subject to federal approval. I can assure you, as well as promoting tourism development, we also integrated a tourism infrastructure program for the EDA as one of the items that you might be interested in.

As to the number of programs, I think the Member is well-informed. As for the concerns of the standing committee on finance last year, when we were asked to shape up or clean up our various programs that we offer in terms of policy development, I think we can say in confidence that we have done that, except maybe with some of the short-term projects like entrepreneurial training. This is a bit complicated because my colleague over there, Mr. Patterson, is in charge of education and training and therefore any programs that our department is sponsoring must have full support and blessing from his department before we can even attempt to sell it or carry on a training package and so on in communities. So our department in that regard was only able to get the program outline and provision of the service, that is going to be offered through this training project, approved and considered by the Executive Council. Because of the Fort Smith experience we were able to find out some technique that we think could work better in the Eastern Arctic. So as a result, my department did not as a whole, have a policy that we would like to develop in off-shore. But as far as the overall policies and financial programs that we have, the Member is right.

Policy Planning

Our policy planning group is continuing to access and review those programs. And at the moment I think it is timely because the Executive Council has been charged with appointing a task force to try and see whether or not the government as a whole can reshape policies in order to better reflect some of our operations. And we are also impacted by that. We are going to by next year, or at least before long, have to try and focus our policies and ensure that they are effective in dealing with the northern economy. As for the internal work that is going on, my deputy would be prepared to respond further in that regard, because the integration of these policies has been pretty hectic for the last six months. I think we can pretty well say that we have been able to meet the requirements of the government, as well as the Legislative Assembly's standing committee concerns, in formulating most of our policy requirements. Thank you.

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

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to surveys that are done up here, I am referring to the Norman Wells project that has been concluded. There have been some surveys done on that. Are there any acts governing surveys in the Northwest Territories?

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Minister, I am not aware of any. I do not think there are any regulations or legislation to guide us in terms of surveys and so on. I think my colleague, the Minister responsible for employment, is the Minister that is really concerned with the figures and so on, in that regard. But our department has very little role in terms of monitoring of the major oil and gas activities in the labour market. Thank you.

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

Visits By Senior Level Officials

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not know whether this is a question or not. I am from Baffin South and there is not really anybody that has any business in my community. Cape Dorset has a few business people. So in that respect, the people from Lake Harbour usually say that they do not get a visit from the economic development officers. We know there are economic development officers that come into our community, but it has never been a person of higher level coming to our community from economic development. The guy that comes into my community right now, people do not get clear information from him. Or maybe it is because the Inuit people in Lake Harbour do not ask that many questions of him. So for that reason, I just wanted to know whether you as economic development senior officials, go only to larger populated

communities and not to smaller communities. Some people would like to talk to the senior levels of government in each department about acts and regulations. But if they talk just to an economic development officer, they do not get that much information from them because the officers only follow what their senior people want them to say. I feel that my constituents and my community should be visited by senior levels of government from your department. I would like to see some people in my community developing their own businesses and see them get more educated in relation to having a business. Would you, the senior levels of government from the Department of Economic Development, go into the smaller communities? Thank you.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand your statement. First of all I will say, I know you do not have an economic development officer, but however, you have one in Cape Dorset. I have been unable to visit with your community since I became a Minister, but I will say that your co-op is operating smoothly in your community. I think that is probably why we have not been visiting your community. It is not really true though. We have been having a concern about Cape Dorset. The Cape Dorset population is growing and there are hardly any businesses in Cape Dorset. For this reason, last May, during our Baffin tour, I told my officials in Cape Dorset that they needed an economic development officer in Cape Dorset. This has been approved and I am sure that we will be able to get an economic development officer. The economic development officer who was in Frobisher Bay will now be moved to Cape Dorset so that the officer can take care of Lake Harbour and Cape Dorset perhaps.

Last fall, during the session, it was approved to get a public meeting about economic development. I know that you have been invited to this public meeting in Baffin Region when it goes on. We will try and find out what kind of assistance we can give them and maybe we could share their views, what they think in the communities. Perhaps the meeting is going to be in the springtime. They were supposed to meet during the fall, but it had to be delayed. So if it is possible the whole territory is going to have a meeting about this. I would like it better if the meeting could be in May. I will be going to Cape Dorset sometime and I told the person sitting beside you that I was supposed to go down to Sanikiluaq. Perhaps I will go down there first, then I will be able to go to Lake Harbour before summer comes. Thank you.

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

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister was talking about the process of privatizing. As I understand it the objective of those governments that feel they ought to privatize, is that governments feel that in a number of ways government has become too much a part of people's lives. Government is undertaking all sorts of activities that could as easily be done by people who were business minded. The belief then is to leave people free to do what they can do and not steal the opportunity away by the government becoming involved directly in it. That is a philosophical point of view that could be argued one way or the other but I will say for the moment, let's say that that is a desirable objective.

Contracting Versus Privatizing

Could I ask the Minister whether contracting really fulfils that objective? It, to my mind, is not really privatizing. And what happens if the government is involved in some activity and for the philosophical reasons that I said earlier, feels that it should withdraw from it and leave it open to people to do? It does not seem to entirely accomplish that to me, in contracting where in a sense the government retains the responsibility and all the obligations that go along with that responsibility. In a number of ways it retains the burden of ensuring that that work is done and yet in some important ways it loses control over how the work is going to be done, the quality of work, employment and wages and things like that.

I am not condemning the practice but could I ask the Minister if he would explain a little further why he feels that contracting is a desirable way to go about this. If I could give a specific example, I am thinking, say, of maintenance; our government is involved in maintenance of accommodations. To me privatizing would mean that you simply indicate that the government will no longer do maintenance of buildings. Step out of it, leave the way open for companies that are interested in doing that kind of thing to put in their bids or rather to establish companies, advertise and begin to do it. For our government, rather than to completely step away from it, to call for contracts to do it, as I said earlier you seem still to retain responsibility and burden and yet in some ways lose control. So I would appreciate hearing an explanation of that.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In my earlier remarks I did indicate more frequent use of contracts or privatization plans and I agree they are totally different. The reason I did say that was because the government has to be guided by government policy for the efficiency and level of service, not be compromised, as we attempt to privatize our program services.

