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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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10th Assembly

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THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 1986

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

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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 1986

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Angottitauruq, Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Arlooktoo, Hon. Tom Butters, Ms Cournoyea, Hon. Tagak Curley, Mr. Erkloo, Mr. Gargan, Mrs. Lawrence, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. McCallum, Hon. Bruce McLaughlin, Mr. Paniloo, Hon. Red Pedersen, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Richard, Hon. Nick Sibbeston, Hon. Don Stewart, Mr. T'Seleie, Mr. Wah-Shee, Hon. Gordon Wray

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): Before I proceed with the orders of the day, I wish to inform the House that I have received the following message from the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories. It is addressed to the Speaker.

Message From Commissioner Of The NWT

"Dear Mr. Speaker: During this continuation of the seventh session of the 10th Assembly my government will be introducing the following legislation: Bill 17-86(1), Summary Conviction Procedures Act, which is an amendment; Bill 18-86(1), International Commercial Arbitration Act; Bill 22-86(1), Business Loans and Guarantees Act, which is an amendment; Bill 23-86(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1985-86, which is an amendment; and Bill 24-86(1), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1986-87. I recommend the passage of each of these pieces of legislation. Yours sincerely, John H. Parker."

Orders of the day for Thursday, June 12th.

Item 2, Members' replies. Item 3, Ministers' statements. Mr. Curley.

ITEM 3: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement 29-86(1): North Warning System

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to bring Members up to date on the developments of the north warning project. I know there have been a number of reports and tremendous interest by the Members of the House and I think it is appropriate that I would at least very quickly bring up to date a number of events that have taken place in the North.

Mr. Speaker, three contracts have been awarded that are very important to northerners. The first is the contract to develop, install and maintain the communication system which was awarded to a consortium led by Canac/Microtel with NorthwesTel as a major participant. The contract will run until 1992. The consortium has made contractual commitments to train and hire northerners and use northern businesses. There will be 276 person years of work, at least half of which must be northerners; the consortium will train 153 northerners as general technicians; they will directly spend \$24.77 million in the North for services; they will give northern firms a five per cent preference if the firm can meet technical requirements.

The second major contract, valued at over \$1.5 million, was awarded to ATA Construction of Norman Wells for the construction of satellite ground terminal foundations. This was a contract that was awarded to ATA because the firm was the lowest qualified bidder.

The third major contract was awarded to Laval Fortin Limited from Alma, Quebec. It is important to note here that Laval Fortin and all its sub-contractors are required to give Baffin residents the first chance to fill positions for five working days before looking elsewhere. Over 70 northern people have registered for work on the Brevoort project. Sub-contractors on the project have been contacted by Manpower but will have few labour requirements until August, so it is too early to predict northern employment levels on the project.

I should note, Mr. Speaker, that on the Brevoort project three additional sub-contracts have yet to be awarded for architectural, mechanical and electrical work. As far as is known, only two northern contractors provided a quote for sub-contract work with Laval Fortin but they have not received any work to date. The contract for the long-term operation of the North Warning System will be awarded in the next 12 to 18 months. Preliminary information on this contract is now being circulated to all chambers of commerce in the Northwest Territories. Proposals will be called for.

I fully intend to keep pressing the federal government to ensure that there are even greater benefits to northerners from future construction contracts. There is a need, too, for the northern business community to get their message across to the federal government -- the government responsible for awarding the contracts. The business community must be aggressive marketers of their goods and services and aggressive bidders.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that I am still optimistic that northerners will benefit from this project. Thank you.

---Applause

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

Minister's Statement 30-86(1): MV Merv Hardie Rescue

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today in this House to praise the efforts of three people employed by Snowshoe Inn Ltd. of Fort Providence, which is the contractor hired by the Department of Public Works and Highways to operate the Merv Hardie ferry at the Fort Providence crossing of the Mackenzie River.

