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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1986

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Angottitauruq, Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Arlooktoo, Hon. Michael Ballantyne, Hon. Tom Butters, Hon. Tagak Curley, Mr. Erkloo, Mr. Gargan, Mrs. Lawrence, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. McCallum, Mr. Nerysoo, Mr. Paniloo, Hon. Red Pedersen, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Richard, Hon. Nick Sibbeston, Mr. T'Seleie, Hon. Gordon Wray

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Wah-Shee): Orders of the day for Thursday, March 13th. Item 2, Members' replies. Mr. Nerysoo.

ITEM 2: MEMBERS' REPLIES

Mr. Nerysoo's Reply

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not have a written or drafted response but I do wish to make a number of comments in this House. Firstly, let me congratulate my good friend and the Government Leader for assuming the responsibility of chairman of the Executive Council. I believe that it has been long overdue. I think we worked toward attaining that particular responsibility and let me give my personal congratulations to the Executive Council and personally to Mr. Sibbeston for attaining that particular responsibility.

Mr. Speaker, there has been much discussion with regard to the whole question of the subagreement on interim benefits that was reached between the TFN and the Government of Canada. With all due respect to Members in this House who have the idea that we have no responsibility to raise questions or to raise concerns with regard to particular agreements, I believe as elected Members in this House and representing the people and public of the NWT, we have every responsibility to raise concerns about what may affect not only the Members or people of the Eastern Arctic, but what may possibly have effects on the people of the West as well.

There has been some suggestion that we should not be questioning our Executive Council with regard to the effects of that agreement on public government. The very reason we elected the Executive Council Members -- and as some Executive Members wish us to have trust in them -- is that they have a responsibility to raise concerns or the concerns that we might have as ordinary Members, so that the sanctity or the idea of public government, through the negotiation process, and I refer to the negotiation process because the Western Constitutional Forum and the Nunavut Constitutional Forum are in the process of developing public governments that will be reflective of the types of structures and institutions that will be responsive to the needs and traditions of native people, generally, throughout the NWT, as well as taking into consideration the kind of structures that the non-native people would be able to participate in knowing that their interests will be protected. I think that that is important. I think that everyone in this House has been extremely supportive of that idea. We passed the motion in this House giving the Constitutional Alliance and the forums the ability to work together to try to form public institutions and public governments in the NWT that are responsive to the needs of the people.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

---Applause

MR. NERYSOO: Mr. Speaker, there is another major concern that I have with regard to the Inuit subagreement, and I do not oppose the idea of the agreement being signed but I do say this, that when agreements are signed there has to be some fairness and commitment on the part of the federal government that that same type of agreement will be allowed to be signed by the Dene and Metis. If the case is such that the arguments being put forward -- and I must say that recently I was elected vice-president of the Dene and Metis regional council in Inuvik. At a meeting that I had with Mr. Crombie he indicated, when we raised concern with regard to resources, the possibility of compensation and the possibility of funds being allowed to be given to the Dene and Metis in the Delta region, and his very answer was this, "Let us wait until the Coolican task force report has been tabled." If the case has been that there have been three subagreements signed with the Inuit, why is the government not willing to negotiate fairly with the Dene and Metis in the Northwest Territories and allow them to come to some conclusion on some of the subagreements that they are prepared to sign? I do not think that there is fairness at the moment. Maybe it is a sign of the people that are working with Mr. Crombie, I hope not. But I do say that that situation does exist and in our discussion it was very evident that they were not prepared to negotiate fairly with the Dene and Metis and I do not believe that is fair. I believe that it is necessary for them to come forward and make a public statement with regard to their position on negotiations.

Support To Resolve Claims Overlap, Mackenzie Delta

Mr. Speaker, we talked about being fair and I recall the idea of being supportive in the motion that Ms Cournoyea raised here in this House, of being supportive of people negotiating land claims and settling the concern with regard to the rights that would be identified and clarified. I think that one of the major issues that has been overlooked for a number of years has been an issue that I have had major concern with. That is, particularly, the Delta area where the Dene and Metis, even though they have had a treaty, have not been given the opportunity to settle in any way, shape or form the overlap question. We talk about the rights of people and we talk about this Assembly being supportive of supporting aboriginal rights and the fair conclusion of those rights. Yet when it comes to the question of the Mackenzie Delta it seems that Members of this House overlook or do not wish to support the idea of a fair solution and a fair conclusion to those issues.

I believe that it is important to recognize that we do have a treaty -- Treaty 11. And that there are certain rights that have been given to the aboriginal people in the Valley. We may not want to recognize it and we may not be willing to recognize it but it is there and I do believe that the constitution protects treaty rights as well. In our discussions in future, I hope that the whole question of the overlap concerns that we have are in fact considered as much and as important as the idea of supporting aboriginal rights in areas that do not cause controversy and do not cause concern. I think that it is important to protect all people and to ensure that there is a process. If there is a process to work the issues out, to work out the overlapping concerns and a commitment on the part of those people that are affected, including in our particular case, Mr. T'Seleie and Ms Cournoyea -- if there is a commitment on the part of those two movers of the last motion that was passed in this House to a fair conclusion, a process will be put in place to resolve the outstanding concerns. My belief is that we will not have as much concern. We tried two years ago to negotiate a memorandum of understanding on a process and it was not the Dene and Metis that were opposed to signing, it was the representatives of the Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement, of which Ms Cournoyea is a member. Now, I would raise the issue as well if she was here today. But I must say that if we are to conclude and to be fair with regard to negotiations, those issues have to come to the table and they have to be put on the table for discussion.

Constituency Concerns

Mr. Speaker, I wish also to raise a couple of constituency concerns. First, let me express my appreciation to the Minister of Local Government for his efforts in trying to resolve the whole question of the community complexes. I do hope that we can in the very near future sit down and resolve that particular issue. I appreciate and would express my thanks to the Member for continuing to pursue that and hopefully he will be successful in ensuring that those particular projects are completed. Those are the projects in Fort McPherson and Aklavik. I do say that in Aklavik they are still -- the Minister of Public Works and Highways has been aware of a submission that has been made to him with regard to a road to the foothills. The Minister, I realize, is not responsible for new construction of roads but I believe that it is important that we raise that particular issue with the federal Minister that is responsible so that the community can have the ability to have continual access to its gravel resources or to develop a park in the mountains and in the foothills area.

Transfer Of Health Services To GNWT

Mr. Speaker, with regard to the whole question of health transfer, I spoke during the discussion in health that I would support the transfer. I want to continue that particular support and it is of course conditional that any transfer does not in any way abrogate or derogate, as the federal government likes to put it, abrogate or derogate the constitutional rights of aboriginal people. I believe it is important to ensure in the transfer that the transfer in no way affects the constitutional responsibility of the federal government to provide ongoing services or ongoing commitments through a contract to the territorial government and also to protect those particular services. I must say, Mr. Speaker, that this particular issue was raised recently at the regional council and while there are still major concerns, none the less we see and hope that any transfer will result in better services and programs being delivered to the people in the Mackenzie Delta.

One other particular concern that was raised was ongoing community representatives with regard particularly to the management boards. There must be that guarantee that community representatives will be involved and that there would also be a guarantee that there will be native representation. When I refer to native representation I refer to Metis and the non-status as well as the status Indians and also Inuvialuit in my particular constituency. That commitment has to be made.

We have of course on a number of occasions in this House raised particular concern with the services of the hospital and the services that have been provided in the nursing stations. My belief is that there has been considerable pressure on staff but even more so there seems to be a lack of understanding and even an unwillingness at times to be prepared to deliver services at unusual times or during emergency periods. I think that if the Minister of Health can somehow try to resolve that particular question and if he needs assistance I would be prepared to provide that assistance.

I want to also say if the transfer is to be successful, that my belief is that it is necessary for the government to have an extremely good working relationship with the staff members; the nurses, the doctors, the administration. I hope that, in the discussions, the Government Leader who will be actually responsible for the turnover of personnel, would at some time meet with the representatives of the nurses and have an opportunity to speak to the doctors in that particular region, to clarify some of the concerns that they might have with any transfer. I think that would be very important and in fact would improve the morale of the people, the nurses and the medical staff that are now in Inuvik and in that particular region as well.

Appreciation Of Mr. Parker And Mr. Pilot

Mr. Speaker, I just wish to speak to Commissioner Parker in particular. I had an opportunity to work with Mr. Parker for six years and let me express my appreciation to Mr. Parker. I believe in the comments that have been made previously that you were the right guy at the right time. I think that the evolution of the Executive Council and the responsibilities that the Executive Council Members have taken on would not have occurred without your support and without your help. Let me express my appreciation to you for that.

---Applause

I also want to express my appreciation to Mr. Bob Pilot. I realize that the decision has been made that Mr. Pilot leave and take up a new responsibility in Ottawa. During my time in the Executive Council it was with his assistance and many times his work that many of the concerns and responsibilities that I had were concluded. I just want to express my appreciation and my best wishes to Mr. Pilot and, of course, your wife and family and wish you well in your responsibilities in Ottawa. I know you will do an extremely good job for us. The same type of job that you did when I was the Government Leader and a Minister in cabinet.

---Applause

Mr. Speaker, I just wish also to say through you to the Government Leader and through the Government Leader, one of the groups that is always overlooked in our expressions of appreciation is our public service. We have a tendency in this House to be critical of our public service but that is our responsibility. It is also our responsibility to be critical of policies of government. But let me express through you, Mr. Speaker, and through the Executive Council my personal appreciation to the public service for the work that they have done for us over the past years and the ongoing work that they continue to do for us. Without them many of the services and

the programs that we approve here in the finances would not be possible and the success of the delivery of those programs and services would not be possible but for the public service that we have in the Northwest Territories. I would like to express my appreciation of their expertise and the responsibility that they take on, on behalf of this Legislature and on behalf of the Executive Council.

GNWT Responsibilities Re Aboriginal Rights

Mr. Speaker, I do not have much more to add to the comments that I wish to make other than the point that I made earlier, that I still have the responsibility of raising concerns with regard to any agreements that are reached by native people particularly if they affect or possibly would affect my constituents. I think that it is important to realize that, regarding any agreements that are reached even with our own government and the federal government, if we have concerns we have a responsibility to raise them. I also want to point out, before I sit down, that as much as Members in this House wish to ignore or suggest that we do not have a responsibility in aboriginal rights, I say that that is not true. We do have a responsibility. We have a responsibility to either raise questions on the point or support it, so we are playing the role.

I must remind Members, and especially Members such as Mr. Curley who was so instrumental in making sure that this Assembly went down to Ottawa some years ago to fight, on behalf of aboriginal people in this country, to reinsert a section in the constitution, that we recognize aboriginal rights so the reality is that we are involved in the issue on aboriginal rights. My colleague, Mr. Sibbeston, as Government Leader will be sitting at the table trying to define and clarify for aboriginal people their rights. So we cannot ignore the responsibilities that we have as elected representatives to clarify and to work for and to support aboriginal people but at the same time raise concerns that might in fact not seem to be fair. If the government can respond favourably and show to the public the fairness of the agreements that have been reached, respond to show that what has been agreed to is in the interests of the people of the NWT.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Hear, hear!

MR. NERYSOO: Those types of issues I think are important. I will not be critical of the government nor will I say to the government that they ought to be releasing confidential information but none the less it is important to explain the positions that the Executive and our government take. I say "our government", because you are my government and are the Government of the NWT, and the residents of the NWT respect the fact that you have been elected to do a job for them. As such, let me again conclude by wishing my good friend, Mr. Sibbeston, well in the Executive Council. I appreciate the responses you have given to us during our discussion on the budget and you can be assured that we will continue to ask you questions, that we will continue to be critical particularly in the policy area and raise concerns with regard to programs. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 2, Members' replies. Mr. Wray.

Mr. Wray's Reply

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will stay away from any controversial subjects and talk about my constituency for today...

---Laughter

It is Yellowknife Centre by the way and Mr. MacQuarrie is my MLA.

MR. MacQUARRIE: And I will try and do a good job.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Well, we will see at next election time.

Mr. Speaker, I welcome this opportunity to reply to the Commissioner's Address and I would first of all like to express my personal appreciation to the Commissioner, Mr. John Parker. Over the years he has proved himself to be a man with a fair amount of vision. He was placed in an extremely difficult task. He was given a job with a lot of power but essentially he was told to divest himself of that power. I think the manner in which he has done that and the way in which he has done it is a credit to all of us and a credit to this government. He has bowed out gracefully.

To the new Leader, Mr. Sibbeston, I extend my congratulations. Mr. Sibbeston is rapidly proving to be an able and a competent leader and one that the Northwest Territories, I think, will be proud of in years to come when we look back at what he has done. Responsible government is here. There may be a few more steps to take, however, it is here and we can see by the events of the last couple of weeks that we are getting more responsible as things go on.

Health Care Crisis In Keewatin

I wish to address two concerns mainly with regard to my constituency. One, my colleague, the Member for Aivilik, has delved into in his reply and I wish to take the same opportunity, because the matter of health care in our region is becoming, for a lot of people, a crisis. We have unfortunately over the last few years, seen some rather remarkable things happen in our region with regard to the health care delivery system, and not all of them very good, I am afraid to say. Mr. Curley gave some graphic illustrations of things that took place. I will also give you a couple of illustrations. I will confine them to a couple because I could spend all morning going through a list of things that have happened but I will give you a couple of illustrations on situations that happened to people that I knew very well and that I actually became involved in.

I had a business partner, his name was Hugh Ungungai. Now, Hugh is a relatively young man, 38 years of age, who was a hunter. He was a very able and fit man but he did not feel well and he kept going time after time after time to the nursing station. And time after time after time, they kept sending him home and just saying, "Well, you just have high blood pressure." Once he even managed to get to Churchill to be seen by a doctor and was told the same thing. Then one day a couple of years ago, he came to see me in my office and said, "I am really sick but they tell me I have frozen my lungs." And he said, "I am a hunter, I have lived on the land all my life", and he says, "I know I have not frozen my lungs." So I called a friend of mine in Toronto who worked for a mining company and I said, "Look, I am going to send Hugh down. I want to see if you can arrange to have him see a doctor in Toronto because he really does not feel well." So we sent Hugh down on the plane on Monday and his appointment was Tuesday. He went in to see a doctor in Toronto on a Tuesday and the Thursday of that week they took him into an operating room and gave him triple heart by-pass surgery. He had been with this condition for two years and nobody had been able to detect it and nobody had been able to find out. That was bad, but what was even worse was that we paid for his way down and we paid for his medical expenses because we just did not have time to arrange it. So then when we got the bills we sent them to national Health and Welfare and instead of accepting that they had made a mistake, instead of saying, "Yeah, okay, we blew it", can you believe that they wrote back to us and said that because we did not authorize you to do this, we refuse to pay those medical expenses? Now here was a man that was very ill and took steps by himself to cure himself when the system should have done it for him. And instead of the system saying, "Yeah, we screwed up", the system tried to keep on screwing up. It was an instance like that that I must admit really started me questioning what was going on.

Then another incident last summer. This time a non-native person and I will not use the name this time because I have not talked to the person. They told me I could tell the facts. It was a woman who kept going to the nursing station and was told that she had an ulcer. So then last summer she went home down south for holidays and went to the doctor who sent her into the hospital. She did not have an ulcer, she had cancer of the bowel. Luckily it was caught early enough to be cleared. But once again, the system failed. Time and time and time again, the system fails.

I had a young brother-in-law, 12 years of age, in 1974 -- this is 10 years or so ago -- who died because, although my mother-in-law took him to the nursing station three times in one day, she was told that he had an upset stomach, to go home and take an aspirin. He had a ruptured appendix. Now 10 years ago, it was perhaps reasonable justification to say that medical services were not all that they could be. Again, it is not a real excuse but in those days you understood things. In 1986, 10 years later, just a few months ago again, another young boy in my community, same thing happened. Luckily this time he made it to hospital in Churchill with not very long to spare. But the same thing, ruptured appendix, the same thing again.

Nurses In Extremely Difficult Position

The problem that we have in our communities is that because the nurses are the only people there on a daily basis delivering health care, people blame the nurses. They take their frustrations out on the nurses. I want to clear something up for the media and for the public in general. We are not attacking the nurses. The majority of those nurses are hard working, dedicated women who sacrifice

a lot to come North: What they are not, they are not doctors, they are not heart specialists, they are not orthopedists, they are not psychiatrists, but yet we expect them to be because they are the only ones delivering health care. I think it is unfair for people in general to attack the nurses because it is not their fault that the other part of the health care system does not provide them with the proper back-up and the proper diagnostic medical personnel to assist them in their job.

A nurse has limited training and she has to make a judgment decision when somebody comes into a nursing station -- "Is this person worth sending out?" -- because what those nurses also live under, and I know this for a fact, is that their zone office and their Edmonton office are saying to them, "You are spending too much money on medivacs. Our budget is over." So the nurses have been squeezed from both ends. They have been told by their supervisors, "Your budget is away over, cut back." On the other hand, they are trying to make a decision as to "Should I send this person out or not?" It is an extremely difficult and almost untenable position that our community nurses are put in.

I know in Eskimo Point two years ago, both myself and the MP, Mr. Suluk, wrote to the Minister of Health and Welfare and said, "Look, you have three nurses in Eskimo Point, one of them is sick, one of them had to go out of town on a medivac and one nurse is left to look after the health care of 1200 people." Now, how can you expect the system to operate like that? How can you expect nurses to provide proper health care when they do not begin to have the resources to do it? Unfortunately, because of the distance that the zone office and the head office of Health and Welfare are from our region, the people in the communities, including myself and the Member for Aivilik, do not know who to go to because I will tell you I do not know what the rest of your regions are like, but in our region they have become very adept at giving you the runaround. So people become angry, they become bitter and they become frustrated. The people they take it out on are the nurses because they are there and they can be got at. I really think that is unfair because those nurses are doing the best job they can with the resources that they have. Sure, there are a few who come in and whose attitude is not particularly great or whatever, but they do not usually last that long. The other nurses there very quickly learn who they are and that is taken care of. But for the most part those women are -- I do not envy their job at all. Two or three women in total isolation trying to look after the health of 1200 people. It is an extremely difficult job. I do not think we give them the credit that we should because we are so hung up on all the problems. That is one of the reasons why we wanted that regional office and hopefully it will move to probably Rankin Inlet, because then we can transfer some of the animosity...

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible comment)

HON. GORDON WRAY: No, we are getting enough as it is.

---Laughter

MR. McCALLUM: Spread the wealth around.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Hopefully we can transfer some of the frustration and some of the questions and the concern from the nurses to the people to whom it should be properly placed and that is the administrators of the health system, not the people who do the work but the administrators of that system. Perhaps when those people start to realize the anger and the frustration, they are going to take steps to do something about it. They can live in Churchill and they can live in Edmonton and they sit there and allow the nurses to take all the criticism. It does not bother them because they are isolated from it. That is one of the reasons why we want to move them into the region so that they are not isolated from it and so they begin to understand what it is the nurses have to go through on a daily basis.

Visits By Doctors, Dentists And Specialists Inadequate

The other major problem that we have is just the lack of delivery. There just are not enough visits by doctors. There are not enough visits by specialists. In Baker Lake, we get to see an eye doctor once a year if we are lucky. So if the eye doctor comes in December and in January you find out that you need glasses, you have to wait to the following December before you can get those glasses. That is the frustration that we deal with. There are, from what I understand, close to 200 children in our region with severe hearing problems. Yet, only half a dozen have been provided with proper hearing aids and proper treatment for those problems. Again, Health and Welfare's excuse is, believe it or not, "We do not want to provide hearing aids because you do not have programs in your school to cope with children with hearing problems." We said, "Hold it, that is not your problem. Your problem is to provide those children with hearing aids."

We do not have any dentists. At one time we had a very successful dental therapist program in our large communities. Most of our communities had dental therapists and dental treatment. Now we do not. In some communities, and it has happened within the past year, a person has to be sent to Churchill to get a tooth out. It cost the federal government \$1000 for one tooth for one person when a dentist could have been sent to that community for the same money and treated probably 50 or 60 people. This is where the system is screwed up because they are spending so much money on sending people out and sending people south for treatment when if the same money was spent on bringing people in to treat people, we could enjoy a much greater level of service.

We have problems with the staffing at the Churchill hospital. Mr. Curley referred to my community of Baker Lake with regard to psychiatric treatment. Can you believe, Mr. Speaker, that one day a psychiatrist was in our community and was expected to see between 20 and 30 people all of whom are in fairly great need of some form of treatment, in one day? That is the type of service that we are getting. Instead of being able to spend one and two and three hours with these patients, they have been asked to cram between 20 and 30 people in on one day. How can people get good treatment when that is happening? When a doctor comes to the community there are so many people to see the doctor and because his time limit is so narrow, first of all you have to go through the nurses to get to see the doctor. The problem is that sometimes the nurses do not have all the training required to assess whether or not a person should see the doctor. But they are told to make a priority list because this doctor is only going to be here for X amount of time. So once again responsibility has been transferred to the nurses, where perhaps that responsibility should not be.

I guess it is really frustrating for us when we see ourselves moving ahead on so many fronts. It is 1986 and yet people are still not receiving proper medical treatment. Man has been on the moon for what -- 15 years? Since 1970.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: It was 1969. I was in Rio de Janeiro.

---Laughter

Growing Frustration

HON. GORDON WRAY: But anyway, 16 or 17 years ago we put man on the moon and we cannot even look after a bloody rotten tooth in the Keewatin Region. There is something wrong. The frustration levels are building. People are becoming extremely frustrated and my fear is that as that frustration builds, more and more the gap widens between the nursing stations and the community, when in fact the nursing stations and the community should be working as one to address the problems of a community. More and more I hear people starting to go after nurses and it bothers me, because as I say, people are taking their frustrations out on the nurses and it is the wrong place to take it out. Something has to be done. It is no longer acceptable that we should have to undergo such lack of proper care.