Standards Must Be Maintained

One of the first things that the policy does state is that the private sector must meet or exceed current Government of the NWT standards of quality and timing of delivery of the services. So it is important that standards be maintained and in my earlier remark I alluded to contract because in some cases in order to maximize the services that can be offered we will likely be making use of more contracts that are not large-scaled, in my view. For instance in my department, I can say to you that as we organize conferences and so on elsewhere we will likely contract that part to the private sector or the operators out there to set up a major event. We did that here in Yellowknife with the fur symposium; rather than our officials taking 100 per cent or 50 per cent of their time, we thought it does make more sense that we contract that service to them. But I am not speaking for Public Works, Local Government or Government Services which are pretty broad departments. But in my view I think we are obviously challenged with maintaining standards and quality of services not being compromised and for that reason the government's policy is clear that level of service still must be maintained and the cost be reasonable so that we are not wasting public funds, as we must not.

I would think that once the departmental plans have been put forward, it will make much more sense that the concerns of the Member, which I know they are real and I think they are important, are taken into consideration. I can tell you that once we begin to consider all the privatization plans the Executive will be very cautious and careful that we not jeopardize, not only personnel but the quality of service that we think should be privatized. Thank you.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: So I gather the Minister is saying in a sense it is kind of an intermediate step that enables a movement away from the government doing all of these things but helps, I suppose on the one hand, to ensure standards and on the other to give some experience to private companies.

Consultation With Departments Re Land Claims Agreements

If I could turn to another matter. We had earlier in this committee discussed with the Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development, a recent land claims subagreement that was initialled with TFN. One of my concerns was that there is a regime in place that ensures that our government's concerns, which ought to be the concerns of the people generally of the Northwest Territories, are brought to the attention of the Executive and addressed adequately. And so for two or three, what I consider to be key departments, including your own and the Department of Justice, I would ask the Minister, to what extent has his department been consulted in the matter of land claims agreements? Is there a continuing ongoing process of consultation? In respect of this particular subagreement, for example, which seems to me to have some fairly important concerns for non-renewable resource development, I ask the Minister whether his department had adequate opportunity to address those concerns and if so, what particular concerns were identified by his department? And how were these concerns accommodated in the decision that was eventually made by the Executive Council?

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the Member is well aware that the responsibility for the aboriginal rights negotiations is with my colleagues over there, Mr. Patterson and Mr. Sibbeston. But I think just so that the Member is clear, the secretariat is in place to guide and advise the government on the progress on the negotiations. All I can say to you is that we are called upon to give our views and advice when required and other than that it is business as usual for us because we have the mandate to carry out and offer programs to the public unless there are matters that concern our specific area of responsibility. The Minister asks us for comment and I can assure the Member that the discussions are normally dealt with through the policy of the aboriginal rights special committee of the Executive and then through the Executive

Council. Other than that I am not really prepared to say anything because I am not all that much involved in the day to day handling of the aboriginal rights issues because that is the role of the Minister responsible for aboriginal rights. Thank you.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: But I did understand at one point, from I think it was Mr. Patterson's answer, that there is a special ministerial committee that will address certain concerns and I thought I understood him to say that you would be part or are part of that committee. So I guess, first, could you confirm whether that is the case? Then regarding a matter that certainly is within your own department, could you tell me whether there are staff specifically charged with addressing these kinds of concerns, whose duty it is to bring to your notice the kinds of concerns that would arise in the area of economic development, energy, mines and resources and so on?

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I do not think there is any secret at all with the special policy of the aboriginal rights and constitutional development committee of which my colleague is the chairman. That is normally the major committee that considers matters relating to aboriginal rights and constitutional development. But as far as our own department's spokesman on that is concerned, we do not have a person specifically assigned to that task because again, as I say, we are carrying on the business as usual atmosphere, and so on, in meeting our departmental obligations. But when we are called upon to comment, we have one of the well-established policy planning group in our department. That is normally the route, that we ask our officials to comment before we formulate our views to the Executive Member responsible for aboriginal rights.

In the EMR, because the resource development does have a lot more interaction with the land and resources matters, we have assigned a specific person to keep the matters in hand. That is relatively new, but they are not there to respond to the public, but mainly assigned to prepare comments for my colleagues and for the aboriginal rights secretariat. Thank you.

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

MR. ANGOTTITAUROUQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This was brought up by Mr. Arlooktoo. In my area, we get the feedback from our people trying out economic development and it has been hard for my people to get into private businesses. I know some businesses cannot go ahead due to lack of knowledge. (Translation ends)

Well, I have heard a lot of languages this afternoon. I will move back to English. As Mr. Arlooktoo has commented before, I guess my comments will be similar. In my constituency, we have people who seek and talk with the economic development officers that travel in my region, in my constituency. Some have been trying to develop a business and trying to ask questions of what to do. Just before I came to this Assembly for this budget session I had some discussions with a number of people. I guess I will not be asking the Minister to visit my constituents as he has visited my constituents and I could say that he knows what is in my constituency through his staff. Then again, as an MLA who does not have the authority to make any changes and to instruct the staff, just talking to the people who have problems with EDA, Eskimo loan fund, even with the help from economic development employees that travel, even though knowing some of the answers and giving the answers directly to the people, as a person who is not an economic development officer, as a person who is not a Minister of Economic Development, it gets down to a point that the questions asked of an MLA come over and over and over again even when you answer the persons there.

More Instruction From Staff

Therefore, I am going to ask the Minister if he could instruct his department to give more full explanations to some of the applicants. When people have to fill out an application form, the staff of economic development can make a judgment and say the business would not work. But then again that person never tells the applicant directly. This is where the problem lies, I guess. Looking at the name of economic development, EDA, Eskimo loan fund, it makes me wonder what the name is for, who is it for? It only seems to be for the businesses that are well-off and that have so many years of experience. In reading the books of Economic Development, the material that they publish and the routes that they carry as well, the EDA and the Eskimo loan fund, that is part of

their control. As the years go by, it is beginning to be hard to understand who will be eligible for those grants and how should people do it? That comes to question, because the staff does not explain exactly, they just make the people wonder and wonder and wonder and do not come down to the right answer or give proper instructions to those people.