On Sunday, June 8th, 1986, at approximately 10:30 a.m., the crew aboard the ferry, Captain John Mikula, engineer Thomas Love and deckhand Leon St. Pierre, responded quickly and effectively to rescue a female passenger who had fallen overboard. In the space of seven minutes, the captain performed a number of difficult manoeuvres with the MV Merv Hardie to rescue her while ensuring that she was not killed by the ship's propellers or hull. As well, the engineer and deckhand reacted quickly to throw life rings to the woman and then to pull her from the ice-cold water, once the captain had brought the vessel close enough to her. These efforts undoubtedly saved her life.

I am sure that my colleagues on the Executive Council and Members of this Assembly will join me in commending these three individuals for their immediate and wise action in this lifesaving rescue.

---Applause

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

Minister's Statement 31-86(1): Municipal Liability Insurance

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report that since I last issued the statement on trends on municipal liability insurance in February, the NWT Association of Municipalities has completed its negotiations with insurers and rates have been established for 1986-87. The results were not as discouraging as we initially feared. In fact, the rates are considerably better than those other Canadian jurisdictions have experienced. Comprehensive general liability insurance rates for participating NWT municipalities increased by 88.4 per cent and umbrella liability rates increased by 238 per cent. This compares to increases of between 100 per cent and 900 per cent in other Canadian jurisdictions. Some municipalities in southern Canada were not able to obtain

coverage at any cost. We believe that two major factors were responsible for the relative success in municipal liability insurance rates in the Northwest Territories. These factors are: 1) economies of scale resulting from the fact that one agency, the NWT Association of Municipalities, was used; and 2) the fact that most NWT communities have a good insurance claims history in that insurance claims have not exceeded the premiums they have had to pay.

A working committee of the Departments of Local Government and Finance and the NWT Association of Municipalities has met to discuss longer term remedies. The Governments of Alberta and Ontario, which are carrying out major reviews of municipal liability insurance, have been contacted and they will be providing us with their reports and proposed solutions. When these are received the committee will meet to review them and to make appropriate recommendations for the NWT. I wish to add that the NWT Association of Municipalities is considering an insurance management program which is presently being designed by its insurance consultant to educate municipal officials and staff on ways of minimizing losses, so that municipalities can have their insurance premiums kept to an acceptable level. Thank you.

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

Minister's Statement 32-86(1): Arctic Airports Program

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a statement on the arctic airports program. On February 27th, 1986, the House directed that the Government of the Northwest Territories allocate funds to the territorial airports program to alleviate the critical situations in a number of territorial communities and attempt to negotiate on community by community need with the federal government in absence of a federal northern airports policy.

As I announced in the House earlier this year, the Department of Local Government will spend over a half million dollars to enhance aviation safety conditions until new airports can be constructed in several communities.

With regard to federal government funding for airport improvements, I have written to the Minister of Transport and listed on a community by community basis the airport improvements that are required immediately to ensure that all NWT communities can benefit from safe, regular and reliable air service. While the Minister of Transport has not yet agreed to my suggestion of a meeting to discuss details, the Prime Minister has assured the Government Leader in writing that the Minister of Transport is committed to doing all that is necessary to ensure the safety and transportation needs of the northern residents are met. I regard this as a positive indication of the federal government's concern and expect that I will be able to report concrete progress regarding an airport construction program during the fall session.

Some Members are aware that the parliamentary standing committee on transport toured several NWT communities in May. I am happy to report that the GNWT submission to the committee, the written submissions from several community councils and the trip arranged by my officials which took the committee Members to see, first-hand, the situation faced by communities where airport development has not taken place, have resulted in the following recommendation to Parliament and the Minister of Transport: "The committee recommends that the arctic air facilities program (or an equivalent program) be re-established to develop a safe and reliable airport system in northern and remote areas."

Last winter, the Department of Transport proposed to the Executive Council that the entire arctic airports program be transferred to the GNWT. After careful consideration, the Executive Council has directed that I discuss elements of the proposed transfer with leaders of the native associations. The Executive Council's position is that this government is much better placed than the federal government to respond to the unique air transportation needs of northern residents. I will keep the House fully informed on the progress of these critical negotiations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 3, Ministers' statements. That appears to conclude Ministers' statements for today. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Gargan.