As a parent of five children, I worry all the time that one day one of my children is going to become sick and the first thing I have got to do is to argue with the nurses as to whether or not my child should be medivaced. Because that has happened. I know of situations where people have had to literally argue with the nurses to get their people out on medivac. Not because the nurses did not want to send them but I know the nurses are put under pressure in terms of their budget. They are told, if it is a borderline case then maybe you do not send that person out. You know Health and Welfare say they cannot justify another doctor for the region. One doctor to look after 5000 people. I mean, what more justification do they want? I do not know. I think it is because they just do not live in our region and they do not understand what it is that we have to go through on a daily basis.

So I sincerely hope that by Mr. Curley and I raising it, by the Keewatin Inuit Association raising it, by the regional council raising it -- and one thing that has happened in the Keewatin Region which I must admit has prompted and assisted Mr. Curley and I in raising the level of concern, was the hiring of a regional health officer by the name of Jo MacQuarrie...

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

---Applause

HON. GORDON WRAY: ...who has done more in about four or five months in that region to raise the level of concern and to begin helping people to address their problems, than anybody has done in the past. It was probably one of the best moves that the Minister of Health has ever made.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: She was one of my aldermen.

---Applause

Unemployment And Social Problems

HON. GORDON WRAY: I just wish to address one other topic and that is the continuing problem of unemployment. In my constituency we have approximately between 1100 and 1300 children below the age of 18. Almost half of my constituency is below the age of 18. The other day I was sitting down and figuring out all the jobs that are presently available in our communities. Even if every nursing job, every NCPC superintendent, every government job was filled by people from my constituency, we would only be able to fill about 125 to 130 jobs. That means that I still have 1000 kids that are going to be looking for work. I just do not know what we are going to do. I do not know how anybody, including this government is going to be able to create 1000 jobs in the next 15 years in that constituency. That is only the 1000 that we have right now. Over the next 15 years there is probably going to be another 1000 born or 500 born. What do we do with them? Every year the problem starts to compound itself. I look at the computer print-outs from Education and quite frankly I get scared when I see classes in Rankin Inlet and Baker Lake in grades four and five of 65 and 70 children -- 70 children in one grade alone. What are we going to do with those children? How do we create that many jobs? I do not know. Because the resources are limited where we come from.

Traditionally in, I guess you could call them rural areas, and I look to my home in Scotland and I look to Newfoundland for the way of life was very similar, they are fishing and farming communities. Our answer was to immigrate. That was how we solved our unemployment problem. The people left. They came to Canada, they went to New Zealand, to Australia, they went to the States. From Newfoundland they come to the rest of Canada. But what has happened and I can take you around to where I came from in Scotland, in the western isles, there are literally hundreds of deserted communities. There is nothing left of them, just some stones in the ground, because as the young people left, the old people died off and eventually there was nothing left.

The problem we have in the NWT is that migration out is not a solution because the people will not leave, they do not want to leave because they have nowhere else to go and they do not have the capacity or they do not have the education to migrate south or to larger centres and pick up jobs because the drop-out rate is so high -- how could a grade six or seven come to Yellowknife and compete for a job over here? Most of them have never been outside their home community in their life. How can they operate in a large urban environment? We have the experience from the South where native people have migrated from the reserves to the cities like Regina and Winnipeg and we know the problems that native people have in those centres. So that is not an option for us. So what do we do?

If you look at our statistics and particularly over the last two or three or four years, in my home community of Baker Lake, the crimes stats are starting to rise at a phenomenal rate, the vandalism, the alcoholism and attempted suicides. Every one of our communities is the same. The problems are getting worse, they are not getting better. There are more and more kids turned out into the streets with no jobs, no education, nothing to do and nowhere to go. The problems will continue to get worse. How do we turn it around? I do not know and the fact that I do not know scares me because I do not know if there is a solution. All I can think of is to at least provide some of them with some skills at least where they can go on the land and try and provide themselves with some form of subsistence living; to provide recreation facilities so at least they have something to do instead of walking around the streets; to perhaps encourage them in the areas of art and music, to become more creative so that at least with all this spare time, they can use it creatively. Those are about the only solutions I can think of right now.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

Unemployment Is Our Biggest Problem

HON. GORDON WRAY: Manufacturing or the large labour-based type of industry for the time being is not available because our overheads and our cost of business are so high. No company would wish to set up a manufacturing plant in the North. It could not compete against those in Ontario and

Quebec. But I think of all the problems that we face in the Northwest Territories, that is our single biggest problem. If I remember my figures correctly, out of a total population of about 50,000 we have about 16,000 children between the ages of five and 14, which probably means that we have anywhere between 20,000 and 25,000 children between the ages of zero and 18. So it is a problem of all of us, it is not just my problem. It is the entire Northwest Territories' problem. And I do not know where we are going to create that many jobs, I just don't.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I hope that I am still around in a few months. I trust that we, over the next two years and the government after us will really begin to address this problem of our young and the unemployment and the social problems that we are about to enter into. Because we have only seen the tip of the iceberg. The problems are just starting and it is probably the one issue that we as a government and this Legislature and the people of the North must address and it is not something that we can say that we will deal with later, because the problem is with us now. If we do not deal with it now it may be too late to deal with that problem five years from now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 2, Members' replies. Mr. Paniloo.

Mr. Paniloo's Reply

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will just say something short about the Commissioner's Address. I did not hear it because I was not here but I heard about it. I want to raise a concern about the Ministers. I want to tell them that they are doing a very good job and I want to thank the Government Leader. I want to thank him for all the thoughts he has said because we want to listen to these things. The people of the North want to listen to these things.

Now I have another concern. I am talking about four of my children -- three of my children are members of the student council. They have told me a few times that they need funding to help the students and to help the teenagers. Last year in October the youth came here to talk to us. But now we still have to know that these students and youths still need help from us.

Before the youth council started in that community there used to be a lot of students who used to sniff glue and drink a lot. Now, I do not see any of this happening in the communities. I think these youth councils help a lot for these teenagers in the communities. I want to tell the Ministers we have to look for funding to help develop programs for these teenagers and youths. In the smaller communities it is hard to get funding and raise money. To hold movies, to hold dances and to hold things like that to raise money for the youth for their programs -- this is hard to do in the smaller communities. I think the smaller communities should be provided with funding if possible. This is my first concern.

My second concern is, and I keep returning to this, the housing matter. The housing situation in the Baffin is very bad right now. The houses are old and very expensive. In my community there are three people who have proper houses. But as their jobs change they move to other buildings which are not as nice, because they are not able to pay the rent. I think the housing rate in the smaller communities has to be looked at. It is very difficult to have a full-time job in the Baffin area right now. There are a lot of people who are committee members who are responsible for housing but they are not able to get around to the communities because they do not have any funding to hold meetings and bring up their concerns. This has been an ongoing problem and it has been a problem for close to 15 years now. If this could be looked into and become a better situation, I would appreciate it. I have an appointment to attend, so this will be my last comment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

ITEM 3: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Paniloo. Item 3, Ministers' statements. The Chair recognizes the honourable Member from Baker Lake, Mr. Wray. Turn on your mike, please.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mike, mike. I will even do that for you. You go ahead, he is reading.

HON. GORDON WRAY: My big buddy looks after me all the time.

---Laughter

Minister's Statement 16-86(1): Community Flags For Expo '86

The first statement I have to make is on community flags for Expo '86. I am pleased to inform the House that the Department of Local Government over the last several months has sought and received design proposals from 38 communities in the NWT for community flags which will be unfurled at the NWT pavilion in Vancouver for the entire period of Expo '86. The production of these new flags is proceeding well and will be completed by the end of this month. Of these 38 new community flags, seven are from the Keewatin Region, 13 from the Baffin Region, four from the Kitikmeot Region, 10 from the Fort Smith Region and four from the Inuvik Region. The flags will be sent direct to Expo as well as to the communities for immediate display. Along with the present flags of the city of Yellowknife, the town of Fort Smith and the town of Pine Point, there will be a total of 41 NWT community flags for the world to view at Expo '86. I believe they will show, through their colourful diversity of distinctive logos, an image which is truly representative of the diverse cultural expressions of communities across the NWT. I wish to thank all the communities which contributed to this effort and I am pleased that we will be able to provide, not only an exciting addition to our NWT pavilion, but also a permanent legacy for many communities and, it is hoped, an increased sense of community identity and pride. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Item 3, Ministers' statements. Mr. Wray.

Minister's Statement 17-86(1): Incident Re Yellowknife TV Sales And Services Ltd.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Over the past two weeks the many questions and allegations raised in the House concerning contracting has created much public debate. Unbeknownst to me, one of my officials in the Department of Public Works and Highways visited the registered offices of Yellowknife TV Sales and Services Ltd. on March 11th to confirm the shareholders of this company. Such action was not warranted and is not in keeping with either my direction or the practices of the department. I expect this incident resulted from the overexuberance of my staff in attempting to support me. This action was misguided, however, and I have confirmed with my staff that such activities are not consistent with my previous directions and will not be tolerated. I have also apologized to Mr. Alex Morrison, the owner of Yellowknife TV Sales and Services, by way of letter. I will table in this House that apology, along with the letter from the NWT Chamber of Commerce, for public record under tabling of documents, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 3, Ministers' statements. Mr. Wray.

Minister's Statement 18-86(1): On Arctic Star Distributors Ltd.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have given very serious consideration to the concern raised by the honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre in respect of the matter around Arctic Star Distributors Ltd. and have sought opinions and discussed this matter with my colleagues in the Executive Council. This matter has given rise to a great deal of controversy in the House, some of which is attributable to my inability, as a Member of the Executive Council, to reveal the discussions that took place in the Executive Council on Arctic Star Distributors Ltd. An impression seems to be created that somehow, the Executive Council or I have something to conceal and therefore, I have been unwilling to give my reasons for not recommending the awarding of the contract to Arctic Star Distributors Ltd.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I on the Executive Council are keenly aware of our accountability to this House, particularly in light of the fact that we do not operate on a political party system but on a system of consensus, and indeed to the people of the NWT. I believe that we have acted correctly and exercised our judgment in the best interests of the residents of the NWT. It would be ironical therefore, Mr. Speaker, if our not giving reasons for taking a particular course of action is construed to be an error of judgment or an action in bad faith.

It is for these reasons that the Executive Council has authorized me to make public the basis on which I decided to take the awarding of the Hay River contract to the Executive Council. It should be pointed out that the Executive Council makes the distinction between matters that are discussed in the Executive Council and matters that may arise before a cabinet meeting. It is for these reasons, Mr. Speaker, that my colleagues and I feel that it is appropriate to make a statement.

Arctic Star Distributors Ltd. was a new company. Its previous business association with the Housing Corporation, I was advised, was one small contract, approximately \$38,000. Part of the problem that we had in this whole area is that there were two contracts involved and some of the decisions of the second one were results of decisions which had an impact on the first contract. In the first contract, Arctic Star was the second low bidder. It was, however, decided by the Executive Council to award this contract to Arctic Star. These reasons I feel would not be in public interest or in the government's interest to disclose. However, I have been given authorization to disclose those reasons in private to Mr. Dixon. The reason that I wish to address the first contract is because the reasons that we had on the first contract give rise to the reasons on the second contract.

I decided to recommend against the awarding of the second contract to Arctic Star for two reasons which, as I say, have a bearing on the first reason which I will disclose privately. Arctic Star, if awarded the second contract would have had two major contracts to handle. It was the opinion of the Housing Corporation and their advice to me, which I agreed to, that quite frankly we doubted Arctic Star's capacity to handle two such large contracts, particularly since the Hay River one was only two months away and therefore the time was not very great. The Montreal contract was four months away and we felt that with four months, we could work with the company if any problems arose. However, the lead time for the second contract, the Hay River contract, was not great. If any problems arose, we felt that perhaps we would not be able to overcome those problems given the time frame.

The second problem, and again, part of this reason relates to the first reason on the first contract, is that the second bidder on the Hay River contract is and was a large employer of NWT residents. It had an established store with a very large inventory of stock. It paid substantial taxes in the NWT. The money paid to it will remain in circulation in the NWT and it had made a large financial commitment to the Fort Resolution sawmill to buy all of their lumber, their board lumber. That was a major consideration, Mr. Speaker, because as you know this government financially supports the Fort Resolution sawmill because we want to create employment in that community. As you know, that community has a history of some major problems and employment is fairly hard to come by. It was for those reasons that we wanted to ensure that the Fort Res sawmill was kept in operation. Therefore, I felt that it was in the financial interests of the government and indeed of the people of the Northwest Territories that the second contract be awarded to Igloo Building Supplies and not to Arctic Star. The difference in price was \$4000. However, part of the problem in the past has been that all too often government does not look at the side issues to awarding of contracts. And while the Housing Corporation may have saved \$4000, the fact is that if the Fort Res sawmill and the people in Igloo do not have work then we are going to be paying out a lot more in welfare payments than \$4000.

After considering all these factors I decided that I would take the matter to the Executive Council to seek my colleagues' opinion. Mr. Speaker, I believe, and I reiterate, that I acted correctly and exercised my judgment in the best interests of the Northwest Territories. The Executive Council, in their collective wisdom, supported me in my views and I have confidence that the honourable Members of this House will also approve of my actions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Item 3, Ministers' statements. Mr. Butters.

Minister's Statement 19-86(1): Clarification Of Previous Statement On Contract Regulations

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, it is possible that my statement on contract regulations, yesterday, may be construed to mean that in all circumstances contemplated by the regulations, only the Executive Council has the authority to award the contract to a person other than the lowest bidder. My comments yesterday were made in reference to the particular provision of the contract regulations which gives overriding authority to the Executive Council.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 3, Ministers' statements. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Richard.

ITEM 4: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 204-86(1): Reconsideration Of Closing Of Borealis School

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Education, but in his absence I would direct it to the Government Leader. It concerns the scheduled closing, Mr. Speaker, of the Borealis School. On March 11th in this Assembly, I asked the Minister of Education in view of the concerns that had been expressed directly to him at a public meeting in Yellowknife recently, would he reconsider the decision to close the Borealis School? On March 11th, Mr. Speaker, the Minister responded. He did not agree with my terminology that the school was being closed but rather that the resources were being reallocated throughout the Northwest Territories.

In any event he did state, Mr. Speaker, that he will not proceed in this direction until satisfied that there is an adequate alternative planned for each child and anticipated future needs which will ensure that they get the special attention and program they require. Now, notwithstanding that undertaking two days ago to this Assembly, Mr. Speaker, I am advised by the school board representatives who, following the Minister's undertaking went to the Department of Education, that they were told by the departmental officials that in fact the decision was made. The school is being closed and the resources are being redirected, split among the various communities -- the limited resources that have been allocated to the Borealis program.

The question then, Mr. Speaker, of the Government Leader, will he undertake to look into this matter and ascertain whether the Minister's undertaking is being complied with by his departmental officials, and advise, in the very near future, the school board representatives and also the LEAs from the other communities whose children are currently in the program? Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Sibbeston, would you like to take this on behalf of the Minister of Education?

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, the answer is, yes, I will undertake as requested by the Member.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You will take the question as notice. Mr. Butters, are you replying to the issues raised by Mr. Richard? Mr. Butters.

Further Return To Question 173-86(1): Availability Of Aircraft Fuel, Sanikiluaq; And Further Return To Question 192-86(1): Aircraft Fuel, Sanikiluaq

HON. TOM BUTTERS: No, Mr. Speaker. I wish to make a return to an oral question which I believe is required under this particular agenda item. Return to oral Question 173-86(1) and Question 192-86(1), asked by Mr. Appaqaq with regard to aviation fuels in Sanikiluaq.

Officials of my department have discussed with Shell Canada the requirements for aviation fuel in Sanikiluaq and I am not satisfied with the distributor's response. Therefore, I have instructed my officials to begin an immediate airlift of a six month supply of aviation fuel into Sanikiluaq so there will be no delays in transporting patients to Churchill in the event of a medical emergency evacuation requirement. We will continue our discussions with Shell Canada to ensure that sufficient aviation fuel is shipped into Sanikiluaq during this summer's sealift resupply.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask for unanimous consent to go back to the previous item on Ministers' statements. I do have a statement which I was able to locate. It is a very short statement.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is requested. Are there any nays? Please proceed, Mr. Curley.

REVERT TO ITEM 3: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement 20-86(1): On Co-ops

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be making a statement on co-ops. I am pleased to announce that we are in the final negotiations with the federal government of a refinancing package for the co-operatives in the Northwest Territories. However, given the federal government's current freeze on federal spending, the details of this package cannot today be announced. In early April, I will be able to make a full disclosure of what has been negotiated with the federal government. At this time, I would like to emphasize that what has been negotiated will include a comprehensive review of each co-operative and a number of strong conditions which will be put into place that will have to come about if this funding is to be implemented. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 3, Ministers' statements. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Wray.

REVERT TO ITEM 4: ORAL QUESTIONS

Further Return to Question 121-86(1): Gravel In Pond Inlet

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to oral Question 121-86(1), asked by Mr. Erkloo, with regard to the community granular program in Pond Inlet. A granular field investigation was undertaken in Pond Inlet this last summer. The investigation included a review of alternate sources, processing requirements and community requirements. The ultimate goal of the investigation, a comprehensive granular management plan, will be complete in 1986. In the fall of 1985, a screener was transported to Pond Inlet. This screener will be used this summer to process adequate materials to meet the community's requirement for granular materials, in the short to intermediate term. Approximately \$70,000 to \$80,000 will be spent.

MOT Quebec region does have a five year plan showing "Gravel crushing and runway improvements" for Pond Inlet. It is anticipated that a crusher would be utilized by MOT at that time. Negotiations will certainly take place for the supply of granular materials for community use, when the MOT program proceeds. We will be negotiating with MOT on that requirement. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Ballantyne.

Return To Question 132-86(1): Leakage Of Confidential TFN Subagreements

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to oral Question 132-86(1), asked by Mr. Angottitauruq on March 3, 1986, concerning the Inuit impact agreement.

This is a return to the question asked by Mr. Angottitauruq respecting the alleged leaking of the Inuit impact and benefit agreements. The information sought by the honourable Member is not within my direct knowledge. The document in question was in the possession of many individuals including federal, territorial officials, officials of the TFN and others directly or indirectly associated with the process, any one of whom could have made it public. Mr. Speaker, I share the honourable Member's concern about the leaking of confidential material. Perhaps greater care should be exercised to prevent occurrences of this kind. As the Government Leader has assured the TFN, the Executive Council and GNWT staff representatives on the federal team treat these agreements in the strictest confidence. We have found no evidence that this document was leaked by GNWT representatives. I regret that I am unable to provide the information sought by the honourable Member.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 4, oral questions. Honourable Member for Sahtu, Mr. T'Seleie.

Question 205-86(1): Housing Designated For Fort Franklin

MR. T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Personnel. I was not here last Friday when the capital plan of the Department of Personnel was being dealt with, but in the capital plan bible here, it lists three units for Fort Franklin. I am told by department people that this is not the case and that these three units are, in fact, being distributed to other communities in my region. I wonder if the Minister is aware of that.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Sibbeston.

Return To Question 205-86(1): Housing Designated For Fort Franklin

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of any change of plans with respect to three houses that are designated for Fort Franklin. I would be interested to know from the Member what his views are on the matter and I will certainly look to try to follow his advice in this matter as closely as possible.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Nerysoo and Mr. MacQuarrie both asked oral questions on decentralization costs, etc. Because of the scope of the information, the large amount of information, I am unable to provide a reply to an oral question. However, I will undertake to provide to the Members in writing, answers to their questions within the next couple of weeks.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Erkloo.

Question 206-86(1): Funding For Office Space, Pond Inlet

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be directed to the Minister for Economic Development and Tourism, Mr. Curley. I touched upon this topic that Pond Inlet residents are trying to get office space. However Sam Arnakallak is trying to lease or get some funding from Special ARDA and EDA. Will you support this request? Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is new to me. As you may well know when these applications are submitted we do not know ahead of time. For that reason when the Special ARDA committee has dealt with this, and the EDA will have to review it, only then will I find out about this. I am not too clear on this topic so I cannot reply at this moment. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You will take the question as notice, I assume. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Gargan.

Question 207-86(1): Definition Of Full-Time Trapper

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Renewable Resources with regard to compensation for loss of equipment, either through natural fires or whatever. I know the Minister replied to Mr. Paniloo concerning the bear damaging some equipment in Clyde River. The Minister said equipment could be replaced provided they were full-time trappers. I would like to ask the Minister, what constitutes a full-time trapper? Because I know in my area, for example, people do trap in the wintertime but in the summertime they do have jobs too. Does that cover the situation there? I just wanted some clarification on what constitutes a full-time trapper.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pedersen.

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The definition of a full-time trapper is contained in our regulations. I do not have them handy now but I will provide them to the Member.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 4, oral questions. Mrs. Lawrence.

Question 208-86(1): Appointment From Tu Nedhe To Stanton Yellowknife Hospital Board

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Health. Will the Minister consider appointing a person from my constituency to the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital board of management as soon as a vacancy exists? Snowdrift residents do utilize the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital, as well as some of the people of Fort Resolution. Mahsi cho.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Sibbeston, would you take this on behalf of the Minister of Health?

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I will be pleased to take the question as notice and I will certainly indicate the Member's concerns to the Minister as soon as possible.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Oral questions, Mr. Gargan.

Question 209-86(1): Detail Of Moneys Given To Deh Cho Communities

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Economic Development concerning a letter dated March 3, in which there were some loans, grants and contributions given in my constituency; Fort Providence, which was \$99,000; Kakisa, \$20,000 something; and Hay River, \$9000 something. I would like to ask the Minister, what are the details of the loans, grants or contributions? What were the purposes of those particular moneys being allocated to these communities? Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Curley.