I know the economic development officers, they are not the teachers but they are the staff of your branch as Minister. So I guess I am going to ask the Minister if he would instruct his staff -- I know there are some guidelines that Economic Development has in job descriptions, but I have not seen what is there. When people come out from the community or when the economic development officer gets into town, and they have a bright idea that they think is going to work for their business, they go to see the economic development officer and they get a good response from the economic development officer. But then again when they wait for their grants, they hear nothing. Why would that be? The next time when the economic development officer comes around, they ask again and they say, "Fill out this application and wait for your reply." The people do the same thing over and over again. My next question is: in your department is there a way that you have to confuse people who have never started a business before, is there a way that you can try and stop the economic development officers deciding people are not eligible for some grants and loans?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Perhaps the Minister can think about that for a while and give us a reply after our short coffee break. I will call a coffee break now. Thank you.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): The committee will come to order. We are on Economic Development and Tourism, pages 16.02, 16.03. General comments. Mr. Minister, would you like to reply to Mr. Angottitauruq?

Communication Problems

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Angottitauruq, I think, in a very short statement covered very well the state of sometimes frustration, confusion, and concern, about the role of the department and our officers in the region. You know we all share that frustration because Economic Development is sometimes confused by many of the local residents as a major funding agency or granting agency for any idea that the individual or groups may have. It is a new idea to smaller communities that have not had any interaction or communications with the southern world and without having access to radio and TV which normally talks about the business world in a language that they can understand. So, I think that is one of the fundamental problems that we have. It is getting across to our people and communicating these policies and programs in a language that they can understand. Mr. Angottitauruq's concerns to me indicate that there is frustration, confusion. And when you really translate that problem, it boils down to communication problems in my view. Therefore as an objective in our department, we are now trying to ensure that we do bring in more trainees for economic development programs as well as ensuring that we hire bilingual people in the regions. That is one thing that we are going to try to do. We are now beginning to develop training programs through the affirmative action initiative of the government, and we are going to make it one of our regional priorities, that we bring in people who can communicate.

When I travel through the region I can assure the Member that there were a lot of concerns from the public, Gjoa Haven, Spence Bay and Pelly Bay and it really boils down to a state of confusion and frustration. When I travelled last year, it was a communication problem. So I would like to take his concerns seriously and pass them on to our regions, as well as to headquarters here, that we have to do a lot more than what we have been doing in the past, that is to hire people that are able to communicate properly and in the language that the regions are familiar with.

So, Mr. Chairman, in short I will take his concerns as notice and we will definitely try to do a better job. I share his view that often the proposals that are brought to the attention of the officers are, in many cases, not very well thought out or planned. But the role of our development officer in the region is to help them out and it is really too bad that we are not able to acknowledge the decisions made by the funding agency, the loan boards, the regional loan boards or territorial loan board. I think we have got to be doing a better job in making sure that their proposals and their loan applications are responded to. Even if it is negative, I think we ought to be responding more quickly than before. I will assure him, that his region is one of the most -- I would say there is a disparity in that region compared to other regions that is much more serious than some areas. So, I would like to assure him that we will make sure that we do respond a little more effectively in all areas as much as we can. Thank you.

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

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am quite satisfied with the Minister's reply. In your words you said it is a "communication problem", and in my understanding, most of the people that come out to apply and talk to economic development officers, they are not the old timers, they are the business minded people. And if they are business minded people, they can communicate pretty well. Some cannot speak two languages, most of them can interpret for themselves. And a lot of them, if they are younger type of people, if they have been in places, they can understand some languages. In fact the ones that I talk with a lot, that brought up some of the problems, can speak much better than I and different dialects. We are not talking about education and we are not talking about the hospital, we are talking about economic development. If we are talking about that I think those people can speak for themselves and understand for themselves -- you have already mentioned a quick reply, whether it is negative or if it is accepted. I think that is one of the hardest things that your department should work very hard on in the future because that is where the main problem lies. It is not the communication from the people, it is the communication from your department of your development officers that are working there and it is part of your branch that does not reply. That is where the problem is. On that I will change to another subject.

Communities Losing Faith In Co-ops

I mentioned it before in my reply but if there does not seem to be any answer for this one it does not matter but I will be sort of seeking for a question and an answer. The main businesses that operate in the communities are the co-ops and a lot of them do not operate so well. I guess when they created the co-ops in the Northwest Territories they were the businesses for the people. The majority of those members are now coming down to the communication problem, because I am going to say the majority of those people that are members understood about the co-ops, when they were first being created. They were introduced that this is going to be your business, you are going to benefit from it. They are still waiting to benefit from it, a lot of those members are waiting, regardless of how many there may be. Only five or two out of the community in my region can be good carvers, those few are benefiting through their knowledge and skill. Like I said, the majority have never been to school.

A lot of the co-ops are operating hotels and a lot of them are operating stores. Many of them are not really benefiting while the members are benefiting from the stock that the co-op sell if they are running a store. If they are saying that they are benefiting, I guess that is where the communication problem comes in for those people. A lot of communities have the co-op and the Bay. That is where it comes down to the communication problem because a lot of the members usually go to the Bay because the stock and groceries are cheaper there. It comes to the point where it comes to be a question: what good are co-ops doing for the majority of members? If the members are going to benefit I believe that if they do not speak any English, Economic Development with, I guess, the federation, should seek out some other businesses that might be more suitable to people who have never been in school. If they say there is no business that would suit them -- I find that very hard to believe. It is just a lot of the marketing has not been looked at. I guess your department has been saying all along that we will put out booklets and pamphlets and brochures and send them to the communities both in English and Inuktitut and say, if you want to start a business, you start a business. That is a great idea.

A lot of times the co-ops alone cannot be understood in what they are trying to do because they have the federation that is looking after them on top. I guess under the co-ops' policy and by-laws the board members have the authority of how they should run the business. But then again it comes down to the point when the staff of the federation comes into the community and says, "You are proposing something that is just going to let your co-op go bankrupt." I guess I am talking on behalf of the people that have never had any education because a lot of those members hope that they get service from the co-op. They joined the co-op but they never actually got service. With good faith they joined the co-op hoping that they would start getting some income.