ITEM 4: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 238-86(1): Bison Herd, Fort Providence

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Renewable Resources concerning the bison herd in Fort Providence. This winter there was a biological study done on the herd and the result of this study shows that the herd in Fort Providence is disease free. We were concerned about brucellosis or tuberculosis. During the winter months, and even in the summer months, these herds have been able to cross the Mackenzie and go back and forth. There is a concern by the people of Fort Providence that if they do get into contact with the parks herd or with some of the herds south of the Mackenzie, that a group of them might be contaminated with disease and it will affect the whole herd.

I would like to ask the Minister whether there are any plans with regard to -- perhaps even establishing a hunting free zone south of the Mackenzie so that there is no danger of the herd getting contaminated by other bison.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will take the question under advisement and will give the honourable Member a reply later.

MR. SPEAKER: Question is being taken as notice. Item 4, oral questions. Mr. Wray.

Return To Question 236-86(1): Paving Of Highway Between Rae-Edzo And Yellowknife

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to oral Question 236-86(1), asked by Mr. Wah-Shee, with regard to plans for paving the Yellowknife highway from Fort Rae to Yellowknife. There are currently no plans to pave this section of highway within the next 10 years.

The intra-territorial road reconstruction five year capital plan includes some new asphaltic surfacing of existing gravel highways. The priorities for new paving are based on an assessment of the initial cost of paving, compared to the potential user and maintenance benefits. New paving will be done first where it results in the highest return on the investment. Paving costs include costs for widening, drainage improvements, subgrade improvements, granular based strengthening and the pavement itself.

As it happens, the section of highway between Rae and Yellowknife has a very weak subgrade which includes intermittent permafrost. There is little available gravel, and granular material must be produced by blasting and crushing rocks. These factors mean that paving costs will be very high, up to three times the cost that would be experienced under more favourable conditions.

For the most part, the section of highway between Fort Rae and Fort Providence does have more favourable conditions for paving. It is, therefore, our plan to commence paving this section of highway in 1989. This project will take eight to 10 years to complete at current funding levels. Although the traffic volume and resulting user benefits are somewhat lower than for the section north of Rae, the cost per kilometer for paving is about one third, thereby making this a much better investment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. In keeping with the change of the rule, I was in error for not calling for returns to oral questions. Are there any further returns to oral questions? Mr. McLaughlin.

Return To Question 228-86(1): Medical Evacuation Incident, Resolute Bay

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to oral Question 228-86(1), asked by Mr. Pudluk yesterday, concerning a medical evacuation incident in Resolute Bay. I thank the Member for High Arctic, Mr. Pudluk, for bringing this serious incident to my attention.

On May 27th, 1986, two patients required a medical evacuation from Resolute Bay to Frobisher Bay as a result of an accident. Health and Welfare Canada's nurse-in-charge called the Nordair agent in Resolute Bay and requested that they delay by 15 minutes the take-off of their regular scheduled

flight. I should add that the nurse emphasized the severity of the situation. Nevertheless, the Nordair agent refused to delay the take-off and the patients were left behind, requiring a subsequent charter, as Mr. Pudluk described.

The zone director for Health and Welfare Canada, Mr. George Gillies, upon being notified of the incident contacted Nordair's public relations officer for an explanation. The public relations officer informed Mr. Gillies that the Nordair agent in Resolute Bay had not informed the pilot of the urgency of the situation. Hence, the pilot took off without the patients.

Nordair have promised Health and Welfare Canada that incidents such as this will not happen again. They have agreed to co-operate with Mr. Gillies, the zone director, in the development of a policy which will ensure that, in the future, Nordair will provide transportation to patients in these situations. Furthermore, Nordair will be sending a letter of apology regarding this specific incident.

Mr. Gillies has discussed the matter fully with the health committee in Resolute Bay and they have indicated that they are satisfied with the manner in which Health and Welfare Canada handled the situation and with Nordair's response. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Are there any further returns to oral questions? Mr. Pedersen.