Return To Question 209-86(1): Detail Of Moneys Given To Deh Cho Communities

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker I do, during every session, provide Members with the total breakdown in their riding, as to what contributions and grants have been provided. But because of the relationship of these to clientele and to applications for these particular financial proposals, I cannot disclose the exact nature of these breakdowns of these items. But as you know, these particular totals that I have provided you with, are to give you some indication of what kind of support the government is giving to the MLAs' ridings, as well as to the NWT as a whole. Unfortunately I am not at liberty to disclose the exact nature of these items. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 4, oral questions. Item 5, written questions. Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could I get unanimous consent to return to oral questions, please?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It had better be important.

MR. NERYSOO: Well, it is important to me.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being requested to go back to Item 4. Do Members agree?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Are there any nays? Mr. Nerysoo, please proceed.

---Agreed

Question 210-86(1): Amendment To Jury Act Raised In Finance Committee Meetings

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. While I realize the Minister responsible for Justice responded, there were a couple of answers that he gave me to a number of questions that I asked yesterday, and I quote. "These questions were asked during the standing committee on finance and I thought I answered them there." And, "Again, the Member's points were brought out in both the finance committee, of which he is chairman, and the legislation committee. I gave an undertaking to both those committees that this particular amendment would not be proclaimed until we have adequate translation resources in place." Could the Minister indicate to Members in this House whether or not he did in fact respond to any questions in the standing committee on finance, or whether or not the whole issue of the jury amendment was, in fact, an issue that was raised during the standing committee on finance?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Ballantyne.

Return To Question 210-86(1): Amendment To Jury Act Raised In Finance Committee Meetings

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think it was a misunderstanding. That question was asked last night during committee of the whole and I said on the record that I was wrong. I apologized to the honourable Member. It was my recollection that it had been discussed

in both finance and legislation committees, when in fact, the only reference to it in finance committee was in my opening statements, so the major discussion was in legislation committee. I have already in the public record apologized to the Member, set the record clear, but I am prepared to do that again. The Member is right, it was not discussed in finance committee. It was discussed at some length in legislation committee and I apologize for any concern it caused the Member. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please. A point of order here. We are under Item 4, oral questions. It would appear that the question raised has some relationship with the point of privilege which you replied to, Mr. Minister. I would like to remind Members that we are under oral questions. If the Member wants to raise the point of privilege then that is appropriate at any time. However, I would like to remind Members that we are under Item 4, oral questions. Item 5, written questions. Mr. Appaqaq.

ITEM 5: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question 211-86(1): Office Space, Sanikiluaq

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a written question to the Minister of DPW, Hon. Gordon Wray. I will not be reading my written question but I will be directing it to the Minister of DPW. Thank you.

The present school facility at Sanikiluaq will no longer be in use when the new school opens. We are in desperate need of office space and this is what we propose; to get together with the field service officer, social services, game officer, women's group, youth council, and myself, as the MLA. My question to the Minister of the Department of Public Works is whether his department would consider giving the old school to us as office space. It only requires minor renovations. If funds can be allocated, I would greatly appreciate your department responding to this matter as soon as possible.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Item 5, written questions. Item 6, returns. Mr. Sibbeston.

ITEM 6: RETURNS

Return To Question 202-86(1): Interviews Through The Department Of Personnel

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, yesterday in written questions, Mr. Nerysoo asked me whether I, personally or through my staff, instructed the Department of Personnel to interview individuals for certain positions. I am able to reply stating that I did not either personally or through my staff, instruct the Department of Personnel to interview any individuals for, either any or certain, positions with the GNWT. The one exception to this was a constituent from Fort Simpson who, although clearly qualified, had not been offered an interview in several positions for which she had applied.

However, since becoming Government Leader and the Minister of the Department of Personnel, an encouraging number of native and non-native northerners have approached me to discuss employment opportunities with our government. I, in turn, referred them to my staff in the Department of Personnel and in the case of native northerners, to the Equal Employment Directorate as well. Under no circumstances did I give instructions to the department to interview them for any competition. I would encourage my colleagues to actively refer northerners to my department for consultation and participation in the competition of employment opportunities with our government. If the Member has any information as to any particular persons that he is aware of, that he believes I have directed to the department, I welcome further questioning in this regard because I am certainly not aware of any.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mahsi cho. Item 6, returns. Mr. Ballantyne.

Return To Question 201-86(1): Curfew By-Laws At Fort Resolution

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to written Question 201-86(1), asked by Mrs. Lawrence, to do with the Fort Resolution curfew regulations. It is a fairly lengthy return and I will just table it and Mrs. Lawrence can have a copy of it.

The Department of Local Government received a request from the Deninoo community council of Fort Resolution in November of 1984 to have the Fort Resolution curfew regulations amended. The Department of Justice received this request in December of 1984. Many of the provisions that the council wanted added to the regulations are already in the Curfew Act and therefore, the regulations do not have to be amended with respect to these provisions. Some of the requested changes do require that the regulations be amended. A final draft of the amendment has been prepared.

However, the whole scheme of regulations under the Curfew Act, which imposes a curfew on children of a certain age in one community, but imposes a different curfew on children of a different age in another community, may conflict with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The Department of Justice is preparing an opinion on this issue. Once this opinion is completed, which will be soon, a decision will be made respecting the whole scheme of regulations under the Curfew Act and whether it would be proper to proceed with the amendments.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. You are very considerate. Item 6, returns.

Item 7, petitions.

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

ITEM 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday Mr. Bob Kadlun who is the chief negotiator for TFN passed a document over the ropes to a Page to be delivered to me and then left the chamber immediately. I have good reason to believe, Mr. Speaker, that it represents the sum total of the arguments that he has been able to generate against my objections to the TFN agreement, so I thought that I ought to table it, Mr. Speaker.

---Laughter

Tabled Document 49-86(1), it is apparently a thank you note. There is a big thank you written on the bottom here, printed, and I presume that is for sorting them out, I am not sure. But he has some kind personal messages too. "I see you're still bitter about not being elected to the Executive Council some time ago."

---Laughter

Just for the record I would like to make it plain, I did not run the last time. I got the message the two previous times.

---Laughter

"P.S. Have you taken any documents lately?"

---Laughter

And I have not. But there it is, Mr. Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. We are very pleased to receive any documents the Members wish to table. Tabling of documents. Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table my statement, Minister's Statement 17-86(1), a letter from me to Mr. Alex Morrison, Yellowknife TV Sales and Services Ltd., and a letter from the general manager of the NWT Chamber of Commerce to DPW, as Tabled Document 50-86(1). Thank you.

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

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to file with the Assembly, Tabled Document 51-86(1), a beautiful document, Opportunities, A Guide to Government Services and Programs in the NWT, a Handbook for Aboriginal People. It is a book that has a lovely picture with one of the MLAs on the cover and it has information about all aspects, all sorts of programs and services provided

by our government. The handbook was initiated by Mr. Patterson and myself and has been the work of the Aboriginal Rights Secretariat. It was done because many of the programs and services, and information about them, which are readily available to non-native people in the North were not quite as easily readable and available to native people. So we provided this handbook which is presently just in English but it is in clear simple understandable English and we will be providing translations of this document in the very near future. Mahsi cho.

---Applause

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would like to remind Members that when you are tabling documents you are not really allowed to elaborate too long. However, we wish to know the contents of your documents. Tabling of documents. Mr. Ballantyne.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As you know the Department of Justice's budget is up for review. We do not have a glossy document, we cannot afford one in the Department of Justice, but I am pleased to present to the Assembly Tabled Document 52-86(1), Review of Landlord and Tenant Act, and I will be interested in any of your comments in the continuation of this session. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 9, tabling of documents. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 53-86(1), a small package of letters and invoices that will demonstrate that the Keewatin Guest Lodge was known to the GNWT as a business that provides beds and breakfasts in Rankin Inlet.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 9, tabling of documents. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Tabled Document 54-86(1) which consists of three documents, two of them being requests made by the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism for verbatim minutes of meetings of the proceedings of the standing committee on finance that were held in December last and January, and the third is a copy of a transcript from our research officer indicating that the verbatim minutes were in fact given to the Minister.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 9, tabling of documents. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I table Tabled Document 55-86(1), a letter from Mr. Phil Painchaud, president of Rockland Investments Ltd. It refers to the make-up of the shareholders in that company and it was in response to what this gentleman felt was not a fair statement by the Minister of Public Works.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Item 9, tabling of documents. Item 10, notices of motion. Mr. Curley.

ITEM 10: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 24-86(1): Reappointment To Public Utilities Board

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that at the appropriate time I will move the following motion: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Slave River, that this House recommend to the Commissioner that Mr. Archie Fraser Bevington, of Fort Smith, be reappointed as a member of the NWT Public Utilities Board for a period of three years.

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

Motion 21-86(1): Revocation Of Appointment Of Member From Kivallivik As Member Of The Executive Council, Withdrawn

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday at this time in the order papers I had given notice that I would introduce a motion of non-confidence in the Minister of Public Works. It must be made very clear, Mr. Speaker, that the precise reason that I made that motion was because I felt that the Minister must answer the people with respect to a particular matter. Because he was then refusing to provide reasons I felt I ought to put a motion. Mr. Wray in the House today has provided reasons and also he indicated one that is confidential. He has indicated to me what that is and has given the undertaking that he will make it known to Mr. Dixon. The public can be assured that neither Mr. Dixon nor I would be too easily persuaded...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Pudluk, your point of order.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I thought the rules state when we are introducing a notice of motion we should read only "therefore" not "whereas". Thank you.

---Laughter

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: In regard to the point of order raised by Mr. Pudluk. Mr. Pudluk is correct in his point of order, however, I believe the intent of the honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre is to withdraw his motion which he gave notice of yesterday. We would like to give the honourable Member the opportunity to explain the reasons why he wishes to withdraw his motion. So if there are any nays in regard to that, then I would follow your direction. Is it agreed that the honourable Member can proceed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. MacQuarrie, please proceed.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was saying that because reasons have now been provided I will in a moment withdraw the motion that I made, while doing so making it abundantly clear that I maintain the right to thoughtfully review those reasons and to criticize and challenge them if I should believe that that is warranted. And, of course, the public must have the right to do otherwise and I do happily accord to the Minister the right to defend those reasons. I would simply like also to make it clear that I still maintain the right to examine as to whether the Minister in other ways may be conducting his department in a manner that is acceptable to the public.

Thirdly, I would like to make it very clear that there is still, distressingly, a much larger issue as to whether the Executive Council as a whole is answerable to the people. I would merely like to make it clear to the public that I will be addressing that. It will be addressed by me, by other colleagues in this House and I hope by constituents right across the Territories. It will be pursued to the fullest extent necessary.

Having said that, Mr. Speaker, I acknowledge that this motion was for a very precise reason. The reason for giving it no longer obtains since the Minister answered in the House and therefore, Mr. Speaker, I ask that my notice of motion be dropped from the order paper.

---Applause

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Your motion is withdrawn.

---Withdrawn

Item 10, notices of motion.

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

ITEM 12: MOTIONS

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I wish to seek unanimous consent to proceed with the motion I just gave notice of earlier.

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

---Agreed

Mr. Curley, please proceed.

Motion 24-86(1): Reappointment To Public Utilities Board, Carried

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

WHEREAS the appointment of Mr. Archie Fraser Bevington, of Fort Smith, to the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board expired on February 7, 1986;

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

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Slave River, that this House recommend to the Commissioner that Mr. Archie Fraser Bevington, of Fort Smith, be reappointed as a member of the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board for a period of three years.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Your motion is in order. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Item 12, motions. Mr. Erkloo.

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like support on the motion I made yesterday. I would like unanimous consent.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion 22-86(1). Are there any nays?

---Agreed

Mr. Erkloo, please proceed.

Motion 22-86(1): Multipurpose Hall For Hall Beach, Carried

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS the people of Hall Beach have been requesting funding from the Government of the Northwest Territories to build a multipurpose hall for 10 years;

AND WHEREAS the Government of the Northwest Territories has allocated and spent funds for the fiscal year 1984-85 for feasibility studies in the amount of \$25,000;

AND WHEREAS the Government of the Northwest Territories allocated funds in the fiscal year 1985-86, in the amount of \$96,000, and that was used somewhere else by the Government of the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS the people of Hall Beach have raised funds from their community, in the amount of \$38,742.34 toward a multipurpose hall;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Baffin South, Mr. Arlooktoo, that the Executive Council consider allocating funds for Hall Beach to build a multipurpose hall within their 1986-87 budget.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Erkloo, your motion is in order. To the motion. Are you ready for the question?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Item 12, motions. Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Speaker, since we are all in a good mood I would like to ask for unanimous consent to deal with the motion for which I gave notice yesterday.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being requested for Motion 23-86(1). Are there any nays?

---Agreed

Mr. T'Seleie, please proceed with your motion.

Motion 23-86(1): Native Communications Society Funding, Carried

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Speaker:

WHEREAS the Native Communications Society is a non-profit organization which provides vital information services to Western Arctic residents through the publication of the Native Press newspaper and the operation of radio station CKNM;

AND WHEREAS the bulk of operating funds for the Native Communications Society has, in the past, been provided by the federal government;

AND WHEREAS this grant, provided by the federal government, has not been increased since 1982, and a recent supplementary grant of \$20,000, promised by the federal government, has not materialized because of federal budget cuts;

AND WHEREAS the Native Press is facing a serious deficit situation as a result of increased production costs and the federal government's failure to deliver a supplementary operating grant;

AND WHEREAS this situation may result in the Native Communications Society's inability to continue providing a needed public service;

AND WHEREAS the Native Communications Society has requested an emergency operating grant from this government in the amount of \$47,529.29;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Deh Cho, Mr. Gargan, that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the Executive Council that it consider making emergency funding available to the Native Communications Society to carry the organization through its current financial crisis.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. T'Seleie, your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. T'Seleie, do you wish to speak to the motion?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question has been called. Mr. T'Seleie, do you wish to speak to your motion?

MR. T'SELEIE: Just to say that the Native Communications Society in the West anyway -- I guess what concerns me here is the publication of the newspaper. I know that it is widely read in smaller communities. I think circulation of it in remote communities is probably the same or better than News/North. The information package that I received from the NCS, they have told me that they have distributed this information to most of the western MLAs and have requested that they distribute the same information to other Members. The package of information pretty well outlines the problems in funding. So I would like to ask that Members support this motion. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

---Applause

Item 12, motions.

Item 13, first reading of bills.

Item 14, second reading of bills. Item 15, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Bill 1-86(1), Bill 11-86(1), Bill 15-86(1), Bill 14-86(1), Bill 8-86(1), Bill 6-86(1), Bill 12-86(1), Bill 13-86(1) and Bill 2-86(1), with Mr. Gargan in the chair.

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

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 1-86(1), APPROPRIATION ACT, 1986-87; BILL 11-86(1), SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION ACT, NO. 3, 1985-86; BILL 15-86(1), SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION ACT, NO. 1, 1986-87; BILL 6-86(1), LOAN AUTHORIZATION ACT, 1986-87; BILL 8-86(1), PETROLEUM PRODUCTS TAX ACT

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): The committee will now come to order. I will recognize the clock and recess until 1:30.

---SHORT RECESS

Bill 1-86(1), Appropriation Act, 1986-87

Department Of Justice

We are on page 9.09 of your main estimates. Does the committee agree that the Minister brings in his witness?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister. We are on legislation. Mr. McCallum.

MR. MCCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did not think that we had completed the legal services. I just have a question of the Minister regarding legal services on page 9.08. It is with regard to the Legal Services Board. As I understand it, there are two vacancies on this board but I guess what concerns me is that there are at least four or five appointments due to expire sometime this summer. I know the government is reviewing various boards, and I wonder what the future holds in terms of this board with regard to new members and getting input into the appointments of this board.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the Member is referring to the Legal Services Board and vacancies on that board are something the department is reviewing right now and I will be soliciting names from people to fill any vacancies.

Legislation, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Legislation, total O and M, \$563,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Mining Inspection Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mining inspection services, total O and M, \$598,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Safety, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Safety, total O and M, \$1,632,000. Agreed? Mr. Angottitauruq.

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Mr. Chairman, I have a question on safety. First of all I will ask the Minister responsible for Justice -- I am not too clear on whether your department looks after the flammables being loaded onto aircraft that are carrying passengers. That is my first question. I will get down to the other one if I have the idea right.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My understanding is that it would be under transportation of dangerous goods. I understand it is the responsibility of the Department of Renewable Resources, I think. For airplanes, the federal Ministry of Transport has the prime responsibility for the concern.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mahsi cho, Mr. Minister. Safety, total O and M, \$1,632,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Legal Aid, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Legal aid, total O and M, \$2,426,000. Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister if he could provide me with information on what sort of legal aid is covered by legal aid? What I mean is what sort of cases is legal aid set up to fund? I would like to ask him if he could provide me with that information.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: What I will do is provide the Member with a more detailed response. The way legal aid is set up right now in the Territories, it is eligible to persons in all courts in the NWT unless the charges are minor and there is very little danger of imprisonment. So it covers just about all eventualities but I will give the Member a detailed breakdown of the actual terms of reference of our legal aid.

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

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, just through you to the Minister, I wonder if he could provide that information to all Members of the Legislature.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Certainly. This year we are going to be reviewing the whole aspect of legal aid and I would be quite pleased to provide that information to all Members of the House.

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

MR. MCCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of the increase in the grants and contributions, that is for the native courtworkers and Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik, those areas. Is that correct?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: That is correct. There are a number of organizations that have taken over responsibility for legal aid and the major increases in this budget are to those organizations because of increased caseloads and activity.

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

MR. MCCALLUM: The corresponding increase in revenues, is that cost recoverable from federal funds?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Legal aid is a 50/50 split with the federal government. We are now in the process of finalizing our negotiations with the federal government on that but it is 50/50 division.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Legal aid, total O and M, \$2,426,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Police Services Agreement, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Police services agreement, total O and M, \$16,484,000. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The problem has been raised regarding the difficulty when increased costs have been incurred by the government or by the RCMP during the year. The government then has to come back for supplementary funding because of certain instances that may occur. I know it is a set particular rate that is negotiated with the RCMP but it does present a problem in some of the smaller communities. I know it looks as if the Minister is going to be successful in getting supplementary funding for this coming year, but in the interim there have been directions sent out by the RCMP, the officer commanding of "G" division, to various detachments to drop their night guards, or custodians that they have -- civilian people. I wonder if the Minister could indicate to me if there is any way that this can be overcome or is this something that we will go through in the smaller communities, yearly, that these people who work in the detachments will have to be laid off for a period of time every year until the Minister is able to come to agreement with his colleagues in cabinet, and therefore with this Assembly, for supplementary funding?

I know that at various times there are extenuating circumstances that take more moneys and therefore the difficulty is that the RCMP have to take some hard economic decisions to meet the demand for this funding. But it seems to me that this may go on and on. Is there not some way the Minister can work out an agreement for these people who provide a service in the local detachment? I do not want to get into a situation that occurred back a couple of years ago, where if somebody required police service after hours, they would have to phone a number in Smith, get a number to phone, phone Yellowknife, Yellowknife would then come back to Hay River and go back over to Smith to get an RCMP person out to answer a call. So I wonder if there is some kind of a set-up or an arrangement that the Minister can work out that would not take away these civilian personnel that help to operate local detachments where there are more than three officers.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The Member has brought up a valid point. I know my predecessor had the same frustration that I have, in trying to come to an equitable agreement with the RCMP. The Member is right, we are coming forward with a supp for the past fiscal year and because of base level deficiency we might well be coming forward next year with another supp. I have told the RCMP to take all reasonable steps to try to keep their budget under control. But the specific program that you are referring to, the guards and matrons program, has two parts to it. What had happened is that over the past couple of years and with the RCMP telling me that it is without any federal approval, that program has increased quite dramatically and there were situations where there were guards and matrons in a detachment when there were no prisoners. There were situations when guards and matrons were there when there were other officers there. So I am quite aware of the concern. The basic concern of the community is to ensure that the phones are manned. So the way we are dealing with the problem is by tightening up the whole program, but at the same time ensuring that somebody will be there to man those phones.

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

Amalgamating Responsibility For Construction Of Houses

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just firstly to lend my personal support, having served as the Minister of Justice and having gone through the frustrations of trying to resolve the ongoing financial questions, particularly since many of the decisions that we had to finance were not made by the GNWT but we had to pay for the decisions that were made in Ottawa, and subsequently, major decisions that were made by the federal government. Maybe I also could recommend to the Minister, as we have been told over the past few months, particularly since the whole area of housing was such an important area of concern that direction was given by the special committee on housing that we consider amalgamating the responsibility for construction of houses for the public service, for government and for public housing reasons, particularly the construction site.

In your discussions I would hope that you could somehow begin discussions on this government assuming the responsibility for construction of houses for the RCMP as well, because previously and even to date the maintenance of such houses is under the jurisdiction of the federal Department of Public Works, and the tendering process for houses that are being constructed on behalf of the RCMP is done by the federal Department of Public Works. Even in those particular cases, in instances, we still have to pay the 60 per cent of the costs that are associated -- I guess it is now 62 per cent, but we do have that particular responsibility.

I recall a couple of years ago having raised a major concern about two houses that were constructed for a cost of \$300,000 apiece. If you recall they were in Pangnirtung. Now that is a pretty expensive house to be constructed. I am not opposed to the idea of the houses themselves being constructed, I support that the need was there. But one has to wonder how we could build public housing units for the residents of Pangnirtung for \$150,000 to \$170,000, yet these two units cost us \$300,000 apiece which added up to \$600,000, which really could have been four houses in the sense of the units we were putting in for residents. So I just raise that point and encourage you to begin the discussions and will support you in your deliberations on trying to have this government assume the responsibility for construction of those units for the RCMP.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. I thank the honourable Member for that suggestion. It is something we had not looked at but I think it is a good idea. Now we are trying to look at any ways that we can cut costs, so I will certainly look into that question and I will appreciate any ideas the Member has to assist me in that. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. During our discussions in the standing committee on finance we had a presentation by the Minister in which he indicated his efforts in supporting the special native constables program. We as a committee, wish to indicate our support for the initiative that has been taken by the Minister and also, of course, previous governments. I wish to introduce this motion, Mr. Chairman.