I guess we could talk about renewable resources and the hunters and trappers. I know in my community some co-ops have tried to do something from the land. Some communities have quotas on fish, caribou and muskox for commercial use. The hunters and trappers they cannot let anyone else but themselves do it and I know I have seen a lot that has gone to waste because nobody really caught those quotas or commercial tags, because nobody could do it. I thought all along that co-op should have the opportunity if the hunters and trappers cannot do it. So I guess a lot of benefits are pushed back...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Angottitauruq, there are time limits and if it is agreed with the committee for you to continue then...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Angottitauruq.

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: I guess I am going down to too many departments but that is where the development should be if it is going to be economic development. If it is going to develop something it has to communicate with a lot of other departments too, and that is where I believe the objectives are. A lot of times co-ops cannot speak for themselves because they have the federation on top of them and they have to report to them. The federation in return should negotiate with the territorial or federal government, but then again with their expertise, I guess, the communities are losing their faith in their good support and in their good work. Therefore, my comment is that there should be some opportunities for those people that cannot be store managers, that cannot be stock boys or of that nature. The majority of them should be recognized. They are hoping and wondering when there is going to be an opportunity for them from the co-op as where they could make a few extra dollars on some days. I guess it comes down to that question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Angottitauruq. Mr. Minister, would you like to respond?

Dealing With The Renewable Resource Sector

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I thought it was a general statement that he is making on the state of Natilikmiot economy. I think it is difficult to pinpoint exactly how I should respond. In total I think we are attempting to deal in terms of business opportunities for individuals. We are expanding businesses whether they be co-ops or not. Our approach is to try and ensure that everyone gets his share of an opportunity to develop further. How best to co-ordinate all the activities that are taking place in the region is very, very complicated. I think one thing that my colleague, Mr. Pedersen, and I are attempting is to at least co-ordinate our strategy so that the renewable resource sector is treated and developed to the fullest extent possible.

When we are talking about developing renewable resources we are talking about, as well, maintaining the level of harvest so that it does not jeopardize the conservation requirements. As well we have to be competing with the southern markets that are flooded with southern renewable resource products. When you talk about fish you are competing with the market down south, the Great Lakes and the four prairie provinces that have a monopoly through the marketing agency, we are also a member of that area. So I just know we have a lot of work to do and we have a lot of improvements to make with our message as to how we deal with the renewable resource sector. I know for one that we could be modernizing our techniques and maybe even looking at new ways of harvesting fur bearing animals. So far the only thing we think we can have a successful living on is leg hold trap. I do not think the leg hold trap has any chance of providing major economic input to a family or to a group or to a community. I think we are going to have to start looking at fur farming and I know there are a couple of communities in the NWT -- Hay River and Eskimo Point, Hay River being a lot larger project -- going on to experiment with the fur farming, fox farming. In Eskimo Point, it is on a small scale but likewise attempting to explore the possibility of exploring that project to see whether or not it could be expanded in the NWT. I think that fox farming is one way to improve employment opportunities for people. It is on a small scale so far. I think it is something that we are going to have to take serious consideration of in the future.

As for fisheries development, another renewable resource sector, we have such a short season up north and it is very complicated in the winter time, there is more moderate weather here than out on Great Slave Lake. The winter fishery is a very a complicated thing. We rely on the summer harvest for fisheries and we have such a short season in the Eastern Arctic and the Arctic Coast that unless we have very efficient and capable techniques to harvest arctic char we are going to be a bit slow in developing that economic base. That is not to suggest that we will ignore it but my colleague and my department will definitely attempt to find new ways to try and see whether or not we can utilize further and expand the legal requirement, the quotas that are there to harvest that area. I think that is what we mean when we are talking about the renewable resource sector. We are talking about fisheries in the Barren Lands. Fisheries, fox trapping and intersettlement trade with country food products. Again, we have to be guided by the conservation measures that we are not slaughtering animals that are beyond the limits required in the regions.

In the southern part of the NWT, in the Mackenzie and tree line area, my department particularly likes to respond by trying to address new opportunities for marketing the products that we are harvesting, that the producers harvest up north. One good example that I was quite interested in was the fur symposium we had the other day. That created a lot of interest and they, for the first time, started to see products that normally come out of the Arctic, furs and leather products. I think we have to be able to meet the demands of the larger society because that is where most of our products are going to have to go.

Again, I share his concern but it is something that we are learning year by year as well as getting a lot more advice from all over the country because the country as a whole is affected by this tremendous impact on the renewable resource economy. So we will try. I know we have to do a better job in communicating and making sure that the message gets across. I think it shows that we just have to be patient sometimes. Thank you.

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

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First, a question to the Minister. In your discussions of the economic and regional development agreement under the renewable resources section, I know you are negotiating the whole question of the fur industry but are there segments in that particular agreement that deal with fishing and agriculture as well?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the answer is yes. Apparently the role of our department -- again we are acting as a co-ordinator for all these various subagreements. The departments themselves have been asked to negotiate the subagreements independently once the criteria of the program have been developed by the department and approved by the Executive. They are dealing with the department and my understanding is that it covers all the renewable resource sectors including the ones that you just mentioned. Thank you.

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

Tourism Development Agreement

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Also, a question with regard to the tourism element of the economic and regional development agreement. Had there been discussions with regard to the whole issue of outfitting and development of lodges? Is that part of the agreement and if so, what might be the criteria by which those discussions are going on?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will just go through some of the list that is being proposed by our government in the tourism development agreement so far. One area is the facility and product development which is a major capital project which would include maybe the infrastructure of hotels, complexes and things to that effect; market identification and development that would involve public and private sector co-operation and market identification which is mainly international, I would think; awareness and training and professional development are supposed to be programs that complement without duplicating those offered by the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission. For instance I would think you know, Mr. Chairman, you would agree that in the Northwest Territories we need a lot more training for our outfitters and large operators in the North, particularly with the native people.