Return To Question 140-86(1): Clean-Up Of PCBs At DEWline Sites

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to oral Question 140-86(1), asked by Mr. Gargan on March 4th, 1986, and I apologize for the delay. It is with regard to the clean-up of polychlorinated biphenyls, PCBs, at DEWline sites. PCB-containing equipment was identified at the abandoned DEWline sites by staff of the environmental protection service of Environment Canada. The Department of National Defence collected this equipment and moved it to Hall Beach for temporary storage. This equipment has since been removed from the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Returns to oral questions. Mr. Curley.

Return To Question 224-86(1): Funding For Cape Dorset Sewing Centre

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to oral Question 224-86(1), asked by Mr. Arlooktoo on June 11th, 1986, regarding assistance for arts and crafts in Cape Dorset. On June 11, 1986, the honourable Member for Baffin South asked me an oral question regarding financial assistance which I believe was for Natsiq Miqsuqvik in Cape Dorset.

After the original proposal was prepared with the assistance of my regional staff, it had to be returned to the community for translation and signing by the representatives of the group. The manager of the group left, so nothing was done with it for some time. I have been advised that the proposal has now been signed by representatives of Natsiq Miqsuqvik. It will be hand delivered to Frobisher Bay, Friday, June 13th, dexted to Yellowknife and presented to the Special ARDA board on June 19th for approval. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Returns to oral questions. That appears to conclude returns to oral questions. Oral questions. Mr. McCallum.

Question 239-86(1): Women's Corrections Staff, Frobisher Bay

MR. McCALLUM: I have a supplementary question to an oral question I asked of the Minister of Social Services yesterday, to which he gave a return. It deals with the transfer of the Fort Smith women's correctional centre. In his reply he indicated that later this month senior staff people of the corrections program, along with Personnel representatives, will interview permanent staff. I wonder if the Minister could indicate to me at the present time, how staffing is progressing for the women's correctional centre, who will now be moving into the Baffin. Could he indicate to me what the status of the staffing for that particular institution is at the present time?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 239-86(1): Women's Corrections Staff, Frobisher Bay

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, the department has put on training courses for northerners who qualified under our corrections training program and we are training female employees who will be able to staff the Baffin Correctional Centre. Some have completed the program and I believe there are others still to be trained.

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

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the Minister then indicate how many people he intends to hire there and have offers been made to people for positions as correctional officers at that institution? And could he indicate to me how the schedule for the renovations at the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre are going and if they are indeed behind? Could the Minister indicate as well, what is the hurry to transfer people from Smith to Yellowknife to eventually go to Hay River, at a terrible cost to this government?

MR. SPEAKER: The inclusion of three questions in that manner make it very difficult to give a reply that is easily understood. I would ask the honourable Member to break down his questions one at a time and I will ask at this time for him to do that. Mr. McCallum, a supplementary.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps I should have said (a) (b) and (c) or one, two and another one. However, with your concurrence then, if you are going to allow me to get extra supplementary questions, I would want to know, Mr. Speaker, from the Minister: a) How many people have been hired at the present time for the Baffin Correctional Centre dealing with women inmates, b) is the schedule for the renovations at the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre on time, and c) if it is not, what is the hurry to move personnel in corrections from Smith to an interim position in Yellowknife when the concern is in Hay River?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McCallum, you did not change your question. You are dealing with two subjects: one is in Frobisher Bay and you should deal with that separately, then come back to the one relative to the other institute, which gives you supplementary questions in both instances. So you have plenty of opportunity to ask -- you have four on each, with supplementaries. So you have either question that you can ask. So please keep the areas separated. Let us go on with the women's situation in Frobisher Bay and then we can pick it up from there. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I accept what you are saying. The issue that I am discussing is the women's correctional centre. It is the Minister's policy that he is going to divide it into two places, to house these people in two places, one in the East and one in the West. The movement of the personnel is dependent one upon the other. That is why I group them together. But I will defer to you. I had better, I guess.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McCallum.

Supplementary To Question 239-86(1): Women's Corrections Staff, Frobisher Bay

MR. McCALLUM: I will ask the question of the Minister -- how many people have been hired to handle the women's portion of the Baffin Correctional Centre?