Motion To Support Special Native Constables Program, Bill 1-86(1), Carried

I move that this committee support the special native constables program and the objective of the Minister to channel future growth under the program as a means of ensuring the active participation of native people in policing and deterrent activities within their communities.

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

---Carried

Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the past year or two since the government has gone onto an accrual accounting, there has been some concern of the standing committee on finance about the difficulties that Justice had in determining accrued costs under the police agreement. I wonder if the Minister could indicate to us the status of that problem and whether they have remedied the difficulties that were evident in trying to determine what those accrued costs were.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: That has been a problem that has plagued this government for a number of years. I guess for a number of reasons, their financial process has been out of whack from ours. I think that part of it has been resolved. The financial reporting relationship is much improved. We have a very good idea now of where the RCMP spend money. It does not help us with the underlying problem of the base deficiency and it is something that Mr. Butters and I together are working on. I have talked to the Solicitor General about getting a base level increase in this area to take care of our shortfalls. I think the process is in pretty good shape right now but we still have to come to grips with that base level deficiency.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkløo): Thank you. Police services agreement, total O and M, \$16,484,000. Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not going to ask you for additional people or any dollars in my constituency or anything, but I do wish to raise a concern with the Minister. I believe that there is a way in which we can solve the problem of the services that are being provided to Arctic Red River. Presently the detachment in Fort McPherson is responsible for providing service but they are usually occupied with providing the service in Fort McPherson and trying to provide a service also on the highway. I am wondering if the Minister could have discussions with the commissioner or the superintendent to see if there might be a rotating process or assignment where a constable or two constables from Inuvik, on a rotating basis, could man the community of Arctic Red on the weekends. Rather than the idea of adding a new person, or adding that additional cost, that might be the best route to go. But what is happening right now is there is a lot of uncertainty in the service because, as I said, of insufficient people in Fort McPherson to provide both service on the highway and at the same time service in the community of Arctic Red. So you might be able to utilize the detachment in Inuvik, as well, to offset the responsibility of the Fort McPherson detachment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkløo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: We will certainly look at it. I think the Member is putting forward innovative ideas on how to handle these problems. I think it is important. Obviously we do not have the resources to put full manpower or extra manpower in every community. I think these sorts of ideas are very valuable and I certainly will undertake to enter into discussions to see what we can do, Mr. Nerysoo.

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

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am thinking of an incident that happened a few years ago in Fort Providence. They had a dance, it was still within the normal hours of the licence, but the RCMP went in and expropriated the booze from the dance. I would like to ask the Minister if that is normal practice.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkløo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. My understanding is that unless there is a breach of the peace, for instance a fight, some violent behaviour, or if the licence has expired, an officer does not have that right. So the only circumstances where an officer could come in and interfere would be a breach of the peace or where the conditions of the licence were not being met.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkløo): Thank you. Police services agreement. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Am I correct in saying that it could be done?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkløo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: It can only be done under certain circumstances. If there was a breach of the peace, for instance a fight or violent behaviour, or if the conditions of the licence were not being met. For instance if the licence said that the dance had to be over at a certain time and it was past that time. But those would be the only circumstances when an RCMP officer should interfere with what is happening at a dance.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkløo): Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: I just had a concern about that because I know the people that put up the dance had some concern over that. It was just a question, because there were no charges laid at all during that particular incident.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkløo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think I answered the question but sometimes it is a judgment call on the part of the RCMP, what they consider to be a breach of the peace. Obviously they are not always right -- they are human. But generally those are the conditions; there has to be an obvious breach of the peace or the conditions of the licence have been violated.

Police Services Agreement, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Any more questions on the police services agreement? Police services agreement, total O and M, \$16,484,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Court Services, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Court services, total O and M, \$4,590,000. Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe I could ask the Minister through you, Mr. Chairman, whether or not he has considered the idea of making public in the press, the new amendments to the Criminal Code with regard to drinking and driving offences.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: As I am sure the Member is aware, the Hon. John Crosbie made a cross-country tour. He did not come to the Territories. We have started the process. We want to get the federal Minister of Justice up here. I agree with the Member it is something that we are going to be doing, is publicizing that more than we have. So we have started that process as I think it is important to get across to the public that there are some very strict restrictions now and the public should be aware of these. So we will be doing more in that area, Mr. Nerysoo.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you. I appreciate the comments of the Minister. I just think though, that it might be important to make the amendments public. Not so much having the federal Minister come, but you as the Minister responsible in the Northwest Territories, making people aware as to what sections have been amended and also the consequences of such amendments. The reason I say that is I have a newspaper, in fact it is a native newspaper out of the Yukon, that has the amendments. It is very short and yet people are able to see what the amendments are. In fact it says Bill C-19 stops drunk driving, so it just shows what the changes are. In the North here we have not seen to date in any papers at all what the amendments are. Everybody is assuming that everyone knows that the amendments have occurred but really do not know the details of the amendments. I would just encourage the Minister to somehow make them public. I know the releases have been out by the federal government but none have been published in our newspapers here, or for that matter, none have really been published on the radio or on television in our spots during the weekends where we have those announcements on that sort of thing. I would just encourage the Minister to do that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The Member's comments are valid. Mr. McLaughlin and I issued a joint press release before Christmas giving the details and there was some coverage but I agree with the Member that we could do more. I will say to the Member that we will, in the next few weeks or months, make the public more aware of those amendments.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the last paragraph it says that circuit travel required by both the territorial and supreme courts continues to rise. I know it will, but with all due respect to the judges and everyone involved in the court system, I do not understand why, when they have a court in the community, the court staff do not stay there until the court is over. The people live in that community and it should be good enough for anybody that comes there, to stay for about two or three nights, instead of chartering a big Twin Otter back and forth for about three days. It costs a lot of money and there is a sched going in. I can see them chartering out, but not chartering in and out just for the sake of chartering and not even considering staying in the community. I have stayed in that community many times and it did not hurt me. I do not understand why they have to charter in and out every day. I wonder if the Minister could comment on that. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I understand what the Member is saying and as a department, I know the courts themselves are caught in a little bit of a no-win situation because there are so many communities that they have to visit. It is necessary now to have interpreters, to have all sorts of support staff who are very expensive. What they are trying to do, at one end, is cut down on costs. But I see the Member's concern, that maybe they would learn more if they spent more time in the communities. I think they are attempting to do both but it is difficult right now to do that. The caseloads have increased. There is greater demand. They are getting into more communities and it is a problem. It is a problem that is really caused by the huge geographical area of the NWT. I think improvements can be made and we will do what we can to see if we can alleviate the situation and the problems that the Member has brought forward. But it is very difficult to co-ordinate court cases throughout the NWT and to ensure that you have a prosecutor, a defence lawyer and a judge available on a certain day in a community, and to be sure that facilities are available in those communities. Because there could well be, and it has happened quite recently, that other things are happening in the community. It is a difficult one but I will definitely discuss your concern and we will have discussions with the people involved in the courts to see if we can improve the situation.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess my concern is that with the rise in costs, it is going to cost a lot more if we keep abusing the charters, chartering planes when there is a sched. I do not see any reason why they should have to charter, they should use the sched where it is going to other communities, regardless where it is going. If there is a sched it should be used because getting a charter going into these communities is very expensive. I guess that is the point I am trying to make. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: We have had and are having ongoing discussions. I think the Member must be aware of the fact that the judiciary is very conscious, and we should be, of their independence and of undue interference from the political arm onto the judiciary. They have their role to play and we have ours but they are now taking scheds in cases and what we are trying to do is, mutually between the Department of Justice and the courts, work this out. We have to be careful in this area because they do have -- there is a constitutional separation of power so it is a delicate area and there are ongoing discussions. They are aware of our concerns and we are attempting in every way possible, and so are they, to try to keep these costs down.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Any more questions on court services? Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My buddy for Yellowknife South had one more motion and time ran out on him, as happens to so many people.

---Laughter

AN HON. MEMBER: Agreed.

MR. MACQUARRIE: He had to fly away and since he drafted a motion for me last week I thought it was only appropriate, when he asked me to introduce his motion, that I do it. So I will, but of course Members may find that for the first time since I have been a Member of this House, I maybe will not know exactly what I am talking about when I speak to the question in a minute.

Motion To Hire Additional Territorial Court Judge, Bill 1-86(1)

Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommend to the Executive Council that an additional territorial court judge be hired immediately on the understanding that the successful candidate may be required eventually to locate in the Eastern Arctic.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): May we get a copy of the motion, please? The motion is in order. To the motion.

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have been told to say a number of things. I will not say them and I will say some other things instead. The Minister himself acknowledged on more than one occasion that there is a problem in this respect; that there has been significant increase in

the caseload on the court system at the present time, on the demand for the court services and the services of judges and that there had to be an increase in the circuits. The resulting work is very burdensome on the few people, I think there are three judges now who do all the travelling and that it is very burdensome to them. I know that the Member from Frobisher Bay has on several occasions over the past few years pointed to the need for this kind of thing.

Mr. Richard indicated that he recognized that there could be a problem with a very significant cost of immediately trying to put all of the support staff and facilities into a community somewhere else, and that it may take some time to arrange that in the budget. But nevertheless, he felt that another judge is needed now and that could be the first step toward getting all of the auxiliary facilities and staff in place. And if that person were appointed now, that there could be such an understanding, that the position would be designated to somewhere else in the Territories at a suitable time.

So, that is all that I have to say to the motion. It makes a great deal of sense to me and so I am going to support it on behalf of my colleague, and I hope other Members will too.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. There is no doubt that the caseload and the workload of the territorial court judges have increased dramatically and there is also no doubt that there is a long-term potential for some cost savings and efficiencies in having a judge located in Frobisher Bay. I know that there have been demands for judges in other areas of the Northwest Territories, but I will speak quite honestly. That is probably the most logical place to try and get another judge, to ultimately put that judge.

I have to caution Members that when one gets a judge, the cost is not just for a judge. There is probably support staff of four or five that would be costed along with a judge and a possible way to go is the method suggested by Mr. Richard. If we can get some agreement it would be, at some point when funds are available, to get an extra territorial court judge in Yellowknife, and then at some future time, when money has been identified, to move that judge over to Frobisher Bay.

Indication For Funding Priorities

So, I think if we were to go this route, and I support it because there is a need for it, but everyone has to understand our government has many priorities and Members of this House, at some point, have to decide where their priorities are, and what money we will have to spend. So, I think that the motion is a good one and I will take it, if the motion is passed, as an indication from this House that as funds become available, that we move in that direction. I welcome the direction.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): To the motion. Mr. Paniloo.

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be in favour of the motion. I realize that there is no judge either in Baffin or Keewatin, and I believe they are only located in Yellowknife. In Baffin we have a very serious problem in getting the judge into our communities, and when they come into town, they do not spend very much time in the community. Sometimes we end up waiting for the judge for up to three months. I believe that the motion will be a very valid one. Thank you.

I have another short comment to bring up. We all realize that there is not enough funding for all of the programs that we would like to see, but I believe that the Minister will be able to support this motion too, so therefore I will be supporting the motion. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): To the motion. Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I think it would be appropriate for me to thank the honourable Members from Yellowknife for moving such a very important motion. Since my colleague, the Minister of Justice, supports the advice, I think that it is important that I do say a couple of complimentary words to the motion, because I think that it is important that while justice is being delivered throughout the North, it is equally important that it be improved, that the ordinary citizens who often get into conflict with the law are fairly treated and quickly.

I think it is most important now, in my view, and I do want to say that, because I think that the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms has given not only an extra burden on the justice system but an extra opportunity for ordinary citizens to be able to put forward questions to the government as a whole and so on. So, I really find the motion very important and I thought that it was equally important that I, as an MLA for a region which has no judge, thank the honourable Members for recommending that that additional territorial court judge be hired on the understanding that the successful candidate be required to eventually relocate in the Eastern Arctic. So, I just wanted to put my support in a few words, for the record, so that justice and the delivery of that service should be accessible and likewise I think that we should be moving in that direction. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): To the motion. Mr. Butters.

Resident Judges Desirable In All Regions

HON. TOM BUTTERS: As a Member of the Executive, I will be abstaining from the motion. But if I were sitting in another seat in the House, I would move an amendment to the motion, adding "the Western Arctic". Obviously I would agree with my colleague, Mr. Curley, that justice should not only be seen to be done, but it should be done on the ground. I think that the best example of that is that the resident judge in Hay River is, and has provided an excellent service to the communities in the South Mackenzie for many, many years. The sooner we can see resident judges placed into all of the regions, the better it will be for the whole justice service in the Northwest Territories. So, I look forward to seeing such a situation occur in the Eastern Arctic, but I point out that there is a need in other regions as well as the far East.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): To the motion. Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have one slight problem with the motion, inasmuch as it says, "eventually to locate in the Eastern Arctic". I am just wondering what the definition of "Eastern Arctic" is. Does that include Keewatin and Kitikmeot, or is it just Baffin? Perhaps you could just clarify that for me, please.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: I think Mr. Richard, who as I said passed the motion to me, felt somewhat the way Mr. Butters did in his expressions that maybe it is needed in a number of places but most immediately and soonest in the Baffin areas. That is, I believe, what he meant by the Eastern Arctic.

MR. McCALLUM: Get a free vote on this one.

MR. MacQUARRIE: And then I think he has another motion and following that in the Keewatin. I think that is...

---Laughter

No, I am just kidding about that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): To the motion. Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I suppose I can live with it. I mean, I do not want to deny my colleagues from Baffin a judge but I think it should be also understood that the Keewatin is starting to experience some major difficulties as well. Last summer, for example in Baker Lake alone, the judge came in and had to hear 59 cases with regard to 32 people and some of these crimes were very serious crimes and he did it in four days. When that type of thing is happening then there is no way the administration of justice can be fair and equal, with all respect to my colleague, the Minister of Justice. A judge in a court could not sit and judge 32 people over 59 cases in four days and expect not to make some kinds of mistakes. I think we have got to start realizing that part of the Canadian Constitution entitles everybody to a fair trial by his peers and you cannot get that kind of treatment at present. I would hope that in addition to this, at some point in time, we will see an expansion at least into our area of a similar type of service that will provide us with a much better court system. Thank you.

Motion To Hire Additional Territorial Court Judge, Bill 1-86(1), Carried

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

--Carried

Court services, total O and M, \$4,590,000. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At some risk I want to raise this whole issue of JPs. As the Minister will recall there was some discussion on the whole issue of the appointment of people in the Territories as JPs. One of the questions that arose at the time was whether or not people who served on municipal councils or government employees could or would be appointed as JPs. This whole business dealt with the reappointment, the tenure of people as JPs. The previous Minister had indicated that the department would be putting forth new legislation. Because of circumstances that legislation has not been forthcoming. I wonder what the present Minister's position is regarding the appointment of JPs, as to who may be appointed and whether in fact JPs that are presently on strength are to be retained, regardless of whether or not they are government employees. What is the position about municipal councillors being appointed as JPs? I know it was to be tied up with the local authorities elections legislation that is still outstanding as well. I wonder if I could get some idea from the Minister what his position is as the Minister of Justice. Is it different from the previous Minister's position or has he something new and if it is different what is the new part of it?

MR. NERYSOO: Does the present Minister want the former Minister...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

New Legislation Required For JPs

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I will attempt to answer that question. I do not want to get into that debate. As I recall we debated that for many hours in this House so that particular aspect I think I do not want to deal with now. Overall the legislation does need to be improved. It is no longer appropriate. There are other problems out of purview that we have to deal with. The independence of JPs could be a constitutional problem. We are looking at that. I think one of the basic concerns brought forward by this House is the desire to have more JPs from the communities and also to have more aboriginal JPs. I have made it a priority of the department in the time I have left, a year and a half -- unless I am asked for a vote of non-confidence -- until the next election, to seriously look at all areas of justices of the peace. We expect to bring forward new legislation within the next year and a half. We expect not to just look at the one aspect of it where we got hung up here as an Assembly, but to look at the totality of the program to try to meet the needs of the communities, to try to meet our responsibility and accountability under Canadian law. So we will be looking at that and I am quite confident that we can come forward with a comprehensive training program and a proposed new amendment that will address all the problems that the honourable Member has brought to us today.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Could the Minister indicate to me how many JPs are now on strength? How many new ones have been appointed within the past year? How many, if any, have been revoked? And of those that have been revoked, if there are any, how many were government employees?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I can answer part of the question. There are 108 JPs right now, of which 47 are aboriginal people. I do not have the details at hand but I will be happy to provide them to the honourable Member. We do not have that information right here at this moment, but I will give it to you as soon as possible, Mr. McCallum.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Has there been a further JP appointed in Fort Smith then, within the last year?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I understand, no.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Are there still only two JPs in Fort Smith?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I can tell by the nodding of the head behind me, yes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, does the Minister or his department intend within the near future to appoint another JP in Fort Smith?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: We are in the process of reviewing the need for JPs throughout the Territories and if there is a demonstrated need, of course there will be an extra JP.

Court Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Any more questions on court services? Court services, total O and M, \$4,590,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Chairman, I would like to go back to safety, if it is possible.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Does the committee agree that we go back to safety? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We never really talked about safety in the smaller communities in particular. In the bigger communities I have seen that they have good safety features. A lot of the people are well-educated and there are well-trained rescuers in fire safety and first aid. It is good in the bigger communities but in the smaller communities it is not appropriate. I would like to know what the inspectors -- they do not come to the smaller communities very often to inspect and sometimes the older houses especially need to be inspected in my constituency. There have been four or five fire deaths. There have never been any findings of the reason why the buildings caught on fire. Perhaps if there had been some inspections done -- there should be trained people in the smaller communities who can do the inspections. Because of the lack of training there are hardly any inspections done in the communities. In the case of electrical wiring in the house, depending on whether the house is shifting, sometimes there is some wire damage done. I think this is very dangerous and it can cause fires. Also, the fire department in the communities do go out to get some training but because they are not making adequate wages they do not work very hard toward their training. Also, they would like to go out hunting and they do not think too much about the possibilities of fire that might occur while they are out. For that reason I would like to make a motion. (Translation ends)

Motion That Minister Be Designated To Increase Fire-Fighting Capabilities In Small Communities, Bill 1-86(1), Carried

Whereas some small communities of the NWT are very poor in the area of safety provisions for fire; and whereas fire destroys buildings that could have been saved if there had been good co-ordination by local firefighters; and whereas lives have been lost because of lack of fire-fighting agreement and resources in small communities; now therefore, I move that the Executive Council designate an appropriate Minister to look into ways to improve fire-fighting in small communities.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Your motion is in order. To the motion.

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to support this motion. In my region I think the whole area of fire-fighting in the communities needs to have more attention from the government. I would like to see that happen as soon as possible. That is all I wanted to say. Thank you.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think the Member's concerns are understood by the department. There is a lot more that we can do. The training has improved a lot over the last few years but I agree with the Member that there is a lot more that can be done. To give the Member some statistics, there are now approximately 700 firefighters in the NWT in 51 fire departments. During 1985, 590 of the firefighters, that is 85 per cent, were trained in 56 sessions. There was an increase of 19 per cent over the year before and an increase of 53 per cent over 1984. There is also a major problem, especially with the older houses and wiring. A lot of the older houses were built before we had electrical inspectors. As the Member knows as we went around to all the communities, there are some real dangers in all of those older houses. The department is aware of the problem. We agree that we should be able to do more and we have no problem with this motion. We have some ideas in the department how we, in the department, can better co-ordinate our efforts to improve service. So, I appreciate the Member's concerns and if the motion is passed, I give my assurance that we, as a department, will try our best to respond.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Any more questions on safety? Mr. Arlooktoo.

More Special Constables And Native RCMP

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Mr. Chairman, not on this. I have a question on another item maybe on page 9.14, court services, or it might not be on this page. My question is, we have special constables in the communities but there are not that many special constables who are Inuit. When can we expect to get fullfledged constables? When will you try and get fullfledged constables, that is my question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: My translation did not come across too well. But, I think that I understood the question to be, one, about special constables, that there are not that many Inuit, and the second one was about regular constables, when can we expect to have more regular constables in the force? Was that the question, Mr. Arlooktoo?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Arlooktoo.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that was my question. When can the Inuit expect to become regular constables or when would this start?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I know in many communities there is a feeling that they would like to see their own people having the responsibility for policing, and it is something that we are working toward. I cannot give Mr. Arlooktoo a definitive answer. What I would like to see, as we bring more special constables on line in various communities, is that the next step would be, after some experience as special constables, they would become full constables.

The problem in the past has been that we do not control the qualifications that the federal RCMP ask for. I am now discussing it with the RCMP, the possibility of speeding up that process, but that has been the problem up until now: Nobody can become a regular RCMP unless they pass all of the qualifications that are set out by the RCMP in Ottawa. So, we are working on it. This year, we expect to get some extra special constables, but we will make a greater effort to convince the RCMP that it is very important that more aboriginal people, not only Inuit but Dene, also become regular constables.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Any more questions on the court services? Detail of grants and contributions. Grants, total grants, \$26,000. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Did you call for agreement on court services?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Do you want to go back to court services? Go ahead.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want some explanation from the Minister as to the fairly substantial increase in other O and M under court services. In salary and wages, there is only one person year increase here. Now, I expect that it will be increased court services, but again there was a matter of a concern during the debate last year on the budget of this department. Could I have an indication from the Minister, just what makes up this 17 per cent increase in O and M, under court services?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. The Member is right. The vast majority of that is \$495,000 for court travel and another \$97,000 for a justice information system. But the big majority of the increases are in court travel. That is correct.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Any more questions on the court services?

Grants And Contributions, Total O And M, Agreed

Detail of grants and contributions. Grants. Total grants, \$26,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Detail of grants and contributions. Contributions. Total contributions, \$1,302,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total grants and contributions, \$1,328,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Any questions on the detail of work performed on behalf of third parties? Any questions on pages 9.18, 9.19?