There is one called cultural tourism development, supposedly for funding tourism proposals with a cultural component which do not need criteria of other programs. Tourism and culture, I think, relate to each other because native culture, Inuit, Dene/Metis culture, should be an important component, which I think in the past has not been integrated into marketing strategies of the department and other private sector groups. Another area is research and development opportunities analysis information concerning visitation, it is more of a statistical nature as opposed to product and market development. So, somewhere in there I would think your concerns could probably be addressed, but if you wish to be more specific you could probably respond to that. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess the reason I raise the whole question on the tourism side as it is related to the outfitting lodges, was because of a point you just made a few minutes ago. If there is one area that the native people can get involved in it is in that particular area and there is really no need for -- what I might consider it to be -- a requirement for education. The basic education that many of the native people have received is by experience, and that is one area that can be taken advantage of by native people and people who live off the land. We should encourage the people to take advantage of that particular program, either by developing a seminar, basically similar to the one that you just held for the fur industry or by getting people together to talk about the advantages of native people being part of the outfitting program or part of the tourist industry and encouraging that particular sector.

People also have to be made aware of the problems that might arise at times when you have a lack of money being expended in that particular area. People might be able to take advantage of the lodges that they have established for hunting and trapping themselves, during those time periods when they do not have people coming in to take advantage of the lodges. I think the experience in the provinces has been that they have been able to utilize those lodges for hunting and trapping for their own personal selves and their family well-being. So I believe that we can really take advantage of that area, particularly the elderly native people in the Northwest Territories or those people who, in fact, want to pursue the hunting and trapping area. So I am glad that you are pursuing that particular area and I do hope that in your negotiations that you highlight that particular opportunity for native people and particularly the older people or those people that pursue the hunting and trapping way of life, so that they can take advantage of that.

There still remains though, and I believe your colleague Mr. Pedersen is aware of it, the question of taking advantage of the outfitting program, in particularly the boundary areas. Because my constituency has communities such as Fort McPherson and Aklavik, I would really encourage the Minister to begin discussions with the Minister responsible for Economic Development and Tourism and maybe the Minister, your colleague, Mr. Pedersen, could have discussions with the Minister of Renewable Resources for the Yukon, to try to come to an agreement as to what approach we would jointly take with regard to encouraging development, particularly in the tourist industry in the boundary areas and encouraging the communities that are close to the boundaries, to take advantage of either our programs or the programs that are involved in the Yukon. And I would certainly encourage you to pursue that.

Employees Of Projects Being Privatized

Mr. Chairman, if I could make a couple more comments. With regard to the whole question of privatization, I agree with the idea of privatization if the whole concept is to privatize projects that are economically feasible. But even in those particular areas I still have some concerns. I think Mr. MacQuarrie dealt with some of the issues -- the question of what are we going to be doing with the employees, and I am talking about government projects, I am not talking about the contracting side yet. But what do we do with those people that are involved in those particular projects? Because I think it is necessary for people to be aware of the commitments that they are making and the obligations that they are making as a community to the projects that they are negotiating to privatize. I will give you an example of that.

In the case of Fort McPherson, there are discussions now going on with the idea of privatizing the canvas project, but I would not be so quick to suggest privatizing immediately, because there are a couple of elements of concern I have. One, the whole question of marketing. Second, in marketing advertising, being able to go to shows where you would be able to promote the goods that are being produced in the Territories or outside the Territories. The whole question is to get away from this idea that they can continue to operate as if they were working for the government, when they are a private business. It does not work any more. The reality is that there are certain commitments that they have to make. They cannot leave the business for two weeks and say, "Okay, I am going out on the land," and somehow think that the business is going to be successful. I think when you are negotiating the turnovers of those particular projects, that those issues have to come to the table and they have to be dealt with very seriously. I would encourage the Minister and your staff to ensure that those issues are put on the table, because the people that are negotiating have to recognize that they also have a certain obligation to the employees, those people that are working. And if the benefits, and I guess the discussions, will in any way affect the employees and the performance of the employees, those issues have to be laid on the table and be dealt with. And I hope and encourage you as a Minister to bring forward those issues.

With regard to privatization in the context of contracting. Again, I have a couple of particular concerns. The whole question of the present employees we have in government, because it is important to realize that as a government we have made a certain financial commitment to the people that have been recruited by our government. Many of them have gone through courses, have taken apprenticeship programs. Many of them are electricians, plumbers, carpenters, welders and painters. When you are talking about privatizing, we have to be able to somehow allow these people, either to bid on the contracts that we are getting rid of, or those areas of service that we are getting out of, or to allow them to establish a business themselves so that they can bid. Because there is absolutely no way, in my opinion, that the present business community can guarantee the people that we have employed, an opportunity to work because good private business would not take on people just for the sake of a contract. That is not the way business operates. I would encourage you to ensure, at least, or take into consideration those issues in your discussions in the future. In my opinion you are still the lead Minister in those particular discussions on privatization and I think that you will have certainly an influence on how the government privatizes -- whether it is in the context of getting rid of government assets or whether or not we move to contracting government services. So I would encourage you to recognize that those are still outstanding concerns that have to be dealt with and I would encourage you to make sure your colleagues are aware of those issues. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. Mr. Minister, would you like to respond?

Native Involvement In Outfitting And Business Ventures

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I certainly appreciate the Member's very interesting comments with respect to the tourism related issues, particularly the long-time resident native people, with respect to outfitting and involvement in the renewable resource based tourism outfitting and business ventures. I think that is an opportunity that the department and tourism division can use to expand the market to visitors from all over the world, because they are interested in seeing new cultures and a way of life that is a little different from a place like Yellowknife or Fort Smith.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible comment)

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Nothing wrong, but more exciting and more challenging and more adventure in seeing that kind of an affair. I do welcome it because I really am convinced that the more the MLAs or the politicians can promote and help promote the North and present what we, as the people up here, can offer to the visitors. I think that is a very important key. I have indicated in very strong terms to the Tourism Industry Association that they must expand the membership of the TIA if they expect government support and increased funding for their marketing and development of their marketing strategies and promotion development. For one thing, each time I appeared before the annual meetings I said to them, "I do not see the number of outfitters playing a part here." We like the native people to explain what it means to be catering to the visitors from overseas and maybe, by being involved in those groups and allowing them to express their experiences and what they have to offer, we can improve the tourism industry. I think that is one area that really requires much more effective involvement of the people. I have asked them to do that and it is sort of a condition that I have put in before we further consider other expanded roles in marketing of some of the programs that we have been carrying out. So I certainly welcome your ideas because they are important and we will be guided by that area.