MR. MacQUARRIE: I will take that as notice and get back to you tomorrow.

---Laughter

Further Return To Question 239-86(1): Women's Corrections Staff, Frobisher Bay

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. None have been hired. There are trainees and trained people to take the junior positions, people that were trained or people that have never been involved in the corrections system before. Therefore, we will be looking for senior people to either transfer or, if we have to, we will hire people outside of the GNWT corrections system to fill the senior positions in Baffin, if no one is willing to transfer to them. Thank you.

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

Question 240-86(1): Status Of Renovations, South Mackenzie Correctional Centre

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Social Services responsible for corrections. Can the Minister indicate to me what the status of the renovation contract is at the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 240-86(1): Status Of Renovations, South Mackenzie Correctional Centre

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, thank you. The renovations or any additions required at the Hay River correctional centre are still in the planning stages and we, therefore, will not have that facility available to us as long as we are having to house young offenders in our various facilities. It is the intention of the government to house all our adult inmates in the three facilities of Baffin, Hay River and Yellowknife as early as we can possibly do that. We are aiming for October. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question 240-86(1): Status Of Renovations, South Mackenzie Correctional Centre

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, if the facility in Hay River is not going to be able to handle the people, the government, as the Minister said, will try to move people on an interim basis. I think it is totally irresponsible on the part of the Minister to uproot people from an area where the women prisoners are being looked after and to do it on an interim basis when the facilities are not even ready for them in Yellowknife, nor is the housing. I wonder if we could have the Minister indicate to us what the rationale is for doing it, making this move in October when neither facility is ready. In the other instance, you do not even have anybody hired for the Baffin Correctional Centre.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 240-86(1): Status Of Renovations, South Mackenzie Correctional Centre

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Speaker, thank you. When the facility renovations are completed at Yellowknife we expect to have enough beds to accommodate all adult inmates in the system. The Member should realize that the majority of female prisoners come from the Eastern Arctic to start with so we are not uprooting people from their own cultural area. The idea is to move them to another area where they come from originally. We expect fairly shortly, I think in January or February, to have the facility in Baffin ready to handle the female inmates.

The Member should also realize that at times the female offender population has been as low as three people and yet we have had 12 to 15 person years dedicated to that low number of people. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. McCallum.

Question 241-86(1): Review Of EDA Application, Fort Smith

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker, I had better move somewhere else, I am not getting anywhere. I have a question of the Minister responsible for Economic Development and Tourism. It deals with the application of the town of Fort Smith for an economic planner. The town has received funding from the government to develop a plan that was funded by the Government of the Northwest Territories and they had made an application under the economic development agreement for a planner to carry out that plan. There are other applications that the Minister's group have had and they have met with some success but the Fort Smith application has been turned down. I wonder if the Minister could indicate to me, is he prepared to review this particular application considering that the government has already paid money for a plan and that we would attempt to use his good office to change the decision of the EDA board?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) In respect to your question, in respect to the application for the grant, perhaps if I were to see the application and get back to you with respect to it. I have never seen the application. Thank you.

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

Question 242-86(1): Application For Funding, Pangnirtung Co-operative

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask my question of the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. The co-op in Pangnirtung has requested financial assistance and they had written to me with respect to it. They also indicated that they applied to the government for financial assistance. I know that Economic Development has received the letter from the co-op in Pangnirtung and I would like you to look into this matter and get back to me. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 242-86(1): Application For Funding, Pangnirtung Co-operative

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would just like to inform you that regarding the co-op in Pangnirtung, I am not familiar with the situation but I would like to inform you that we met just recently with DIAND and the co-ops that are affected by the grants that are made available -- with the native economic fund that is available. The federal government and the territorial government have utilized about \$12 million and this is provided to the ACL. We plan to establish boards for the co-ops so that they may review these applications for funding. I realize your concern in respect to Pangnirtung, that they will be provided some financial assistance under that program but I really cannot respond to your question with respect to the Pangnirtung co-op.