Total O And M, Agreed

We are now on page 9.05, Department of Justice. O and M, \$29,155,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Mining Inspection Services, Equipment Acquisition, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): We are on the capital estimates, page 6.07. Details of capital, mining inspection services, equipment acquisition. Total mining inspection services, \$60,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Safety, Equipment Acquisition, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Detail of capital, safety, equipment acquisition. Total safety, \$64,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Court Services, Equipment Acquisition, Total Capital

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Detail of capital, court services, equipment acquisition. Total court services, \$36,000. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, under this activity, as with the court services activity and the stated objective to develop standards for upgrading the court facilities under O and M, here the capital objective is to ensure that court facilities are adequate throughout the Northwest Territories. There is \$36,000 for library shelving and satellite library in Yellowknife. What is the department doing in upgrading or to ensure that the courtroom facilities are adequate throughout the Territories? They have not got any money in it. It would seem to me that maybe where they hold court there is room now for a 12 person jury. Is that so or does the department contemplate spending money in areas where they do hold court? Or what are the plans -- I note very little in the capital plan as well for this particular activity in the department? I would like to get some idea from the Minister, what is being planned?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The detail on page 6.06 is that directly related, I think, to the question. I think as I understood it, the Member is saying that in our overall budget there does not seem to be very much money to provide new court facilities, which is true. As I indicated last night we are working with the Department of Public Works to develop a master plan to develop those new facilities and that is in a different section of the budget under O and M. So this \$36,000 would be for shelving for various small items. I understand we will be amending the five year capital plan after the feasibility study has been done.

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

MR. McCALLUM: The information that we have looked at in the capital plan, that is the five year capital plan, is now going to be revised and the department is serious about getting adequate courtroom facilities throughout the Territories, as the objectives of this activity state in the capital budget. Is that what the Minister is saying, that he is now going to upgrade the five year capital plan so that the next time we go through this and we look at capital as a committee that there we will see something in their plans, their budget for whatever number of years to show that the department is serious about getting adequate courtroom facilities? Because in the present capital plan there is very little money for any of that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: In a perfect world if we had all the resources we wanted obviously we would like to put adequate courthouses into every community. Obviously we will be competing with a lot of other priorities, with schools, with recreational facilities, with houses, etc., etc., etc. So we will attempt as a department to get court facilities into the capital plan but to be quite frank with you, I think that the primary objective at this point of our department is in the program area rather than in the capital area. Where we will be concentrating most of our resources is in improving the delivery of the service, as opposed to building new buildings. Once we have done a feasibility study we will, of course, attempt to enter into the normal government flow with the possibility of courthouses in various communities.

Court Services, Equipment Acquisition, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Any more questions on details of capital? Court services, equipment acquisition, total court services, \$36,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$160,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Does the committee agree then that this department is concluded? Mr. Minister.

Organizational Changes Within Department

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have one quite important item that was not touched on and I would like to give a brief explanation to the committee. Members were aware of some talk last year of various divisions of the Department of Justice going over to the Department of Government Services and the Department of Culture and Communications, with a view toward making our department more in line with the provincial departments of justice. Now, we have partially done that and museums and libraries have gone to the Department of Culture and Communications. I have agreed in the interim to keep occupational health and mine safety within my department but it is not normally a function of a department of justice. What I intend to do, with the concurrence of the Executive Council, is have a reorganization within the department whereby those functions, occupational health and safety and mine inspections, will be a separate function from the department reporting directly to me. At some time in the future when the time is right, when finances are right, those particular areas will go into a more appropriate department than they are now. So I just wanted Members to be aware of that, that I am planning to do some organizational change within the department.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. McCallum.

MR. MCCALLUM: Just a question to follow along, Mr. Chairman. I had indicated that I think the route the department is taking is a correct one and I would like to see them press for more. I wonder though in light of that, is the department casting covetous eyes on other aspects in other departments? For example, correction services.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: No, in the long term that might be a logical route to go but at this point we are not looking at that right now.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Any more questions? Does the committee agree that this concludes the Department of Justice?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): I want to thank the Minister and his witness.

Northwest Territories Housing Corporation

We will now go to the Housing Corporation on page 3.03 in the main estimates. Does the Minister wish to make any opening statement?

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have some short opening remarks on the Housing Corporation. Two events have occurred over the past year which are radically shaping the future of the NWT Housing Corporation.

In June, after months of work, the special committee on housing tabled its final report. This document has given us a very clear picture of what the community expects and the kinds of changes that must occur in the work, direction and approach of the corporation. In October, the government, after a review of the recommendations of the special committee, published its interim blueprint for change in a document entitled "The New Era in Housing: Planning Together for the Future". The most important part of the New Era document was the requirement that the corporation undertake a corporate planning project. This is now in full swing and will be completed in June.

As a result of our review of the total organization, we have found the need to incorporate within the corporate planning process many of the activities and tasks which were previously outlined in the New Era document as separate initiatives. Though this will require some delays in meeting specific targets, we feel that incorporating these activities will provide us with a much more solid approach over the longer term.

I want to stress that this corporate planning project is not just a planning exercise. Throughout the project we have tried and will continue to try to secure community input and, as our plans become clearer, there will be continual need for more consultations with elected leaders, municipal councils, housing authorities and associations and community residents to ensure that the policies and direction we are taking respond to the real needs of the residents of the NWT.

I would now like to deal with some specifics in terms of the O and M and capital budget. I think everybody has got a handout and it is something that I think Members found when we dealt with this when I was in the finance committee, that it is difficult to put the corporate financial structure into the ordinary government budget, our main estimates book. So I thought what I would provide to Members is a one-page breakdown which shows the major increase in costs from last year to this year, what we are asking for. There is also a list, a breakdown of all the HAP allocations. There is also a two-page explanation in more detail of what we are actually doing in the corporate plan. I think with those documents it will probably be easier to understand what we are doing as we go through the main estimates book, which is a little bit convoluted when it has government funding and our funding mixed up in various pages. I hope that that will simplify the process and make it more clear what we are trying to achieve over the next year.

In general, overall, the share of contributions to housing associations has increased from 59.1 per cent in 1985-86 to 65.4 per cent in 1986-87. This is a direct recommendation from the housing committee that we should be spending more money in the communities and less at the headquarters level. You will see in this budget that there have been significant increases at the community level. One of the other very important changes -- as the Members know there have been a number of unsuccessful federal Treasury Board submissions. Because they were unsuccessful and because the people in the Territories could not wait for the federal government to find the funds, this government did so and they provided the corporation with an adjustment of \$7.9 million. This increase, over a two year period, is addressing the long-standing deficiency in housing authority maintenance and administration funding. We are talking about parity of wages of housing association employees and we are also talking in the next year of some 130 people going into the communities at the housing association level, maintenance staff, carpenters, electricians, so that housing associations will be able to carry out their tasks.

There is a base adjustment recognizing increased charges for municipal services. As a corporation, in the coming year once we identify those utility costs, it might be necessary to come forward with a supplementary estimate.

The infrastructure growth, increased staff housing activity and regional decentralization -- we have an extra three person years to handle design and inspection of new staff housing. We also have under a rent supplement program, \$166,000, which along with CMHC funding will subsidize provision of 34 one and two-bedroom public housing units in the city of Yellowknife.

Training Program

In priority funding we have received \$150,000 to ensure the association, authority and district corporation staff understand all the housing programs. We are now in the process of putting this training program together. Again, it was a direct result of recommendations from the special committee on housing that we need more training at the local level.

There were 216 public housing units constructed in 1985-86 and they now require operating funds in 1986-87. So every time in one year we build public housing, the next year we have to maintain them and we have those tasks that accrue to this government.

There was a transfer of three PYs to the Baffin district to hire painters in the community of Frobisher Bay.

I will give you some highlights of the capital budget. Improved needs survey information has shown again the need for public housing. I know we have heard in this House that there should be more emphasis on private home-ownership. We agree but the reality is that in many communities in the NWT people cannot afford the HAP program and there will be a need for public housing. Under the public housing program in 1986-87 we are going to construct 195 units and there has been a major breakthrough with CMHC this year on a one-time only basis. We are working on seeing if we can have this ongoing. They have agreed to cost share the HAP program so this year we are going to construct 175 units which nearly doubles the previous year's numbers.

Home-Ownership Repair Program

Another very important point brought forward by the special committee on housing is, what do you do for the people who own their own homes that need repair? All we have in the budget for this new program is \$350,000 but it is a beginning. If we can demonstrate that this program can actually assist people now, who live in their own homes, I think in the long term we are going to save the government a lot of money because those people then will not be asking for public housing or alternate housing. So it is a trial program this year. I know all communities will not be able to benefit from it but I ask your patience and if this particular program works, we hope to enhance it in future years.

Another major problem that we, especially those who were on the housing committee, knew about was the problem with the Weber houses. We have spent a lot of money fixing the roofs on the Weber houses, but now we are starting a new program to deal with the interiors of the Weber homes. This year is the beginning of that program and we are going to carry out a retrofit in 60 Weber homes in the NWT.

So in conclusion, I think that this government, before I was here and now, demonstrated and continues to demonstrate that indeed housing is a major priority of this government. There have been bigger increases in budget in the Housing Corporation than in any other department in this government. We cannot solve all the problems overnight, but I think that the conditions and the potential of solving problems are much better today than they were three or four years ago. I say most of the credit is because of the work of the housing committee and of my predecessor, Mr. Wray, who was able to convince the government that housing is very, very important. So I think Mr. Wray deserves a lot of credit for any improvements that are being made in the overall housing program. So with those words, Mr. Chairman, I am prepared to get into the details of the budget.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Does the committee agree to have the Minister bring in his witness?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): For the record, could you introduce your witnesses, Mr. Minister?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to introduce my witnesses. Mr. Lloyd Clark, who is the vice-president of administration and finance, and Mr. Hal Logsdon, who is the vice-president of programs. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): General comments. Mr. Paniloo.

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to ask a question of the Minister regarding the previous Minister. I did not quite understand why you wanted to thank him and I wanted to find out or get a clarification why Mr. Ballantyne became the Minister of Housing himself instead of Mr. Gordon Wray.

I have a couple of questions to the Minister of Housing. I believe that the Housing Corporation has accomplished a lot and has solved a lot of problems. I believe the Minister is just trying to do a good job. When the housing programs are operated in the Baffin area, we cannot make any changes to them and the local housing committees are not able to do anything about it either even though it may seem possible at times to make changes and they may want to make changes. If I were a member of the housing association I would feel free to make any changes that are necessary. I would like to find out how you inform the housing authorities in the communities. Do you tell them to abide with the policies? You have to listen to the public. I would like to know how you direct your staff. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: To answer the first part of the question as to why I am the Minister of Housing and not Mr. Wray, it is probably because after two years of being hassled by the special committee on housing, Mr. Wray was tired and he thought because I was one of the most vocal ones on the other side that I should take it over.

Role Of Local Housing Associations

I think the concerns that Mr. Paniloo has brought forward are the concerns we heard throughout the NWT and part of the documents I handed out are explaining that over the next six months we are looking at that very thing. Housing associations have been frustrated with their responsibilities that the corporation gave to them and the accountability and the confusion as to what their role really is. As a Minister I am committed to the idea that the Housing Corporation and housing is built from the community up. So we are looking now at what the role of the housing association will be.

In the long term, I would like to have local housing authorities or band councils deliver many more programs than they are delivering now. What we have been able to do this year is give a lot more resources. There are a lot more people that could be working for housing associations. There will be more money at the housing association level for them to do things. But ultimately, I feel that the direction we are going is that we want a lot more responsibility at the community level so that housing associations or band councils or whatever organization in a community is responsible for housing will have more authority, be more responsible. But as I say that, I want to emphasize that there are limits to the amount of money available. This government has tried very, very hard to respond to the needs of the communities. I said we have many millions of dollars in housing. As a community has more power and becomes more responsible, it also will be responsible to work within its budget. Those two things go hand in hand but I agree with the concerns of Mr. Paniloo and what we are trying to do is improve that situation.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Paniloo.

Visits To Communities

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to ask him again. In the NWT there are housing committees. Our housing committee is in Resolute Bay and the housing board chairman is Simeonie Amarualik. I asked him before if he could come to our community but he just answered that he does not have any funding for travel. I asked the people in Broughton Island and Pangnirtung if the Housing Corporation members go to those communities but they answered the corporation does not work too much with these communities. I want to find out what their responsibilities are. If you can give me the information, I will take it back to my constituency which has requested it. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erklöo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Chairman, I think the Member is talking about somebody who is on the board of directors of the Housing Corporation. That is something we are looking into now; what the future role of the board of directors will be. In the past, the board of directors have acted as advisers to the Minister and they have helped develop policy for the Housing Corporation. One of the problems in the past again is money, as it is very expensive to travel. They try to get into as many communities as possible. They have not been able to, but in the next four or five months I can assure the Member that you will see more people coming into the communities. People from the district staff will be asking for your views. We are in the process of improving the Housing Corporation so it really is not a board member's fault that they have not been able to get into the communities. There just has not been enough money in the budget for them to do that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erklöo): Mr. Paniloo.

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A supplementary question. The home-owners' houses -- it seems that they are given freely when the owner builds the house and has to live in it for five years. How long is this program going to be for? How many years will this program exist? My area has informed me in the last two or three years that this program will continue -- that is the information they received. I would like to know how long this program will be going on so the interested groups will be informed. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erklöo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is our intention that this program will continue on indefinitely. We hope to improve it as it goes along. The major problem that we may find next year is that though the federal government have agreed to cost share 50/50 with us this year for the HAP program, they have not agreed to do it yet next year. So the program will continue but without that extra federal money we will not be able to build as many houses. If we want to continue the home-ownership program and improve it, have more designs and more opportunity for community input and delivery.

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

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess first of all I wanted to ask the Minister whether the HAP plans for this year are going to be getting any type of labour assistance? The other thing I would like to say too is that regarding selecting of HAP plans there are some communities that have expressed concern over the way selections have been done. I would like to ask the Minister whether he is going to work toward people who have been designated to get HAP units, that they should not be on the selecting process of those units at all. I would like to ask the Minister those two questions.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erklöo): Mr. Minister.

Funding From The Federal Government For HAP

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. Regarding the first question, I think I have made a couple of comments in the House about it and for the past four months the corporation has been working on the possibility of getting funding from the federal government for HAP. But we decided this year to do it a different way. The problem is that the federal government changed some of their policies and money that was available to us in the past for labour money -- we used to call it -- now is not as available. So what we have tried to do is put together a program and we have put together proposals to both CEIC, Canada Employment and Immigration Commission, and to Indian and Northern Affairs, that not only will houses be built in communities but also a training program will be provided over a number of years whereby in each community where there is a HAP house being built, there will be somebody there to train people over a number of years. So in each community there will be a trained work force and from that, the possibility of going into trade school at Thebacha College, and the possibility of working on other construction projects in each community.

So on Monday I will be talking to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs about it. You have just heard from the Nielsen task force that they are looking at some major cuts. So I think we are going to have a big fight on our hands to get the money we need because it is some three million dollars to do this properly. I have very good support from native organizations and from

communities. But I think in order to make this program successful, when I come back from Ottawa, I may be asking all of you to give me more support and for all of you to let the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs and CEIC know that this is not only meaningful housing that is a cost saving to people as an alternative to public housing, but it is a real opportunity for people with development skills to have employment opportunities and business opportunities. I think it is really important. So we are trying hard but we may need more of your help to be successful.

The second part of your question has always been a difficult one, the selection process. On the one hand one would like to say that should be up to the community to decide. On the other hand we got complaints that it was not fair. So what we are trying to do is, we have come up with a point system that can be used as a guide. Ultimately it is going to be a community's responsibility to ensure that that process is fair because we cannot be sitting in Yellowknife in the district office all the time making all of those decisions. We can set out guidelines and standards. I think local housing associations or band councils should set out some guidelines about who should or should not be on a selection committee. I agree with you, somebody who is going to get a house, wants a house, should not be on the selection committee. But a lot of those decisions could be made at the community level and in the next five or six months we are going to be talking to communities about ways to improve that selection process.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Paniloo.

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In my constituency somebody wrote to me telling me that he wanted to get assistance from the HAP program. I asked the Minister of Housing if that person who is applying for a HAP program can be funded. He informed me that the person had already purchased the capital items. I would like to ask the Minister if the Housing Corporation has any emergency funding because this person who made application for HAP, we cannot approve his request because of lack of funding. I would like to know if the Housing Corporation has any emergency funding for this type of thing.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: We do not have any emergency funding per se. We have a lot more emergencies than we have funding. But if the Member will write me and give me the details of this case, we will look at it. I am not familiar with this specific case. There is not a fund of money set aside for emergencies but if there is a good case to be made, perhaps under one of our programs we could help. So if the Member could let the corporation know -- write me a letter and I will look into it for him.

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

Payment For Shovelling Snow Around Houses

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) In Clyde River sometimes it is very windy in the wintertime. People usually shovel around the houses, they are volunteers just to help their neighbours. There are exits just in case there is a fire in the house. My question is, can the Minister locate funding for this kind of maintenance so as to pay for these people who keep up the shovelling on the exits? This usually goes on just for four months. Would you be able to fund this? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I will say again, there are so many demands for funding. I feel if somebody is in a house they have a certain responsibility to shovel around their own door. As a government we have a responsibility for public buildings, nursing stations, for the municipal hall, for the municipal garage. I think that the hamlet has funding to do those sorts of things but it would be very, very expensive if we gave everybody the money to shovel snow in front of their own houses. If we did that, then that money would not be available to build houses. There is only so much money set aside. What is more important? Do we build houses or do we pay people to shovel snow out from in front of their houses? So it is difficult. We do not have any money in the budget for that now.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Paniloo.

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Supplementary question. The people who shovel the sidewalks in Yellowknife, where do they earn their wages?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The way it works in Yellowknife is that everybody who owns their own home -- for myself I have to shovel off mine, unfortunately even with my bad back -- have to shovel off their own. The businesses in town, for instance the Yellowknife Inn, would pay people to shovel it. So a business will pay people to shovel it. The streets themselves or in front of the city hall, is the taxpayers or the municipality responsibility. But individual people are not paid to shovel from individual homes. So if there is a business in a community anywhere and they want to pay somebody to shovel, that is fine, but that is what happens here. Businesses will pay people to shovel in front of their business.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Erkloo.

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The housing authority in Igloolik informed me that they had problems with their purchase of materials. They cannot order in bulk during sealift. For instance, if the windows cost \$700 then their freight usually is around \$800.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I am having trouble with static, can you repeat the question please?

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) The Housing Corporation policy is that in April they have to make their orders for materials and they have to come in by airlift. They have a lot of problems. For instance, they cannot make orders for things that it would be a lot cheaper to order through sealift, glass especially. I was informed if the glass cost \$700 to buy, then the freight would be \$800. This they thought is not a very good policy. They wanted to be able to order and have their materials shipped through sealift instead of by airlift.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: We agree. It is obviously a lot cheaper to do it by sealift and I do not know why they would do it by airlift. We will look into it. The only time I can think it would be reasonable to use airlift is if it was some kind of emergency situation. If something came up and it had to be brought in immediately. It is a very good point and we will look into that one because they should use sealift.

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

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) This is concerning CMHC. The privately owned home for which they used to provide materials for repairs -- the CMHC informed the owner that they would have to come into the community to look at what needs to be repaired. Yellowknife CMHC employees have hesitated in going to the communities because it is too far. I would like to know why they do not like going into the communities when they are supposed to provide the service?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think the Member is talking about the RRAP program and that point we have made many times. It is not only in the Baffin, it is in all communities. That program is 100 per cent funded by CMHC but what they did is cut their staff so it is impossible for them to actually deliver the program. We have offered to deliver it for them. They will not let us do it unless we cost share it 50/50. It might be in the future we have to look at that as an option. That has been the problem and we have made that point time and time again. We will bring that concern to them again because that RRAP program, which is a good program, is not getting out to the communities. It is ridiculous, I agree.

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

Disagreement With Nielsen Task Force

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I read the Globe and Mail today and there was a news story in which the Minister of Indian Affairs had basically not agreed with the Nielsen task force report which stated that the government was building suburbs in the bush. I find that pretty shocking especially coming from a person that is supposed to be right at the centre of the federal Conservative Party.

MR. McCALLUM: Shame, shame!

MR. T'SELEIE: I would like to ask the Minister as a good Conservative what he plans to do to correct this very outrageous statement by the Deputy Prime Minister?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think I can say without any doubt, my loyalties are to the North more than they are to the Conservative Party. I was on national CBC radio within an hour after the report was released stating my objections to the comment and to the principle behind the comment and I intend to write a letter to Mr. Nielsen indicating that I think the statement was foolhardy and that the principle behind the statement is that there is adequate housing in the NWT which is wrong. I know myself as a Minister, and our government, have some very strong feelings about it. We will do our part to get those views known to Mr. Nielsen and to other Conservative Ministers. I will also write a letter to Mr. Crombie, who disagreed with a Member of his cabinet, indicating our support for his statements. We talk about cabinet solidarity and this is an example where there is not cabinet solidarity all the way in the Conservative Party either. I totally agree with the Member and take strong exception to the statement and to the principle behind the statement.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

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

Communities Should Have Control Of Housing

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to get further clarification. At the present time, the housing authorities do not have any authority. They cannot even look after the families who would like to move to another house. In Baffin Region, it is handled by the regional office in Frobisher Bay. For that reason the Sanikiluaq residents who are responsible are the hamlet council. I would like to know if you can give the housing authorities this kind of responsibility that the hamlet council has in Sanikiluaq? I heard that in Sanikiluaq this is very convenient and that they have more control. Would you be able to approve the hamlets looking after the housing in Lake Harbour and in the other communities?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I myself do not have a problem with the idea. Mr. Arlooktoo remembers when we went around to the communities -- I think it is important that there is some agreement between the hamlet council and the housing association as to how they want to handle it. If a community wants to set up a housing authority, we have representatives from the council on that authority. I am very supportive of giving them more control and more power. So in Lake Harbour if the council has a proposal to make, we would listen to it. I think it is important and we are doing it in other communities. I know in Fort Resolution we have just set up a housing authority and I am interested in the idea.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Arlooktoo.