As far as the privatization policy goes, I think this is a collective responsibility of the Executive Council and each Minister as they plan toward the privatization of their various departmental services. I think the only comment that I have is that I think that in all of our presentations we will be guided by the policy and the directives that have been approved, which I think is important to note that the government has committed itself to the moral and legal obligation to ensure that the staff are not laid off and that they are protected under the Public Service Association collective agreement. That is very important, and there is also provision in the directive that no program or service shall be privatized unless affected Government of the Northwest Territories job trainees and apprentices can be reassigned to suitable new training areas within the government or in the private sector, that is, these training positions and apprentices positions must be either incorporated into the government or if we can find a company large enough to take care of them and observe them, that is fine. I certainly appreciate the Member's concerns because they are important and we will be presenting the various plans to our colleagues shortly. That is one area that we are going to have to address quite seriously. Thank you.

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

Long-Term Strategy For Economic Development

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you. I thought I had concluded my comments but I have one major concern and that has to do with the question of the uncertainty of the renewable resource industry. I do not refer only to the petroleum side, I refer also to the mineral side, non-renewable side. I am quite happy to see that one of the elements in your discussions is the mineral agreement. I think that, more importantly, one of the basic requirements that we require is some long-term strategy on our part for the economic development of the Northwest Territories, including the sectors that would be influenced or would be affected by such a strategy; renewable, non-renewable, petroleum, minerals, the whole question of our tourist industry, our wildlife development. Unfortunately, what is going to happen now is -- and it is my belief -- rather than the time at the moment being afforded to the development of such long-term strategy, I think that we are going to find ourselves trying to deal with some very short-term commitments that we are going to have to make because of the problems in our non-renewable resource industry.

I think that it will not be long and I think that even now that there are certain businesses that are beginning to feel the pinch and I think you are going to find yourself having to respond as a government, to deal with ensuring that these businesses are somehow supported. I do encourage you, as a Minister and certainly through your department, to consider the development and some long-term strategies for our government. And in particular how we might be able to encourage business development, resource development. I refer to both renewable and non-renewable, to give us some idea or some insight and foresight as to what we might see and perceive as being or what would be happening within the next five or 10 years in the Northwest Territories. I know it is very difficult because of the uncertainty in international markets but it is important, particularly in light of the discussions that are going on by the federal government with the United States on the question of free trade, for instance. We have an important role to play in that but it is as important too that many of the decisions that will be made at the bargaining table are going to affect the potential development of the North and also may have an effect on whether or not northern people and native people can participate in any kind of business development and how competitive we can be.

I just raise that for you particularly because you are going to be very quickly involved in those particular discussions on free trade. I have come up with a new word now, that we are not really talking about free trade but we are really talking about fair trade, and I would hope that at some time somebody would change the words and say it is fair trade and not necessarily free trade, because I think that that is exactly what we are talking about. Because you will not be able to allow for any incentives for northern businesses in comparison to American businesses if we talk about straight across the board free trade.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Mr. Minister, would you like to respond?

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, just a couple of comments. One is that again I think it is timely to be thinking toward long-term and short-term strategies with respect to our northern economy. I think NWT is set in a position that it is always at a disadvantage, when dealing with a market that is really -- monopolized, in the southern sense, is the word because we are on the northern end of the main streamlines of the southern economy and yet very much dependent on them to survive and prosper in terms of trading and so on. But I think the important thing for all of us to remember is that there are these regional conferences that will be taking place shortly. I would very much again urge all the MLAs to bring forward some ideas as to how or what the northern business people or the representatives should be doing themselves because I think the department as a whole is not itself going to be the only agency that is going to guide the northern development. We need collective support and collective help in terms of ideas from you people and your constituents. That is very important. The issues that you have just raised are important I think in terms of -- you know we have been asked to select representatives on some of the subcommittees that the federal government is forming, secretarial committees that would advise the chief negotiator of the federal government. Many of them have to deal with the major energy and small-scale supply and service industry and so on. We have been able to identify a couple of people that we would like to send to one of the subcommittees. One of them will be the deputy minister of Renewable Resources. We have put his name forward and we would like to put him on one of the subgroups to help in that regard.

The challenge that we have is so overwhelming right now, not only for the department but for northerners as a whole, that it is critical that we exchange ideas and try to co-operate as to what should be happening. I certainly welcome your comment because it is something that I think every

northerner should be worried about and try to think toward the future. I am urging my colleague here with the white shirt over there to try and ensure that all the infrastructure is put in place so that we can continue to grind those graduates out of the system so that they can become operators and decision-makers and educators and politicians in the North. He has an equally important and tremendous challenge to offer us. Thank you.

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

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to say to the Minister that, with regard to the renewable resource sector, the Minister had an opportunity to meet with the Delta Dene/Metis regional council last week. We did and have developed a long-term strategy plan for the renewable resource sector in that particular region. It might, in fact, form the basis of some discussions right across the Territories as to some insight we have on the approaches we might take. As soon as the approval has been given by the regional council, which should be about the 17th of March, I will be prepared to provide a copy to my colleague, the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

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

Native Participation Minimal, Great Bear Lake Lodges

MR. T'SELEIE: I would like to just follow up on the kind of concern that Mr. Nerysoo was talking about with regard to the participation of native people in the tourism industry at least here in the Western Arctic. I have to tell you that when I was on PWA and I saw the massive advertisement in the in-flight magazine for people to take advantage of tourism up here, I was not one of the people that was jumping for joy over something like that because -- and I do not mean to be negative here -- but I know for a fact that the lodges on Great Bear Lake have been in existence for 20 or 25 years and the benefits to the people of Franklin have been minimal. In fact, I am told that they are hiring even less guides than they used to. The benefits to local people are minimal and in fact non-existent. The same with the lodges in the Mackenzie mountains. I am also told that the lodges on Great Bear Lake are owned by people who do not live in the NWT. I know that it has been a contentious issue with the Fort Franklin people to the point now where they are not even wanting to talk about it any more. They have more or less given up on it because they have been concerned about it for years and years. The last time I sat with some of them they were concerned about the effect of sport fishing on the fish population of the lake. One of the concerns they had was with respect to the lodges and the fact that the lodges are now experiencing a problem whereby they are finding that the fishing right around their lodges is no longer the same as it used to be and therefore they are seeking to be licensed to fish additional areas. The concern of the people there is that some of these other areas that they are after to fish are places that they use for their own fishing. They would not like to see the area of the sport fishing increased beyond what it is presently. I wonder if, Mr. Minister, you would care to comment on some of that?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I am somewhat aware of the concerns of the region. I should apologize and I still plan to travel to that region and I will be there too long. Again, I was just saying to my deputy that I would like to cover that region sometime in April.