ACL and Economic Development and the federal government or DIAND, are working much closer together to utilize the \$12 million set aside to provide financial assistance to the organizations. All applications will be forwarded through that board and they will then decide which co-ops will receive the funding. It is obvious that if all co-ops were to operate effectively that they would request this financial assistance and clear any deficits that they may have. It is hoped that this program will help accomplish that goal. I just thought I would inform you about that.

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

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would just like to make a supplementary question. Presently the Pangnirtung co-op has a deficit of about \$200,000. They would like further financial assistance under financial assistance programs. I will be meeting with the co-op in Pangnirtung to submit applications for financial assistance. I just wanted to make a supplementary to my question and I appreciate your answer.

MR. SPEAKER: That was a very good speech, Mr. Paniloo. Oral questions. Mr. Wah-Shee.

Question 243-86(1): Replacement Of Community Dock, Snare Lake

MR. WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Local Government. It is in regard to the community of Snare Lake. Last winter the community dock was destroyed by ice. As the Minister is aware, the community of Snare Lake is only accessible by air. It does not have any airstrip nor any roads going into that particular community. Therefore they need the bare essentials in regard to a community dock. I wonder if the Minister can give any indication whether a community dock can be provided for the community in this coming summer.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 243-86(1): Replacement Of Community Dock, Snare Lake

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I did receive the letter from the Member and I have directed the Departments of Local Government and Public Works to take corrective measures in Snare Lake.

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

Question 244-86(1): Recreation Complex For Clyde River

MR. PANILGO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Local Government. My question is regarding recreation. I believe this House supported an issue with respect to a program where young minors are involved in alcohol abuse. I would like some further information as to what has happened to that program. The community that asked me to ask this question has not received any response or has not heard of any action taken with respect to the alcohol abuse program for minors.

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

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not know what program he is talking about in the Department of Local Government. Perhaps the Member could clarify his question for me, please.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions should be short and the answer would normally be available to the Minister without further investigation. These oral question periods are getting quite out of hand in some instances, asking complicated questions that require figures and so on, that no Minister could be expected to have at his fingertips. These really belong in the written section rather than the oral section of questions. However if Mr. Paniloo can give you the information you need to refresh your memory, we will try it again. Mr. Paniloo.

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is with respect to a motion that I made, Motion 3-86(1), with respect to a recreation centre in Clyde River. I just wanted some clarification as to what action has taken place with respect to that motion. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 244-86(1): Recreation Complex For Clyde River

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The recently developed five year capital plan which has been sent to all communities for their perusal includes a project to construct a new, medium-sized community hall in Clyde River in the following time frame: design in 1988-89; construction in 1990. So we have slotted it into the five year capital plan, which has yet to be accepted by the Executive Council, of course. We are still awaiting comments from the regional councils and from the individual communities. Thank you.

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

Question 245-86(1): Status Of Child Care Diploma Program, Thebacha Campus

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Social Services. It may very well be that it is done in concert with another Minister who is not here, but I would like to ask the Minister about the status of the child care diploma program that was to have begun at Thebacha campus and to my knowledge has not, as yet. I wonder if the Minister could provide some information on the status of that program.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 245-86(1): Status Of Child Care Diploma Program, Thebacha Campus

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Members know, there are a lot of employment opportunities in the North, for work in the area of young offenders and for programs under the superintendent of child welfare. It is the intention of our department to hire people who are trained and we have encouraged the Department of Education to start such a program. However, apparently they do not have the funding in place and that is going to require that I and the rest of the Executive Members discuss how we get the funding in place for such a program because it is an obvious opportunity for employment for northerners. It is the intention of my department to do whatever we can to encourage and possibly assist financially if we can find the means to do it somehow -- perhaps through the new CEIC agreement which our Minister of Education is presently negotiating with the federal Minister. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 246-86(1): Funding For Community Libraries

MR. McCALLUM: I have a question of the Minister of Culture and Communications. When the libraries were moved from the previous department to his department, libraries across the Territories were able to acquire moneys and grants for upgrading and maintenance work. I would like to ask the Minister if, in fact, that program is still within his department and if it is open for communities to make application for that program.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will take that as notice and give the Member a reply tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Question is being taken as notice. Oral questions. Mr. Erkloo.