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you. For clarification, the Housing Corporation policy is not very flexible. If the hamlet were to take over the housing, would the hamlet be able to have all the say as to how their policy should be? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think there are certain realities that any housing association or hamlet have to realize. It is impossible for anyone including the corporation to have the total say. For one reason, most of the programs are cost shared with the federal government who have standards that we have to live under. There are a limited amount of dollars. So I would say that probably it is not possible for a hamlet council to have total control, but I can tell the Member that a hamlet council can have a lot more control than they have now. We can improve it a lot and that is what we would like to see.

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

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am happy to hear the Minister say that. This is a supplementary and it has to do with housing. For example, in the settlement of Lake Harbour there are no houses for single people or bachelor units. I would like this to be considered or recorded. The numbers in the families are decreasing, they are not increasing, and there will have to be more bachelor units built. I would like this to be recorded. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: We will take note of that and look into that.

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

Allocation Of Houses To Igloodik

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Last summer there was supposed to be a unit built in Igloodik. There were eight units and then there were four according to what I heard and the last information was that there was not one that went to Igloodik. The residents of Igloodik would like to know what happened. There are three units in Igloodik where there are three families in one house and there are some people who are working in Nanisivik that are in the same situation. Now, if they stop working at Nanisivik they would end up with no housing in Igloodik. Now the residents of Igloodik would like to know why there were no units allocated to the community. Will there be units sent this summer to this settlement?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: According to the information I have here there were no units last year but according to this information there should be five HAP units going to Igloodik this year. It should be in the list we distributed.

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

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) The statement of the Minister is right. There were five units that were allocated in the HAP program but the so-called public housing units were deleted. I would like to know, because this lack of housing is an emergency situation, will there be any units allocated this summer? Another question I have is regarding the new housing units. They have these foundations or rods and these are not stable. Can the foundation be stabilized?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think in some communities in the Eastern Arctic there is confusion. A capital plan went out to the region before the needs study assessment was completed, so we made some changes. According to the needs of the Northwest Territories then, other communities needed public housing more than Igloodik. But we allocated five, maybe six units, to Igloodik home-ownership program. What we want to do in coming years instead of looking at units as being public or as HAP, is look at them as just a unit, and then each community can decide what mix of home-ownership or public they want and that is up to the community. But depending on how many total units we have we will go on the needs survey. So this year showed that other communities had greater need than Igloodik for public housing.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you. Just a point of clarification. Mr. Minister, with regard to Mr. Paniloo's question, I understand when Mr. Paniloo addressed his question it was with regard to the service roads to the public units, and who is actually responsible for clearing the snow off these service roads for water and sewage or whatever. Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: As I said, anything that has to do with those basic services is the responsibility of the hamlet. So as a Housing Corporation we do not have responsibility for that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): General comments. Mrs. Lawrence.

Hiring Of Natives In Housing Corporation

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under finance and administration the objective is an affirmative action plan to ensure participation of native northerners in the NWT Housing Corporation service. How do you anticipate more northerners participating in even applying for a president's position when it is advertised right across Canada? Why is it that it has to be advertised across Canada instead of just the Territories first?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I know Mrs. Lawrence has asked that question many times. We advertise at the same time in the North and in the South. With this particular job we are talking in terms of \$120 million and we thought it important, at this point in time, at this very important time in the Housing Corporation's life, to get the best person possible across the country. Now if we get the best person, it will be his or her responsibility to ensure that there are more aboriginal people employed at all levels of the corporation. We have made it a primary objective to do that. We intend to make a lot of progress in that.

Presently the Housing Corporation has the highest percentage, if you include the housing authorities, of aboriginal people working in the NWT. The secretary manager now of a housing association is a very senior position, it has parity. We are working toward the objective that Mrs. Lawrence has stated many times, which I agree with 100 per cent, but it was my feeling that for this particular job, right now at this time in the job, we want the best person possible. A few years from now I see a very good possibility and maybe even this time -- one native person did apply.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): General comments. Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is hard for me to be convinced -- for more aboriginal people to be involved. As far as I am concerned every day is an important time and we should not have to wait to get our own people involved. I just do not believe in advertising right across Canada when we are aiming at aboriginal people. I would suggest that in the future we should advertise in the Territories first and if there is no one qualified, then go across Canada. But I know for a fact that we have a lot of qualified people in the Territories and that is underestimating our own people, whether they are native or non-native, to advertise at a cost of \$15,000 -- it costs a lot of money to advertise in the South. I am having a hard time accepting it when you put such a thing in the objectives as affirmative action to ensure participation of native northerners and at the same time you are doing this sort of thing. So Mr. Chairman, I am just having a hard time understanding exactly what we are up against. Mahsi cho.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Yes, Mrs. Lawrence, I understand your feeling. Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I also understand Mrs. Lawrence's feeling, and all I can say is that when we are back here a year from now and you will see how well we did -- I have only been in this position for four months, so I am not changing the world but I note your concern and agree with your concern.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Good luck. Mr. Erkloo.

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question was not answered by the Minister. There were 10 units built in 1984-85 fiscal year. These duplexes have these rods for foundations. There are some in Igloodik and Arctic Bay. I think the number of rods used for foundations is inadequate and when there are strong winds the house tends to move. So the contractors were not doing a job. I was asking if the number of these rods that are used for foundations can be increased. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I cannot give the Member a technical answer now, because I will have to look into it. But what we are doing as a corporation is looking at designs of houses right across the North, to see if we can improve the designs and make them better for different regions. For that particular question, I will look into it and get back to the Member on that specific issue.

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

Lack Of Housing Association No Disadvantage

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be making a brief comment and I will not elaborate on the topic. We do not have a housing association in Sanikiluaq. Although we do not have that responsibility given to us, we are in a better position than the other communities that have housing associations. I just wanted to mention that. Some of the things we were not able to obtain, we have obtained. I think the future is quite promising and we are happy and gratified because of this. There have been improvements on the housing maintenance because of this.

I would also like to mention the HAP program. This is a good program so that people will participate in home-ownership programs. But there is a problem. The written forms are understandable; however, there have been errors in the writing and this is quite frustrating when the documents are not right. Many of the communities have had to use these forms when they are applying, so we would like this to be rectified. The housing design has to be right. However, these blueprints or documents are detrimental because of the errors in writing. I think it was in 1984-85 and 1985-86 that I heard that they were written by a person that was being trained. That is the reason there have been errors made in these blueprints, in the applications for the HAP program. When one is trying to build his own house there is not enough equipment, there are not enough nails. Maybe there might be enough nails if it was in another program. But if we want to have a sturdy home the number of nails is not adequate. Can the Minister possibly look into the lack of nails that are being supplied in these HAP programs?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: We will look into that and also look into whether there is inadequate translation of either the plans or application forms as well. We will try to improve that also.

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

MR. MCCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just on a couple of items and maybe we can move into the pages. I just wanted to draw to the Minister's attention that there seems to be some discrepancy somewhere in here on the number of person years. On page 3.05, when I look at it there is a total of 149 and yet on the next page it talks about 144. Regardless of which is the correct one, when I look at the increases I count an increase of more than 24, because there are major increases on the capital side. I think on the capital side, in the information item on page 3.08 there is a major increase in person years in the district operations. I think that although the person years are not shown as part of the GNWT contribution, there is still a fairly substantial increase in the number of people in the Housing Corporation. I am not talking just about people that are in housing associations. But it is a fairly large one. I would like some kind of explanation of this need to increase by so many people.

There are other concerns that I have, Mr. Chairman, and I am not sure if I should go one by one or maybe I can give the Minister a couple at a time. The responses that have been made to the special committee on housing are indeed well-noted. I think that Members of the committee have applauded the government for what they have done so far but there are a number of other recommendations that will take some time. I would like to get some idea from the Minister as to what time frame we are looking at to bring them all through. Some of the initiatives are reflected within the proposed budget as announced by the Finance Minister, the maintenance standard of public housing, sharing of moneys with CMHC for new HAP units, trying to implement an experimental home improvement program. The issue of getting the increase in the salary and benefit package for housing association staff, again, I thought was in a special Treasury Board submission and I think the standing committee on finance are a little concerned if Treasury Board approval does not come forward, what the impact would be. I think the Minister indicated to us that this is a concern as well. If it does not come forward then you have a continuation of disparity in salaries. They have a concern if there is anything further on the block funding discussions with CMHC. So maybe I can leave it at that for now, Mr. Chairman, and come back with some others.

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

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: There are a number of issues that Mr. McCallum brought up and I will try to deal with them. The first one was disparity between the PYs and I think the difference -- again, I say the format here is very awkward, to fit the format of the Housing Corporation into the government format -- the discrepancy is casual PYs and ongoing PYs. The other point, I think a

more important point, that the Member made was that there has been a major increase of some 130 to 140 PYs at the housing association level but that does not show up because they are not employees of the government. That will not show up as PYs. In the handout, I think a lot of that is explained but there will be going into each district, each region, each housing association, extra people to help with maintenance; carpenters, electricians, plumbers, etc., maintenance people. At the district level there will be some 21 which will show up as PYs which are corporation, which are administrative support to that 130 to 140 people that are actually going into communities.

GNWT Has Covered Increases In Maintenance Costs

On the Member's statement about the submission to the Treasury Board -- this is something that has been brought up over a number of years -- because of the report of the special committee and because of all indications from Ottawa, where that issue is dead, that there would not be that money forthcoming, this government over the past two years has covered those maintenance costs internally.

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

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I recognize that you have 144.2 PYs. That is still an increase of a substantial number of people. As I say, within the district operations, there is an increase of over 18 PYs. In construction, there are three new people coming on. I take it within the capital itself that you have an increase, that is on page 3.08, I count an increase on continuing years there, pretty near 22.5 PYs. In the total increase of people that you have -- I just wonder how those figures work out. Could I get an indication from you, how many people are employed by the Housing Corporation at headquarters and in the particular regions? Is that in the information that we have? What is the total number of people?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

MR. McCALLUM: And how does that compare with last year's figures?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: If you just give me a moment. It is broken down as we go through so it is a matter of gathering the information throughout this particular report.

MR. McCALLUM: Well, Mr. Chairman, let us go page by page. On page 3.08, have you added pretty near 22.5 PYs? And I take it this is dealing with the capital construction. Is that correct? No?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: What we have in total person years increase, and unfortunately the format here is really unwieldy, but we have essentially gone from 111.5 to 149.2 total in the corporation and that is headquarters and districts.

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

MR. McCALLUM: So continuing and casual person years, you have increased from the 1985-86 estimates to the 1986-87 estimates approximately 38 person years and of that group you picked up 13 during last year. Where are the other 24 person years going? How many of them come to headquarters?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Three are going to headquarters, the rest are going to the district offices.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Those three are in the construction development in headquarters. Are the others divided amongst the six district offices?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: That is correct. And they will supply administrative support to those positions which are not shown here, but are part of the budget in the housing authority offices themselves. So we have three positions going into headquarters. The remainder that show up, the 35-odd positions are going to the regions, and will provide that administrative support to the 130 positions or so that are going into the housing associations.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: On page 3.13, it is shown to be an increase of 18 person years under the district operations.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: (microphone not on)

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: That is why I have difficulty reconciling the figures for person years. You have an increase this year of 24 over the revised 1985-86, you put three into headquarters and you are putting 18.5 person years into the district offices. What happened to the other two or three? The difference of three person years. Where did they go?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: There was another anomaly and I am not sure if it shows up there. There were three painters in the Baffin. As I said, we have been struggling as a corporation, attempting to have our financial information feed into this. It is almost impossible because so much of it reflects CMHC cost sharing.

MR. McCALLUM: You mean paying for the cost of these person years? You mean CMHC are sharing the cost of these person years?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Yes, those three.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: And here I was going to give you kudos for being able to note how well the Housing Corporation has improved its situation with the total territorial management process, on which I think you have done a good job. I believe I am the only one concerned, so it does not really matter.

Maintenance Management System

If I could move to one other area, Mr. Chairman, that is the area of the maintenance management system that the corporation is becoming involved in or has been involved in, similar to that of the Department of Public Works. I think the idea was to get a cost efficient operation and it may very well have been introduced across the board into some other particular government departments. However, when we were discussing this with the Minister of Public Works, he was not able to tell us whether, in fact, he could get any measurable results, or had any measurable results of the implementation of this maintenance management system. I note that there is a substantial amount of money that is now put into this system, over four million dollars. I wonder if the Minister could indicate to us what he expects to get out of this maintenance management system. The salaries and person years have been increased to provide some technical support in it, but it is a substantial amount of money and if it follows along with DPW and they are not able to give us any measurable words of confidence that the system is working, could you do so?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I guess we do not want to mix up the two areas. Most of that money that you have identified is going into creating positions. People will be working at the housing association level and at the district level. The actual system of evaluation is not in place yet and we are working closely with DPW to put it into place. But in the next year, the vast portion of that money is actually to make these extra people available to housing associations to do maintenance. As the former co-chairman knows, one of the biggest complaints was that there were not the resources in the communities to do maintenance. So this year we are providing those people. What we are developing is a system to evaluate their performance and to attempt to standardize it, but that is not in place yet. We are working on that and having some problems with it. A lot of things are happening very quickly to the Housing Corporation, and what I am trying to do through the corporate plan, is to logically rationalize a lot of these moves we are making because things are happening so quickly.

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

MR. McCALLUM: I have one further thing and I think the Minister did allude to it, but he knows full well that this has always plagued this particular committee as well as the special committee, and that is the absence of a capital plan. It has presented some difficulty for the standing committee on finance. We feel a little hampered in discussions of what is going on with the corporation because the agency has no long-term plan. I know that he is going through a strategy for the corporate plan, but since he was very vocal in terms of the absence of a capital plan in the past, what has he done in the limited time that he has been Minister to generate getting a capital plan going?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Uncertain Future For Cost Sharing With CMHC

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I have been very silent about it recently. The Member has a good point. We have been working on it. What we are trying to do is to implement an idea of what we call global units; instead of looking at public housing or home-ownership, looking at the total number of units the corporation will be able to build per year over a five year period. It is very difficult to do that. Because we are cost sharing HAP this year 50/50, I am trying to get a commitment from the federal government that that cost-sharing arrangement will go forward. Until we know for sure, we do not know how many HAP units we can build in future years. They may be cut in half. We are going to have to come up with a plan in order to do capital planning in consort with Local Government but it is almost impossible, right now, to realistically predict how many units we will be able to build each year because we do not know if this funding arrangement is going to be continued with CMHC and the HAP units. So what I am going to have to do, and to answer your question, is make a calculated decision probably without knowing all the facts at the time, and plan according to that, with the expectation and the hope that the people here in this House and in the communities will understand that we might not be able to meet those objectives or targets because of our funding arrangements from CMHC.

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

MR. McCALLUM: The Minister has indicated the arrangement with CMHC. A number of recommendations from the special committee on housing would require co-operation with CMHC. I know, Mr. Chairman, that the Minister, because of a motion that was passed at this sitting, has had some communication with them about the wage component of the home-assistance program; that is for labour. He has been dealing with them for a while. On the numbers of other areas that would require the co-operation between both corporations, could he indicate to me what is the status of those kinds of negotiations? I cannot very well enumerate the particular recommendations but I am sure that the Minister or his witnesses know specifically what they would be. It could be enriched maintenance, for example, all the way down to getting something done with the base level funding deficiencies and financing for projects that may go over the maximum unit costs.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I think I have explained what we are doing with the labour funding. I think an important area of flexibility that the housing committee recommended, and Mr. Wray started this process, was the concept of getting global funding or block funding from CMHC to roll in a number of our programs; public housing, HAP, rehab, any number of programs. To get a set amount of money that we, as a government, could decide how to allocate and not be limited to it by a program by program base. In a given year we might decide to put more in one program than the other. We are in the final stages of those negotiations. Now, I do not want to raise expectations. That will give us flexibility but it is not going to change the bottom line. So it means that we will be able, for instance in a given year, to do more rehabs but then it means we will have to do less in public housing or less in something else. But it will give us flexibility to have changes between programs. So we are in the final stages of those negotiations.

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

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to make a couple of comments before I introduce a couple of motions. Firstly, let me say and express through you, Mr. Chairman, to the Minister and to the government, my support for the HAP program. I think that the success of the HAP program speaks for itself, but I do have concerns with the idea of changing the criteria by which the public or native people, in general, have access to the HAP program.

Access To HAP Funding

I realize the government is considering changing the manner by which -- or the number of individuals that might have access to the program. But I hope that we do not lose sight of the original intent of the program by changing the so-called ability for those people who make a certain amount of money having access to the program. That we do not in fact end by having those people that are unable to finance or provide any funds or to pay off the so-called loan, not being able to be a part of the particular program. I know that it is not the intent but good intentions, as good as they may be, have a tendency to create problems in future. I just raise that as a concern because the Member knows well from his travels as a member of the special committee on housing, the requests that have been made publicly and privately and the commendations made to the government about the success of the HAP program. We should not lose the intent or the idea of the HAP program, in the midst of what might be considered a loan program, because at the moment at least, those people are not necessarily the people that make the most money in the Territories who should have access to a program that allows them to build their own home, to own their own home and to be proud of the home that they have built.

The other concern I have is, while I commend the former Minister of Housing and the present one for carrying on the participation and negotiations of allowing the Government of Canada to participate in the HAP program, I hope that we do not also lose control of the program. I think our experience shows us that in the past when we have allowed the federal government to participate in programs that we consider to be extremely good programs -- in fact, initiatives that should be followed throughout this country and in other jurisdictions -- that we have had a situation of losing control of them because of the presence of the federal government. The other thing is that in some cases they have wanted to join our initiatives, good initiatives, and then when we have allowed them to participate they have removed themselves at a time when we have needed their help the most. Mr. Chairman, I think I just want to raise those issues because I think it is important, at the time when the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation is negotiating more and more participation on the part of the federal government, that he realize that we should not give up control of some initiatives that I feel are commendable. They ought to remain within the jurisdiction of the people of the NWT and in particular within the jurisdiction of the GNWT and in the hands of the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you. I think both points that Mr. Nerysoo raised are very important and I think critical to what we are trying to do. Thinking about the possibility of a loan pay-back scheme for HAP is a good point. On one hand, we are having requests -- and the committee recognizes this -- from higher income people who want entry into the HAP program. But at some point people make enough income that they can afford to pay some back. Mr. Nerysoo is quite right. You have to be very careful because ultimately it may be a program just for higher income people and those people that it was originally designed for will lose the ability to use it. I think that is valid and we have to be very careful. I can give the Member my assurance that I am very cognizant of that.

Alternative Funding Programs

The second one, too, I think is another critical point. All too often as a government we are wooed by 50 cent dollars. The fact is we start a program and we can build 80 HAP units but the federal government cost share it. The next year we can double the number, but we lose a lot of our flexibility. It is a danger and it is an attraction. It is always an attraction, those 50 cent dollars. A couple of things may happen with HAP next year. One, CMHC may decide not to cost share it. But another way of handling that is, for instance this year, we have 200 so we have GNWT funding for half of that program. It might be possible to fund share only half of our share and then have a separate program of our own. We will wind up with fewer houses but it is a mix of the two. Partially a HAP program, part of which is cost shared and the rest funded by us 100 per cent. Then we can do many innovative and imaginative things with those. So I am looking at those alternatives, but Mr. Nerysoo's comments I think are very valid.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Also I believe, Mr. Chairman, the Minister might even consider the idea of having the federal government review what it really costs to build public housing units in the Northwest Territories, in comparison to the cost of the construction of HAP

units. I do not know if a survey or any analysis has been done but from reviewing some of the documents that have been placed before us, in the HAP program we have been able to provide up to \$50,000 a unit. I know that in some cases we have been considering the idea and those that are interested in their own homes have been considering the idea of finding labour funds somewhere. I would say that is probably about between \$15,000 and \$20,000.

Now, a public housing unit costs up to \$120,000, in some cases \$170,000. With that type of money you are able to build three units under the HAP program. I would hope that in the discussions that the Minister carries on with the federal government that they see that it is more cost effective to allow people to own their homes. In the end and upon completion of the houses the federal government has no continuing cost because the individual who has built his own home assumes the responsibility for maintenance, assumes the responsibility for upkeep of that home, for providing the fuel, whatever type of fuel they decide to use in heating their home, plus the responsibility for paying for the utilities. I think that would be a much, much better use of what might be considered public funds and we would have accomplished, in my belief, a lot more. I do not suggest though that we get out of the public housing area, particularly for those people that require it the most. I am just making some suggestions as to how the government could approach the federal government in its discussions and negotiations. I just encourage the Minister to try to find other ways of improving the HAP program and I am just making some suggestions as to how we might best do that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The Member is right. We have those statistics. In fact, what I will do is have distributed a copy of the proposal we are making to the federal government. That is one of the strongest arguments we are using. It is about, essentially, one fifth as costly for a HAP unit, than for a public housing unit. For the federal government it is a real cost saving and we are making that argument strongly. That is very true. What I will do is have distributed to Members a copy of our proposal. Some of those breakdowns and ideas are there but we are using that argument in all our discussions with them because it is a strong argument.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Any more questions? Mr. Nerysoo.

Motion That Priority Be Given To Five Year Capital Plan For Housing, Bill 1-86(1), Carried

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I now would like to introduce, Mr. Chairman, a motion that was passed in the standing committee on finance. I realize Mr. McCallum made some comments with regard to this particular issue and it happens to be the whole issue of the five year capital plan and I know that the Minister has taken the initiative. None the less, Mr. Chairman, I would like to introduce this motion.

Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommend that the preparation of a five year capital plan be an early priority of the Minister and that the corporation completes such a plan for the 1987-88 operational planning cycle.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Your motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour, raise your hands. Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. McCallum.