Mr. Chairman, before I can intelligently respond to specific concerns, I am going to need more information. I am aware that the concerns have been going on with the people in that region and the outfitter. I think, again, that time is going to be a major factor here because eventually I am sure some of the lodges might well be operated by long-term northerners and I think in some respect this is starting to happen. As far as the resources are concerned, particularly the fish in that area, as a result of the concerns of a number of people, the Department of Renewable Resources and my department as well as the Department of Fisheries and Oceans have formed a subcommittee with representatives from the Shihta Regional Council, Fort Franklin, as an advisory group that would meet occasionally to try and establish some guidelines and develop strategies for development of fisheries including commercial and sport fisheries. These are within their mandate and that group eventually is going to start meeting.

I am informed that that has now been agreed to by all parties so it is going to be helpful to all of us to receive advice. Their first meeting will be in April so it will be a guide to us because we as a department by ourselves cannot establish policy as to what should happen in that area. I

will also be travelling if I can, maybe sometime in April, and consult again with you and these communities. But it is something that we certainly do not want to see jeopardized because of the misunderstandings among all the people involved. One way to do it, I think, is to try and establish communication with all parties and co-ordinate it from there. Thank you.

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

Expansion Of Fishing Areas Of Tourist Lodges

MR. T'SELEIE: I would like to ask the Minister, with respect to my concerns on the licensing of fishing lodges for additional areas, what the present established procedure is. Is there any room for consulting with those people that depend on the fishing for subsistence? What is the process of consultation before you decide to allow the fishing lodges to expand their areas of operation?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I will have my deputy respond to that specific question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Stilwell.

MR. STILWELL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The only increase that has happened has been the allowance and approval of a lodge at Fort Franklin by the people of Fort Franklin. There are no plans to increase the quotas for the other establishments at this point in time. It is hoped that this advisory committee, the Great Bear Lake advisory committee, would deal with those issues as well.

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

MR. T'SELEIE: My concern was the expansion of the sport fishing into other areas. I understand that your department is responsible for licensing of additional areas beyond what these lodges can now fish. Is that correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Stilwell.

MR. STILWELL: Yes, Mr. Chairman. That is correct.

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

MR. T'SELEIE: I would like to be sure that what you are telling me is that the lodges will not be allowed to expand their areas of fishing without that matter first having been dealt with and recommended by this advisory council -- which is the first I hear of this advisory council here today -- but first that they would review something like this before any permission is given to the lodges to fish in additional areas.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Stilwell.

MR. STILWELL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is correct. We do not intend to allow any lodges to expand until the Great Bear Lake advisory committee, made up of representatives of the Fort Franklin band, as well as the Shihta Regional Council, would be making recommendations on those. So there are no plans to allow for the expansion into other areas or new areas by existing lodges.

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

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a short comment to make. In my constituency, two of the communities that I represent, Pagnirtung and Broughton Island, have a very good view and a lot of tourists really like the view in those communities. I would like to ask -- as we all know the proposed park was mentioned in 1985-86. Expo '86 has been using a lot of expenditures and I am pretty sure that we have not used as much money in the North as the Expo '86 has. When this Expo '86 is over, I was wondering if there would be an Expo in the NWT for the Inuit and Dene people? If we had an opening I think we could make a lot more money. I will speak a little more after I get a response.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand what you are saying but I do not know how to respond to this because as you know Expo '86 is run by the -- we have to follow the international law and we are just participating. Whenever they have a world exposition anywhere we have to follow the international law or a policy. British Columbia will be 100 years old. Two years ago the Queen announced that there will be an Expo '86. The NWT wanted to participate because there has been very little recognition of the aboriginal people in the North. So our transportation and the oil exploration were some of the reasons that we wanted to participate. We cannot use the amount of dollars. I think it will be of benefit to the North in the future because the Queen will be there. It would be very good advertising for the tourists and perhaps we will have a better market for carvings sometime in the future. We will discuss this further later on sometime.

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

Location Of Economic Development Officers

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to mention this at the beginning. I have another question right now. There are not very many economic development officers in the North. For instance there are three communities that are run by one economic development officer. I would like to ask about the increase. From this increase how many more economic development officers will there be? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you. In the spring we toured the communities and we lack a lot of employees so we decided in Pangnirtung we would train an economic development officer. So there will be an economic development officer trainee for Pangnirtung and Broughton Island. In Clyde River we are going to place an economic planner for one year to start. But it is not coming from our budget, it is coming from the EDA budget. Yes, it will be in your community for one whole year. Thank you.

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

Participation Of Native Corporations In Fur Symposium

MR. WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister with regard to the participation of native corporations in various conferences and seminars that are being held, more recently the fur symposium. I do believe that the Metis Development Corporation and Denendeh Development Corporation were not invited to participate. Perhaps it was an oversight but I just would like to indicate that the corporations would like to participate. I would like to ask that we be placed on the list where we would be one of the participants of the economic development conferences.

The other has to deal with the EDA program. I know it is a joint program between your department and I believe the federal Department of Indian Affairs. You have a committee that deals with the various applications coming forth from this fund and it has been indicated to me that perhaps at times the representatives of either the territorial or the Department of Indian Affairs were not as supportive as they could be when they are reviewing applications. There appears to be a tendency to play one native group's application against the other and it seems to me that it is not a very good environment and not conducive to looking at the applications objectively and in some cases it has been more of a hindrance than a help.