MR. MCCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to go into one further aspect in finances. As I recall, the government had advanced the Housing Corporation approximately \$6.8 million for cost overruns, etc. According to the Auditor General's review of the accounts and financial transactions of the GNWT as at March 31, 1985, close to \$3.8 million had been recovered from contributions paid by the government in 1985. There is a balance of approximately, therefore, \$2.2 million. Could the Minister indicate to me how far along you are with that recovery? I do not

recognize that within the total financial statements of the government, so what is the status of the outstanding balance and how it was recovered? I think that these cost overruns were done back some years as the Minister knows. He and the previous Minister have indicated that the corporation is going to take a hard-nosed approach to cost overruns within its projects. But I am concerned about what the corporation is going to do to ensure that the circumstances that brought these things about, the supply, ship and erect, do not incur these overruns again. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I understand there is one million dollars still outstanding that we are discussing, to answer the first question.

MR. McCALLUM: A million? You already have another million back.

Stronger Controls In Place

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: One million dollars. Yes, since 1985. You said that so far we have recovered approximately \$3.8 million, recovered in total. All the loan items under section 43 have been taken care of. That was another outstanding item. What the corporation has done in the last couple of years, for really strengthening the financial capabilities -- and you know our government had a concern -- they have worked very closely with the Financial Management Secretariat to ensure that proper financial controls are in place. We have better on-site management. One of the major problems, as you know, was crates breaking open and what have you, back in 1982-83. We have much better-built containers. We are going toward trailerization in areas. So generally the corporation has improved in all those areas and we do not foresee that sort of huge overrun happening again. We think our controls are pretty strong right now.

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

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask the Minister about the situation of housing in Yellowknife and the corporation. I know in the last couple of years, Mr. Richard especially, has been after the corporation to do something about the housing problem in Yellowknife. I recall that sometime there had been an arrangement worked out whereby the private sector would build some apartments in Yellowknife to be leased in some kind of arrangement with the Housing Corporation, so that the rents would not be as high as they would ordinarily be. I wonder if you could tell us a little bit about it because I would be interested in pursuing something like that in the case of Norman Wells if it is applicable there.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

Rent Supplement Program In Yellowknife

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: That is a rent supplement program the Housing Corporation has in place in Yellowknife. It is a little bit different here. The situation that you are talking about was that the extreme housing crisis in Yellowknife has gone on for a number of years. Unrelated to our needs in public housing, the private sector had gone ahead and decided to build apartments. So we told CMHC that because all existing public units were filled that anybody who is building a new unit should come and see us because we are interested in the potential of renting some units from them. Now, we are having some problems because what is happening is those apartments are filling right up and they do not really want public housing there. So we are having some problems with the program right now in getting the 34 units that money has been set aside for. The basic program I think is very applicable in a place like Norman Wells. The concept is that somebody builds an apartment building and a client, a low income person, would move in with a rent/income scale of 25 per cent or whatever and pay the market rent that is cost shared 50/50 between the Housing Corporation and CMHC. So I think in market communities of which Norman Wells is one, that option is viable. There are advantages and disadvantages to the option. One, it is more expensive in the long term to do it that way. But the advantages are that in a place like Norman Wells and even Yellowknife where there is fluctuation in population, maybe in different years you have less of a need. So if you had a five year lease, at the end of that period you have that flexibility to let those apartments go. So we are looking at it. We are looking at both sides of the story -- the cost analysis, the potential community benefits and incentive for the private market to get involved. So we are interested in it but that is basically how the program works. Does that answer your question, Mr. T'Seleie?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Any more questions? Before we go on to total budget, do any Members have a question on the information item? Mr. Nerysoo.

Motion Of Support For Statements By Hon. David Crombie Re Nielsen Task Force Report, Bill 1-86(1), Carried

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to move a motion in this committee. I move that this committee strongly object to the comments made by the Nielsen task force which stated that the government has created "modern suburbs in the northern bush" and that this committee express its support for the statements of opposition made by Mr. Crombie, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

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

---Carried

Mr. McCallum.

Distribution Of Person Years

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, before you want to vote on the total appropriation here, on page 3.17 there is a distribution of the budget. I really do not understand why it is difficult for the corporation to tell us the number of people that are working for the Housing Corporation only. I am talking about district offices and headquarters. You have the distribution of grants and contributions under O and M and capital. Why is it so difficult to place in there how many people are working at the headquarters, either continuing or casual for the corporation, and why is it difficult to do the same thing in the other regions? These are regions and you have district offices. I would have thought that you would have put in the district offices, which outside of the mistake of using Fort Smith, you could have put Hay River in there. Why can you not put in there the number of people because again, I want to make the point, Mr. Chairman, I believe the government is growing too fast in person years and with people. There does not seem to be any way to stem the tide. Everybody has a pitch fork like Canute trying to keep the tide out. There must be some way that we can get an idea of how many people are working at headquarters, the total. How many are working in each of the district offices? That should not be that difficult and if it is not that difficult, why is it not in the information sheet?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I will give you the numbers and I will have Mr. Clark explain why it is difficult to get it into this process. The way it is right now, we have continuing person years in headquarters, 66.8; nine for the Yellowknife district; 10.4 for the Hay River district; 13.5 for the Inuvik district; 11.4 for the Kitikmeot district; 21.8 for the Baffin; and 11.3 for the Keewatin. That is the breakdown. I will have Mr. Clark explain our problems in getting that information into this budget format.

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

MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, the page 3.17 the Member was referring to does not have the corporation person years outlined, for the particular reason that in the current main estimates process the estimates are all prepared on a computer system within the Financial Management Secretariat. Page 3.17 is similar to other pages in other departments and the corporation's person years are not part of the government's person years as such. They do not roll up into the total government person years within the O and M. Ours are contributions rather than operations and maintenance. In order to avoid rolling a contribution item into an O and M item, the central agency decided not to include the person years. There is a place within the budget where the person years are identified in the main estimates book and that is under our organization chart which identifies each section of the corporation with the number of staff and the number of person years assigned to each division and each district. So it is in the main estimates book.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Any more questions? We are on page 3.06. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: I did not catch when we had gone off general comments, Mr. Chairman. Is it all right if I make a few general comments?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Ten pages of general comments?

Government Contracts And Preference Policies

MR. MacQUARRIE: Ten pages of general comments, okay. The corporation, of course, deals with a lot of contracting and I would like to make some general comments concerning contracting without attempting to raise the implication that the general tone of my remarks apply to the corporation more than to other departments in our government. I think they do not as a matter of fact. Or to the Minister. I think it is important to make them, nevertheless, and this is the last opportunity that I have in this session so I want to take advantage of it.

It is clear that in all government contracting we are dealing with public funds, not private funds and that the, I think, fundamental principle that needs to be respected is that because they are public funds, members of the public should have approximately equal access or equal opportunity of access where there are necessary government expenditures. But it does seem recently that more and more there is becoming a preference for preference. I personally feel that we must approach that very, very cautiously, particularly what I call front-end preference. In handling government business we have to try to handle it in the most just manner possible and traditionally, with some good reason, when the figure of Justice is shown it is shown as a blind figure -- justice is blind. The idea behind that is simply that you set up an equitable system and then implement it without looking to see who is going to be impacted by the implementation. In other words, you try to implement it without fear if you happen to be dealing with very powerful people, and without favour to those who may for some reason strike your fancy and you feel that they ought to be treated better than others. Now that is a very important concept. It should never be tampered with without a great deal of consideration. I know that in recent years, people have come to recognize more and more, correctly in my opinion, that when you establish a system like that, it is not always as fair as it seems to be when you establish it because there are in fact disadvantaged people who do not really, despite superficial appearances, have equal access or equal opportunity because of some in-built disadvantage in the society that is operating.

So the notion of affirmative action has arisen and I generally support affirmative action but again it must be clear that the purpose of affirmative action is to try to bring the disadvantaged to the point where there is equality of opportunity. That is, to the point where people who are disadvantaged can be competitive with other people. I am not sure that front-end preference is really affirmative action at all. Incidentally, in any type of affirmative action it is so important that if you are trying to redress an injustice, if you are trying to balance an imbalance, that it does have that specific object, that specific target group and that it be limited to the time frame that is necessary in order to balance the imbalance. All of those things are really important so that at a certain point you say, "Now there appears to be equality of opportunity. These various groups can compete equally. Let us go back to the blind system of justice."

Clear Policy Needed For Front-End Preference

But when you start what you call front-end preference, and by that I mean not giving people additional assistance with training and trying to ensure that they have every benefit of every advantage to become educated but rather instead you say, "Here is a job." If it is in the matter of contracting, rather than giving small companies funds to give them administrative help and some funds for capitalizations and grants or loans and so on which would help them to get to a situation of equality of opportunity so that they can compete, rather than that, by just directly negotiating contracts, then you are beginning to undermine the system of justice that is so important.

In my mind, I am troubled about front-end preference but not ready to reject it out of hand right now. But I do say that if our government is going to start going that way, and it appears that it is, that it is absolutely fundamentally important that that preference come under clear policies, written policies, to the extent that it is possible ahead of time to anticipate all of the factors that have to be taken into account in granting -- there has to be a policy. I say then let that policy be stated publicly, be defined clearly and be followed so that there is no waste of time and money in the matter of contracting to people who believe they have an opportunity to compete but only afterwards find that there was some preference that they did not know was there so they wasted

their time and their money in preparing bids. Or so that there are no surprises to them and so that there is no suspicion arising in the public's mind as to whether in fact it is a policy preference or an arbitrary and personal preference.

It is really important to have clear-cut policies to the extent that that is possible. Then I say, if there is ever a departure from that policy, at every level where a departure is recommended by somebody or a departure decision is made by somebody and I say up to and including the Executive Council, that is going to be a major issue for me over the next two or three months and into the next session. At every level up to and including the Executive Council, when there is a departure from policy then those who make that departure must be prepared to cite the reasons to the public and be prepared to defend that decision publicly because I think it is important that we do have government that is answerable to the people.

Reasons Should Be Given

If in citing reasons, I heard briefly that somebody said, "Yes; but what if you do not want to grant a contract to a low bidder because they have had work for you in the past and they did not do a good job? They balled it up here and here." I say, say that publicly. There is nothing wrong with that. If somebody wants public contracts and has been granted one in good faith and botched it up every way imaginable, that is a good reason for being cautious about dealing with them again. And the next time, if you decide that they have not yet demonstrated capability or trustworthiness or whatever it was that bothered you, say that publicly. And say, "When you come back to us demonstrating that this is the case then you may be eligible for contracts again."

When I say that the reasons must be cited, I will never accept what I heard the Leader of this government say on the radio this morning, that you should not cite reasons sometimes because you may give opportunity for a law suit against you. Well, my heavens, I say if in fact there is something that gives him that kind of legal right, it ought to be known publicly and give him the opportunity to pursue it. That is what democracy is all about. But even more astounding, I heard the Government Leader say you should not cite reasons in cases like this because they might be refuted. I say you ought to be able to cite reasons that cannot be refuted. If they can be refuted, then you had better think about ever again using those as reasons for doing what you are doing.

I have heard over the last few days and so on that in housing contracts and other contracts there might be some kind of preference if there is native participation in companies. There might be some kind of preference if wood is used from a particular sawmill rather than another sawmill. I have heard it said that there might be preference if there is a larger staff rather than a smaller staff or a bigger company and well established rather than a smaller one. As I said earlier, I have real questions about whether that is desirable at all. I want to think more about it. I do say that if, in fact, it is the case that the government has decided that there should be these kinds of preferences, well, say it publicly, put it into a policy and let the policy be debated. Then if the majority of the Assembly and the majority of the people agree in the Territories that you should be giving that kind of preference, then let us go ahead. But it should never be on the basis of some individual who felt that it was better to do this or to do that. And so just in a general way, I hope that if the Housing Corporation in granting its contracts is thinking of going more into that kind of preference that it will take some of these remarks into account. I would advise that if it is thinking that way it had better approach it very, very cautiously.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I do not want to revisit the debate of the last week but I will say that in principle what the Member says, I agree with. It has to be fair, equitable, and 99.9 per cent of cases the public should know why the government takes certain action. Unfortunately, some of the comments made pros and cons on the radio over the last week. It has been a very tense week. There has been a lot of pressure. People are tired. I think some of the comments were taken out of context. I think some of the very complex issues were not explained and maybe it is impossible to explain them, as fully as is possible. I think it has created a lot of confusion. I think both as Minister of Justice and Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, I look at it the same way that the honourable Member does -- that the lowest bidder should get it unless there is a demonstrable reason why the lowest bidder should not get it.

I think the one aspect that the Member perhaps does not yet fully understand is some of the complexity to make that perfect policy. Things are changing so quickly in the North. Companies are being formed. Consortiums are being formed almost on a daily basis. We are finding now, that year to year, band councils are becoming involved in economic development. As a government we have to decide. If a company, for instance from Yellowknife, goes to Fort Good Hope and bids on a project and is \$500 lower than an economic development corporation in Fort Good Hope -- that is the sort of decision that someone has to make.

Cases Where Reasons Should Not Be Disclosed

I agree as much as possible we should have policies but there are cases, and I do not know if I can cite the best example, but there are those very, very exceptional cases where it is not in some individual's interest or not even in the public's interest that everything is disclosed. I am not talking about hiding behind cabinet secrecy. Generally, I agree with you and your principles are sound but there could be a case, for instance, and this may be a bad example, but just to give an idea of what sort of thing Executive Council or myself when I was mayor of city council would have to deal with.

For instance, a new company was formed, inexperienced, immature, and they are the low bidders. They are not competent to do the job but they have potential in the future to improve. Perhaps they have hired a foreman, who because of past record known to officials of the corporation or DPW, is known to be incompetent but has never been fired from his past job for being incompetent. At that point, if you say the company is incompetent and that is why we are not giving them the job, then the company's name is sullied. If you say that well, all our indications are -- and you are talking about people who have lived in the North for 25 years -- what we know may not be 100 per cent, that that certain individual is incompetent. How do you say that? This may not be a good example, but what I am pointing out is that there are the occasional times and I agree with you, that the public has the right to know and our government should be able to defend our decisions. But there will be occasions when it will not be in the public interest or in an individual's interest to have those decisions disclosed. As a government, we have to take that responsibility and be accountable for that. If, as a government, the public perception is that that is abused we will pay that price as a cabinet. We are accountable to the Legislative Assembly.

What I am saying, Mr. MacQuarrie, is I agree with your principles. I am very careful myself but there will be that occasional time, I know, in the future where I will be taking to my cabinet colleagues a difficult decision. A decision will have to be made and the point is, if you would agree with the premise that there might be the occasional time that it will not be in somebody's interest, who decides then what the cabinet should divulge? Do you do it all and hang the costs? I am just saying there is that potential. I do not think that has been explained this week very well. So I have no problem with your philosophy, with your principles. I think they are sound and they are good but I do say in the world, the very, very small incestuous world of the NWT, firstly it is not as easy as it might be to make those clear policies, and secondly, there will be an occasional time that within cabinet it will be justified and documented but it might not be in certain innocent individual's interest or in the public's interest to disclose why. I do not know if that answers your question, Mr. MacQuarrie.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: I do not know if I asked a question as a matter of fact.

---Laughter

I was making general comments. Certainly, I agree with the Minister that there will be the odd exception when, for some special reasons, it is maybe advisable not to disclose reasons but I say that that is a very odd occasion and in which case I would recommend that the Executive Council agree in confidence to disclose it to other Members of the Legislative Assembly or to a judge or to someone that the people trust, so that they see that there has not just been an arbitrary decision made without explanation. But I say that those times would be few and very far between.

In the other cases that you mention where you gave a complex situation about a possibly incompetent manager and that kind of thing, I say be open and honest about the concerns that the government has. It could depend on the size of the contract. If it is a very small one maybe that is the perfect opportunity to give the company the chance to show whether in fact -- you know, to remove

any doubt in the government's mind. If it is much larger it may be quite appropriate for the government to express the kinds of concerns it had and what made it decide not to award that -- and have faith in the public. They just want to hear what the reasons are and you might be surprised. It may be that 98 per cent agree with you that you had some good reasons for doing it, but give them the chance to decide that. I do say I recognize the complexity, with more and more companies going, but I also say that if the Executive Council is loath to set up a system which is as just as possible, then it is going to get drawn in more and more and more to actually making day to day decisions and some of you are going to become very old in a very short time. It is important to set the structure and let that take care of as much as possible.

Another area that I just want to ask about. This time I am asking a question. I believe in looking for a president now, the ad seemed to indicate that the president will report directly to the Minister. I think that is slightly different from the way the legislation is framed now. Can I just ask the Minister -- I thought that was maybe going to be one of the matters that the task force would sort out or recommend on. I am just wondering, has that kind of structural decision and reporting decision been made already? And if not, when it is made, then will it be reflected in legislation?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: There has been a structural problem in the corporation. There have been some flaws in the legislation. One of the prime goals of the corporate plan is to try to rationalize that. The applicants who are being interviewed are all being told that the final decision as to the structure of the corporation has yet to be decided. So they are all aware of that. Through this corporate plan and process we will make a decision and we will have to come back to the House for changes in legislation. I will have to convince my cabinet colleagues and then once we get into legislation we will have a full opportunity for input but before that I intend to include MLAs in the process of the corporate plan. I think it is important that what we do reflects the wishes of this House rather than have me force something on people. I want the input from people and hopefully we will arrive at some basic consensus of how we want this corporation to operate. Does that answer your question, Mr. MacQuarrie?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Any more questions? Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MACQUARRIE: One more comment which I had intended to make when I was speaking earlier and forgot it. I did say that it is clear that the reason people accept affirmative action programs is because they recognize that they are aimed at trying to provide equality of opportunity and that does seem like a very acceptable principle. But I say when you give front-end preference, you are actually undermining equality of opportunity and you are beginning to get away from the principle that you were working toward under affirmative action, and that is why it is such a serious matter.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: I take note of the Member's comments and will consider them seriously.

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): NWT Housing Corporation, total O and M, \$44,206,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Contributions, Total Capital

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Okay, we are now on the capital estimates on page 3.11. General comments. Detail of capital, NWT Housing Corporation, contributions, total headquarters, \$6,563,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total Fort Smith, \$1,736,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total Inuvik, \$4,122,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total Baffin, \$3,194,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total Keewatin, \$2,913,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total Kitikmeot, \$1,322,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Contributions, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total contributions, \$19,850,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$19,850,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Are there any questions on the information items? Mr. Paniloo.

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In my constituency in Clyde River, there are four houses to be built and they are not built yet. I am asking if and when they are going to be built. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: That is correct. There will be four houses built in Clyde River.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Would you repeat your answer?

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Yes, four HAP houses in Clyde River.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Any other questions? Any questions on pages 3.21, 3.22, 3.23? Does the committee agree that NWT Housing Corporation is now concluded?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): I would like to thank the Minister and his witnesses.

Legislative Assembly

We are now on page 1.06 of the main estimates, Legislative Assembly. Mr. Wah-Shee, do you want to make opening remarks?

Deputy Speaker's Opening Remarks

MR. WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have the honour of dealing with your budget, the Legislative Assembly, so this should not take too long I hope. As you are aware the Speaker and the Management and Services Board are responsible for the Office of the Legislative Assembly. Over the past year we have endeavoured to control expenditures and streamline administration costs and procedures. The estimates for the Legislative Assembly have been prepared with the most accurate information available. However, as you are aware, decisions of the Legislature in caucus can have an impact on our budget throughout the fiscal year that we are unable to forecast.

The main estimates for the Legislative Assembly have increased by \$438,000 or 10 per cent over the 1985-86 appropriations. We had an increase in three staff positions in 1985 directly related to improving support services to Members, with the addition of a Members' assistant, research assistant and Members' secretary. The full cost of these positions is reflected in this budget. There are no increases in this budget to Members' basic indemnity, living allowance or constituency indemnity. The Speaker and the Management and Services Board are endeavouring to ensure the same level of service and benefits will be available to Members in 1986-87. Those, Mr. Chairman, are my opening remarks in regard to the Legislative Assembly budget. If Members have any questions I would be more than happy to respond to questions.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): General comments. Mr. Wah-Shee, do you want to bring in your witness?

MR. WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to have the Clerk sit with me at the witness table to respond to any concerns that may be raised by the honourable Members.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Does the committee agree with that?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Go ahead, Mr. Wah-Shee. Mr. Paniloo.

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have two questions. I have a problem with my travel money. I have finished using my budget for half of the year and I only chartered an aircraft once. I used all my budget for that. I think sometimes some of the Members do not use all their travel budget in one year. Those Members who do not use all of their budget, can it be transferred to the other Members' travel budget? I realize that we can only do this by agreement. I would like to get a response on this. Thank you.

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

MR. WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In response to the honourable Member's concern in regard to increasing the amount of the travel expenditure for the MLAs, the only way that we can increase the amount that is presently allocated to the individual MLA's constituency is by changing the legislation that governs the amount that has been allocated to all of the 24 constituencies. At the present time it is governed by legislation and if there is going to be an increase with regard to the constituency funds allocated under the 1986-87 budget, then it would require an amendment to the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act. I would assume that the matter would have to be referred to the Management and Services Board.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkløo): Thank you. Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a concern. It is not concerning the budget but it is concerning when we have the session in Yellowknife. It gets very tiring spending so many weeks in hotels. It is very tiring. There are always maids coming in. I have had problems with this for some time. Since we have long sessions in Yellowknife, I was wondering if each individual MLA could be provided with housing. Our Assembly is adequate now but not having a proper home, I am not too happy about it. I was wondering, has this been considered before?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkløo): Mr. Wah-Shee.

MR. WAH-SHEE: Previously when the GNWT had a number of apartments which were vacant they were made available to the Legislative Assembly so that we could accommodate the MLAs who do not wish to be accommodated in hotels or motels. But since the change in the policy of the territorial government with regard to getting away from providing accommodation, there is a limitation with regard to the units that would be available to us. So at the present time, there is a problem with not having apartments available. This is why the majority of the MLAs are staying in the hotels. However, I am sure that we would be more than pleased to raise the issue with the GNWT if they do have any vacant housing. But that is really the problem.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkløo): Mr. Appaqaq.

MR. APPAQAQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I realize what you just mentioned how it used to be before. Those MLAs who want to stay in hotels can do so, but I am not very happy staying in a hotel. I would like to see if accommodation, other than hotels, can be provided. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkløo): We are on Legislative Assembly. Mr. Angottitauruq.

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our friend Sam Gargan, MLA for Deh Cho, just before he left he gave me his motion. He would like me to present this motion.

Motion To Review MLAs Basic Indemnities, Bill 1-86(1), Carried

The motion reads: I move that this committee recommend to the Management and Services Board that it reviews the basic indemnities of MLAs to ascertain if an increase is desirable to the basic indemnity.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkløo): Your motion is in order.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkløo): Question has been called. All those in favour, raise your hands. Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Total O And M, Agreed

Any more general comments? Legislative Assembly, total O and M, \$4,678,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkløo): Does the committee agree that the Legislative Assembly is concluded? Mr. Wah-Shee.

MR. WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, I do believe the Legislative Assembly does have some funds in the capital expenditure. Do you wish to deal with it at this time?

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): I am sorry. Capital estimates, page 1.03. Any general comments? Legislative Assembly capital, total capital expenditures, \$45,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Does the committee agree then that the Legislative Assembly budget is concluded?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee and your witness. Is the committee ready to go clause by clause? Mr. Butters.

Errata, 1986-87 Main Estimates And 1986-87 Capital Estimates, Tabled

HON. TOM BUTTERS: I wish to advise Members that pages 2.20 and 2.21 in the main estimates document inadvertently contain the same information that was included in the 1985-86 main estimates. I am going to read now, sir, an errata which I would like to have included with Bill 1-86(1), corrections to the budget as was presented and was originally tabled. Page (v), revenue and expenditure summary; page (vii), summary of amounts to be voted; page (viii), summary of total person year requirements; and page 10.05, the Department of Government Services summary. Pages 5.07 and 5.10, Department of Finance, do not contain some last minute adjustments which were made to the 1985-86 revised forecast, 1985-86 main estimates and the 1984-85 actual figures. None of these changes affect any of the 1986-87 main estimates amounts to be voted. The amounts affected are included in the main estimates document for information and comparability purposes.

Further, the capital estimates document contains an incorrect categorization of expenditures on page 13.08, Economic Development and Tourism. No changes to the total estimated expenditure result. However, minor modifications to the detail of capital information do result. Page 13.08, tourism and parks, regional buildings and works. Page 13.09, tourism and parks, total buildings and works. Total tourism and parks, page 13.10 and total department, page 13.12. With Members' agreement I would ask if I may circulate errata documents to enable Members to make corrections in their copies of the main estimates. If any Members would like to have assistance in making these corrections I will be pleased to arrange this service.

Mr. Chairman, may I obtain agreement of the committee to have this errata document form part of the record of the House?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Does the committee agree with that?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Is the committee ready to go clause by clause on Bill 1-86(1)?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 2, applications. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 3, appropriation for 1986-87. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 4, purpose of expenditures. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 5, lapse of appropriation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 6, accounting. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Schedule. Mr. Butters.

Motion To Amend Schedule, Item No. 2, Bill 1-86(1), Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make an amendment to the Appropriation Act and the schedule thereof. I move that Bill 1-86(1), Appropriation Act, 1986-87, be amended by deleting the word "Council" from item no. 2 in the schedule.

Item no. 2 in the schedule is "Executive Council" and with the deletion it would just be "Executive".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Your motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Schedule, vote 1, operations and maintenance. Total operations and maintenance, \$551,313,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Vote 2, capital. Total capital, \$127,936,000. Agreed? Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a question, Mr. Chairman, through you to the Minister responsible for Finance. In amending "Executive" in the first section, is it not proper to amend under capital also to delete the word "Council" from "Executive Council"?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, the amendment should delete both references to the Executive Council in the schedule. I believe it is covered. I just discussed this with the Clerk and it would appear to be covered in the original motion, sir.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Butters.

Motion To Amend Schedule, Item No. 19, Bill 1-86(1), Carried

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I guess I should move the amendment to item no. 19, it would appear. I move that Bill 1-86(1), Appropriation Act, 1986-87, be amended by deleting the word "Council" from item no. 19 in the schedule.

MR. MacQUARRIE: A point of order, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. MacQuarrie, on a point of order.

MR. MacQUARRIE: There was no quorum a moment ago, Mr. Chairman. Now there is? Okay, thank you.

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

---Carried

Total appropriated, \$679,249,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 1, short title. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): The bill as a whole as amended. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Shall I report Bill 1-86(1) ready for third reading as amended? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 11-86(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 3, 1985-86

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): We will now go to Bill 11-86(1). Mr. Butters.

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, Bill 11-86(1) is a supplementary appropriation, which Members are familiar with on past occasions. All appropriation acts provide the same appropriation authority as has been provided in past years. The authority to establish revolving funds and their limits and write off debts and assets have been removed from this act. Members will note that that is included in separate legislation which I doubt we will be able to get to at this juncture but will conclude later on in the year.

The wording to the supplementary appropriation bills has been improved to accommodate accruals and other recommendations of the standing committee on finance. The purpose of the acts is to provide appropriation authority to allow the government to make expenditures in the course of carrying out its responsibilities. Bill 11-86(1), Mr. Chairman, has been examined by the standing committee on finance and I believe the chairman of that committee may wish to comment on the bill.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Nerysoo.

Comments From Standing Committee On Finance On Bill 11-86(1) And Bill 15-86(1)

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the standing committee on finance concluded its review of Bill 11-86(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 3, 1985-86, and Bill 15-86(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1986-87. Both bills have taken into consideration the recommendations of the standing committee on finance with respect to changes in their wording which will more accurately reflect the purpose and content of the legislation. The committee was pleased to see the government respond favourably to these suggestions. However, the committee expressed concern over the lack of commitment from Ottawa on the funding necessary for the Young Offenders Act. This lack of commitment has placed enormous pressure on the supplementary estimates reserve for 1986-87. Until proper funding for this program is known, it will necessitate extremely careful management and delivery of all government programs and services for 1986-87.

As well, Mr. Chairman, the committee is concerned over the continued use of special warrants by the government. The Auditor General of Canada in his report tabled in this House, has indicated that, in accordance with the Financial Administration Act, only urgent expenditures which are not or are insufficiently covered by an appropriation should utilize special warrants. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erklou): Is the committee ready to go to details? We are on Supplementary Appropriation No. 3 on page 4.

Department Of The Executive, Total O And M, Agreed

Executive, operations and maintenance, Executive Council Secretariat, \$23,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erklou): Ministers' Offices, \$80,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erklou): Total department, \$23,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erklou): Not previously authorized, \$80,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Culture And Communications, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erklou): Culture and Communications, operations and maintenance, directorate, \$58,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erklou): Cultural affairs, \$927,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Library services, \$712,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Museums, \$1,283,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$2,980,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Culture And Communications, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Culture and Communications, capital, museums, \$216,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Library services, \$30,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$246,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Personnel, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Personnel, operations and maintenance, staff relations, special warrant, \$30,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Not previously authorized, \$618,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$30,000 and \$618,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Personnel, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Personnel, capital, staff relations, special warrant, \$204,600. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Not previously authorized, \$140,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$204,600 and \$140,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Justice, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Justice, operations and maintenance, directorate, \$35,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Museums/heritage division, \$1,283,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Library services, \$712,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Safety and mining, \$501,267, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Legal aid, not previously authorized, \$218,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Police Services Agreement, not previously authorized, \$580,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$2,531,267, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, not previously authorized, \$798,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Justice, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Justice, capital, museums/heritage division, \$216,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Library services, \$30,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Safety and mining, \$15,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$261,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Government Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Government Services, operations and maintenance, directorate, special warrants, \$854,967. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Supply services, special warrant, \$30,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Communications, not previously authorized, \$181,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, special warrants, \$884,967. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, not previously authorized, \$181,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Government Services, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Government Services, capital. Directorate, special warrant, \$15,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Office services, special warrant, \$96,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Petroleum products, special warrant, \$80,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, special warrants, \$191,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Public Works And Highways, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Public Works and Highways, operations and maintenance. Buildings and works, special warrant, \$24,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$24,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Renewable Resources, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Renewable Resources, operations and maintenance. Directorate, special warrant \$70,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$70,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Local Government, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Local Government, operations and maintenance. Ministry of Culture, special warrant, \$927,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$927,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Local Government, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Local Government, capital. Community planning, special warrant, \$1,175,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Sport and recreation, not previously authorized, \$200,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$1,175,000 and \$200,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Health, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Health, capital. THIS, \$4,925,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$4,925,000, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Economic Development And Tourism, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Economic Development and Tourism, operations and maintenance. Directorate, not previously authorized, \$121,800. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Expo '86, special warrant, \$474,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Business development, special warrant, \$200,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Business development, not previously authorized, \$120,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$674,000 and \$241,800. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Education, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Education, capital. Schools, special warrants, \$940,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$940,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Is the committee ready to go clause by clause? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 2, application. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 3, supplementary appropriation for 1985-86. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 4, reduction of appropriation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 5, purpose of expenditures. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 6, lapse of appropriation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 7, accounting. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 8, commencement. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Schedule, vote 1, operations and maintenance. Total operations and maintenance, \$3,100,500. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Vote 2, capital. Total capital, \$2,089,400, surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total appropriated, \$1,011,100. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 1, short title. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Does the committee agree that Bill 11-86(1) is ready for third reading? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): We will now go to Bill 15-86(1). Mr. Butters.

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

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, on page 5, the reference to Fort Smith and Keewatin Regions, should be Fort Smith and Kitikmeot Regions, \$100,000. So with that amendment made, this supplementary item is rather unique in that it is for one department only and it is for the new year. It recognizes the fact that we have not yet established the cost of our commitment for the Young Offenders Act. As Members know and we have been briefed by the Minister responsible for the Young Offenders Act, there are still negotiations proceeding in Ottawa to determine what the level of funding will be. Those negotiations have not been completed so to provide some figure for

Members, we have placed the projection in supp number one and projected on the expectation of our requirements to meet the provisions of the federal legislation. This item includes our totals, some \$3,132,500 which is seven twelfths of the anticipated expenditure. It includes \$1,300,000 which would be obtained through a cost-sharing agreement with the federal government and also identifies an additional \$1,832,500 which the territorial government expects would be an adjustment to our base. As Members realize the Young Offenders Act financial requirements fall outside of our fiscal formula arrangements. We are anticipating that those requirements for the requirements that devolve upon us under the federal legislation will be paid for by the federal government as provided in the formula agreement with the federal department. I do not know if I can provide much more on this paper but if there is some detail required, Mr. Dunbar is standing by for Members' detailed questions should he be required.

Department Of Social Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): We are on page four. Social Services, operations and maintenance. Family and children's services, not previously authorized, \$3,132,500. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$3,132,500. Agreed? Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize, I wanted to have an opportunity to ask with regard to the capital. Is the capital appropriation recoverable from the federal government?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The answer I am advised, Mr. Chairman, is yes. The Government of the Northwest Territories does have a capital submission before the federal government.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Total department, \$3,132,500. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Social Services, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Social Services, capital. Family and children's services, not previously authorized, \$350,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$350,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Is the committee ready to go to Bill 15-86(1) clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 2, application. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 3, supplementary appropriation for 1986-87. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 4, purpose of expenditures. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 5, lapse of appropriation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 6, accounting. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Schedule, vote 1, operations and maintenance. Total operations and maintenance, \$3,132,500. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Vote 2, capital. Total capital, \$350,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total appropriated \$3,482,500. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 1, short title. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): The bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Does the committee agree that Bill 15-86(1) is ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Butters, what bill do you want to deal with now?

Bill 6-86(1), Loan Authorization Act, 1986-87

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, Bill 6-86(1) appears before the House annually. It provides the legal authority for the government to make loans to municipalities. The upper limit is five million dollars and this level has not changed from prior years. Present indications are that municipal governments in the NWT might require some \$3.5 million in loans. The government has financed these loans from its own resources for the past three years and would expect to do so again in 1986-87. The loans are provided at a rate which is tied to bonds issued by the Province of Newfoundland. We estimate that this would be the market rate if we had to borrow. I believe the chairman of the standing committee on finance might have some comments.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Nerysoo, did you want to make a comment?

Comments From The Standing Committee On Finance

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will not make any comments at this particular time but we did have a number of concerns with regard to the manner in which the bill was written and the text of the bill. We will be sending a letter to the Minister of Finance suggesting ways in which we could correct the bill in the 1987-88 budget year.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Is the committee ready to go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 2, interpretation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 3, application. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 4, authority to make loans. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 5, monetary limit. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 6, authority to disburse from Consolidated Revenue Fund. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 7, lapse of authority. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 8, agreements. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 9, security of loans. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 10, power to fulfil obligations and enforce rights. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 11, delegation to Minister. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 1, short title. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): The bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Does the committee agree that Bill 6-86(1) is ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): What does the committee wish to do now? Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, if the committee would agree I would like to try the Petroleum Products Tax Act.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Does the committee agree we go to Bill 8-86(1)?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Bill 8-86(1), Petroleum Products Tax Act

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Butters.

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, the Petroleum Products Tax Act provides for the taxation of fuel products on an added value basis. This means that as the price of fuel products increases the amount of revenue to GNWT also increases. The reason that this tax was initially implemented was to provide the government with inflationary revenue protection. The amendments being proposed to

the act reflect a change from both the ad valorem method in the case of aviation fuel and from the ad valorem rate in the case of railway locomotive fuel. In the case of aviation fuel, the Executive is recommending that the amount of tax per litre, one cent per litre, not be changed and that this tax also be removed from the ad valorem basis of calculation. The reason for this recommendation is that aviation fuel is considered to be a basic necessity in the North and its rate should not be tied to retail gasoline prices. I believe that particular objective was indicated to the Executive by Members of the House following the report of the Orange committee on air travel in the remote communities. So we have attempted to respond to the recommendations of that committee and reduce the taxes on this particular commodity. With regard to the second commodity, the railway locomotive fuel rate is recommended to be reduced from 120 per cent of the gasoline tax to 107 per cent of the gasoline tax to reduce the impact of this tax on Pine Point mining operations. Also, a paragraph has been added to this act to identify that tax is not payable by the Government of Canada. This does not change current circumstances since the federal government is exempt. I believe; Mr. Chairman, that the chairman of the standing committee on finance will probably have some comments on this bill.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to indicate that the standing committee on finance has reviewed the bill and we supported the amendments that have been proposed by the government.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Is the committee ready to go clause by clause? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 2. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 3, no tax on petroleum products used by the Government of Canada. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Clause 4, coming into force. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): The bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Does the committee agree Bill 8-86(1) is ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Could we have a motion to report progress? Moved by Mr. MacQuarrie. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Erkloo.

ITEM 16: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILL 1-86(1), APPROPRIATION ACT, 1986-87; BILL 11-86(1), SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION ACT, NO. 3, 1985-86; BILL 15-86(1), SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION ACT, NO. 1, 1986-87; BILL 6-86(1), LOAN AUTHORIZATION ACT, 1986-87; BILL 8-86(1), PETROLEUM PRODUCTS TAX ACT

MR. ERKLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 1-86(1), Bill 11-86(1), Bill 15-86(1), Bill 14-86(1), Bill 8-86(1), Bill 6-86(1), Bill 12-86(1), Bill 13-86(1) and Bill 2-86(1) and wish to report that Bill 11-86(1), Bill 15-86(1), Bill 8-86(1) and Bill 6-86(1) are recommended for third reading. Mr. Speaker, Bill 1-86(1), as amended, is recommended for third reading. Bill 14-86(1), Bill 12-86(1), Bill 13-86(1) and Bill 2-86(1) require further consideration.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Carried

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I could have unanimous consent to return to tabling of documents, I can table the report of the standing committee with regard to the supplementary appropriations.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being requested. Are you agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Nerysoo, please proceed.

REVERT TO ITEM 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 56-86(1), the report of the standing committee on finance on its review of Bill 11-86(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 3, 1985-86, and Bill 15-86(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1986-87.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, very quickly if I could have unanimous consent to go back to Item 10, notices of motion.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Mr. Curley, please proceed.

REVERT TO ITEM 10: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 25-86(1): Nielsen Task Force Report

HON TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that at an appropriate time I shall give the following motion: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu that this Assembly strongly urge the federal government to reject the offensive reference in that report and apologize to all aboriginal peoples of Canada.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would now like to have unanimous consent to move the motion I just gave notice of.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being requested to go to motions. Are there any nays?

MR. MacQUARRIE: Are we still in notices of motion?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, we are still in notices of motion. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Mr. Speaker, I do not have any notice to give at this time.

---Laughter

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, please. Mr. Curley is requesting unanimous consent to go to Item 12, motions.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Mr. Curley, please proceed.

REVERT TO ITEM 12: MOTIONS

Motion 25-86(1): Nielsen Task Force Report, Carried

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

WHEREAS the federal Conservative Nielsen task force, in one of its reports in referring to native communities as "modern suburbs in the bush", has shown complete lack of understanding and sensitivity to the native peoples of Canada;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that this Assembly strongly urge the federal government to reject the offensive reference in that report and apologize to all aboriginal peoples of Canada.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Curley, do you wish to speak to the motion?

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not live in the bush but I certainly have a tremendous respect for my colleagues and friends and my fellow aboriginal peoples in Canada and I really truly believe as a native person, an Inuit person, that they have not been understood for years during the history of this nation, Canada, and that is not to suggest the nation of the aboriginal people. But I think it is very important that this Assembly, with the majority of Members in the House being native people, should strongly urge the federal government to at least reject that reference and apologize to all native peoples of Canada.

I know, if you look at the work that the Nielsen task force had with respect to the studies of government spending, that these people spent a tremendous period that was really mainly a season that wasn't cold; springtime is pretty decent and summertime is pretty decent. That was a period of about eight or nine months. When you travel around the country during those months when they assembled their work, you will begin to think that the country is in such a rosy state that why

should the government be spending all kinds of money for infrastructure on that. When you actually live in the other half of the season, winter, fall and so on, it is not at all the same. So therefore, I would just like to express to the Members, that I think we should not, as native peoples of the country, tolerate any such use by the federal government of this kind of terminology and I am urging the federal government to apologize for the use of these offensive words. I think as a prominent aboriginal person myself, I cannot tolerate that. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: To the motion. Mr. T'Seleie, do you wish to speak to the motion?

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

We are under Item 17, third reading of bills. Mr. Pedersen.

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I should try too. Could I have unanimous consent to return to Item 3, Ministers' statements, for a very short one?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being requested to return to Item 3. Are there any nays?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please proceed, Mr. Pedersen.

REVERT TO ITEM 3: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement 21-86(1): Election Of Mr. Jim Bourque As Chairman Of Fur Institute Of Canada Board

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is my privilege to announce to the House, the election of our deputy minister of Renewable Resources, Mr. Jim Bourque, as chairman of the board of directors of the Fur Institute of Canada.

---Applause

Mr. Bourque was elected on March 11th, the day before yesterday. Many of the Members of this House met with the Fur Institute of Canada during this session and I think we were all impressed by the work that this body does. I am sure that Members will agree that Mr. Bourque's election is a great honour to him and that it can only further emphasize the complete support and concern that this Legislature has voiced over the plights of aboriginal people as fur harvesters and the fur industry in general. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Item 17, third reading of bills. Mr. Butters.

ITEM 17: THIRD READING OF BILLS

Third Reading Of Bill 1-86(1): Appropriation Act, 1986-87

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nahendeh, that Bill 1-86(1) as amended, An Act Respecting Appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the Fiscal Year Ending the 31st Day of March, 1987, be read for the third time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Bill 1-86(1), as amended, has had third reading. Mr. Butters.

---Carried

Third 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 Kivallivik, 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 third time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any?

---Carried

Bill 11-86(1) has had third reading. Third reading of bills. Mr. Butters.

Third 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 Yellowknife North, 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 third time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any?

---Carried

Bill 15-86(1) has had third reading. Mr. Butters.

Third Reading Of Bill 6-86(1): Loan Authorization Act, 1986-87

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Aivilik, that Bill 6-86(1), An Act to Authorize the Making of Loans to Municipalities During the Fiscal Year Ending the 31st Day of March, 1987, be read for the third time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any?

---Carried

Bill 6-86(1) has had third reading. Mr. Butters.

Third Reading Of Bill 8-86(1): Petroleum Products Tax Act

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nahendeh, that Bill 8-86(1), An Act to Amend the Petroleum Products Tax Act, be read for the third time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any?

---Carried

Bill 8-86(1) has had third reading.

Item 18, assent to bills. Mr. Clerk, would you ascertain if the Commissioner is prepared to assent to certain bills today?

ITEM 18: ASSENT TO BILLS

COMMISSIONER PARKER: Mr. Speaker, I assent to Bill 1-86(1), Bill 6-86(1), Bill 8-86(1), Bill 11-86(1) and Bill 15-86(1). Thank you very much.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please be seated. I realize Members are rather anxious -- I do appreciate that. Item 19, orders of the day, Mr. Clerk, please.

ITEM 19: ORDERS OF THE DAY

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Orders of the day for Tuesday, June 10th.

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 14-86(1), Bill 12-86(1), Bill 13-86(1), Bill 2-86(1); Tabled Document 37-86(1); First Report of the Special Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges; Bill 3-86(1), Bill 4-86(1), Bill 5-86(1), Bill 7-86(1), Bill 9-86(1), Bill 10-86(1); Report of the Standing Committee on Legislation on Bills and Other Matters; Tabled Document 42-86(1)
16. Report of Committee of the Whole
17. Third Reading of Bills
18. Orders of the Day

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 10th, 1986.

---ADJOURNMENT

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