I wonder if you would look into that to ensure that it is there. Mind you, I think the applications have to be reviewed on their own merits and I am not saying that special preference should be given to any group, but it is just that I think the working environment should be such that everybody is there to contribute to the economic development and I have heard some complaints in that area and I do not really wish to go into specific incidents at this time. But I just feel that I should bring it to your attention.

The other area that I am interested in, is this whole area of NCPC. I am not sure whether you indicated that you will be reviewing the whole transfer of NCPC to the territorial government but is there going to be a time when you may look at the whole transfer in light of the whole issue of privatization? Or is this going to be strictly a transfer to the territorial government and is it going to become a territorial crown corporation? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I certainly appreciate the Member's comments. I think, with your permission Mr. Chairman, I would defer the NCPD matter until we start dealing with the EMR Secretariat. We will have an appropriate briefing book and notes and maybe a policy statement prior to -- I am only kidding you.

---Laughter

Mr. Chairman, if the Member is correct in saying that the Dene Development Corporation were not invited to the fur symposium along with other development corporations, I would certainly apologize. But my understanding is that the Dene were invited and the Metis Development Corporation as well, but if they were not, then it certainly was not my intention because there is no other true way of developing the renewable resource base, without their full involvement. And I would not want to see that happen again, and if it did happen I will certainly make it known that...

MR. MacQUARRIE: That is the problem with privatizing.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: ...and that has not happened at all. But I will check it out further and I will communicate it to you specifically and explain where the mix-up happened.

EDA Applications Should Be Decided On Merit

But as far as the management groups or the committees that normally review applications for Special ARDA and EDA are concerned, I think there is a tendency, particularly with Special ARDA applications where there has been a real split, the East versus the West and West versus the East on many occasions and we have attempted to improve the unnecessary hassle. I certainly do not like the idea of committee members having to fight over the applications, rather than dealing with them on the merits of the proposals. I have been given information that -- I certainly will tell you that my eastern Members and I know and I can pretty well say to you that I know very well who they are and they are not there to put forward or bring down any proposals, but rather to deal with them on the merits of the proposals. And I think there have been a number of complaints from both sides and I think that is something that I certainly can try and correct and see that we cool off these kinds of experiences that we have seen. Definitely I will communicate that to the members.

I am not aware of exactly who all the members are because I never attended one of the meetings and it is certainly not happening from my perspective because I do want to make sure that we do a fair job and we balance and treat everyone equally, regardless of who they are, in terms of Special ARDA application. We are there to try and balance and consider them on their merit and once it is on the table it is normally, in many respects, the committee by majority vote that either approves or rejects proposals. I will give you my assurance that it may be timely to send them a friendly letter to try to ensure that they treat all of us fairly. Thank you.

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

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a couple of questions to ask. First of all I would like to make some kind of comment on the objectives and activity. Just looking at that organizational chart, the department has a total of 132 positions and out of that six of them are seasonal. So there are 126 positions. I would like to know how many northerners are in these positions. How many native people are employed in the Department of Economic Development and Tourism in headquarters and in the regions?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, was that a written question? No. The question is a tough question. If I have to break them down I would require a bit more notice before I can respond. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mrs. Lawrence.

Training And Opportunities For Employment In Parks Program

MRS. LAWRENCE: Talking about qualifications and experience, I would like to comment on some of the experience. We have our own people who are very experienced in tourism and parks but many times they are not given the chance to get into the department because there are people with degrees and many times these people with degrees lack common sense and are not really qualified for the job. I think this is where a lot of our northerners whether they are native or non-native lose out because a lot of these people are very experienced but they do not have a big fancy degree.

With talks of national parks in the Territories at Ellesmere Island and the proposed national park in the East Arm, I would like to know if the Minister is considering some kind of training in the national park department or in training in economic development for northerners? If we do not have the training in these departments then we are not going to have too many of our own people working in these national parks. So, Mr. Chairman, I would just like to know what is planned in the line of training for the national park as well as the Economic Development department?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First to deal with the national park issue. From my department's perspective we certainly do not have a training program planned for involvement of the native people in the national parks because this is really a federal jurisdiction. My understanding is there are community consultations, with the usual consultation carried out by federal representatives along with some of our representatives but I can assure the Member that this is not at all to preclude the land claims negotiations or any other major issues that affect the Territories. The planning process must be carried out by the government before proceeding any further in my view. I think that is why these community consultations have been going on. But as for putting native people to serve the parks, it is too early for me to indicate anything because even the Ellesmere Island proposed park is put on hold until the agreement between TFN, the Inuit groups can be reached.

Example Of Auyuittuq National Park

From experience I think I can say with respect to Baffin Island and Auyuittuq National Park, the involvement of the native people has been a very interesting one because number one, it created a number of jobs through outfitting and the guides who are all native people. I travelled there the last time about a month ago and each time I am invited there, the tourism group, which is composed of representatives of all the outfitters, have their own local group promoting tourism and asking for better opportunities as well as improving their services. In that regard, it is very interesting to see that, because there are no non-native outfitters and guides in that area. It is all strictly Inuit people taking advantage of the opportunities arising out of the parks program. So I would hope that if there is to be any park, that would be an example taken by the government and I think it is something that should be carried out.

I at the moment do not have any information on Nahanni National Park but I can assure you that we have made some representation on behalf of Fort Liard trying to improve their involvement and the use of the Liard River and to ensure their hunting rights and that this government supports the maximizing of their outfitters program which would involve the local people. That is the sort of thing that my department is committed to and we will ensure that this does happen if and when parks are proposed in the Territories. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. General comments. Progress has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? I will rise now and report progress. I would like to thank the Minister and his staff.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan.

ITEM 16: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILL 1-86(1), APPROPRIATION ACT, 1986-87

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 1-86(1) and wishes to report progress and requests leave to sit again.

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. Thank you.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Announcements and orders of the day, Mr. Clerk.

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

ITEM 17: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Tuesday, March 11th.

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 1-86(1); Tabled Document 37-86(1); Bills 2-86(1), 3-86(1), 4-86(1), 5-86(1), 7-86(1), 8-86(1), 9-86(1), 10-86(1); First Report of the Special Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges; Bills 11-86(1), 12-86(1), 13-86(1), 14-86(1), 15-86(1)
16. Report of Committee of the Whole
17. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 11th.

---ADJOURNMENT

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