Question 247-86(1): Western Arctic Telephone Directories For Eastern Arctic

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is directed to the Minister of Culture and Communications, Hon. Red Pedersen. In Yellowknife, regarding phone books, there are no Bell Canada phone books, not even in the Members' lounge. In our communities and in our region we do not have any phone books from Yellowknife and I was wondering if you can respond on that. Maybe you can elaborate on that, please.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 247-86(1): Western Arctic Telephone Directories For Eastern Arctic

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not think phone books are really the responsibility of my department but if it is merely a matter of getting phone books from the NorthwTel area into the communities served by Bell Canada I would be prepared to make such a request of NorthwTel. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Our office will co-operate with your offices putting pressure on for these being materials necessary to the work of the MLAs. So, the Speaker's Office will see what we can do about it as well.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Erkloo.

Question 248-86(1): NWT Co-op Board Responsible For Funding

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know you will respond to my request. My other question is to Hon. Tagak Curley, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. When Mr. Paniloo was asking a question you responded by saying that there was going to be a board for the co-op and I was wondering what the co-op board will come out of, which field? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 248-86(1): NWT Co-op Board Responsible For Funding

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Regarding my response earlier, we negotiated with DIAND and NEDP, native economic development program, and we will establish a board. We will have one representative from the NWT government, from Economic Development and Tourism, two from the Arctic Co-ops Limited, one from DIAND and NEDP and six from other communities -- that will be comprised from the co-ops of the NWT. This group will amount to 11 members and they will be responsible for the funding and they will have a head office in Yellowknife. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question 248-86(1): NWT Co-op Board Responsible For Funding

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Getting back to your response earlier, you were also saying that there were going to be six communities involved in this and I was wondering if you can tell me which communities will be on the board?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 248-86(1): NWT Co-op Board Responsible For Funding

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Those six communities will be appointed by their co-ops and I cannot tell you in detail because the co-op will be the ones to appoint those communities and I cannot explain to you which ones they will appoint. They also will have their own board of directors and maybe to respond to your question I will write to you. I will hand you the letter later. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Is that answer satisfactory, Mr. Erkloo, to your question? Oral questions. Mr. McCallum.

Question 249-86(1): Recreation Position Moved From Fort Smith To Hay River

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question of the Minister of Local Government, responsible for recreation. I raised this question with the previous Minister, Mr. Speaker. It concerns a recreation position in Fort Smith that the then Minister told me, when I questioned him on it, would likely be there forever. I trusted him because they always say to "trust us". I assumed that but I know what it is to assume things because I know how to spell that word. I would like to ask the Minister of responsible government, or responsible for Local Government, a question. Has there been a change since the Ministers changed portfolios regarding that position for a recreation person in Fort Smith?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 249-86(1): Recreation Position Moved From Fort Smith To Hay River

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It shows who you can trust nowadays. Yes, Mr. Speaker, the Minister and circumstances changed and as such we did relocate the position to Hay River, only to retain the individual that had the position, Ms Sabrina Dragon, who was getting married to a Hay River resident. We were faced with the situation of losing Ms Dragon and quite frankly I did not want to. She is a very valuable employee and the region advised that we could deliver the program from Hay River without any effect on the program. It would not affect the program, so I concurred with the department's suggestion and relocated the position to Hay River. Thank you.

MR. MacQUARRIE: That is truly a valuable employee...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: I have a supplementary...

MR. RICHARD: I'll bet!

Supplementary To Question 249-86(1): Recreation Position Moved From Fort Smith To Hay River

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Speaker. I wonder, given that when one does raise questions of Ministers that we get this trite response, "Trust us", I wonder if the Minister could indicate to me how long I can trust him to keep the position there or should there be a breakdown in that particular or pending partnership, will the position then come back to Fort Smith?

---Laughter

MR. RICHARD: Trust Sabrina.

MR. MacQUARRIE: He is sure no matchmaker, this guy.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Are you attending the wedding, Arnold?

MR. McCALLUM: You are right! She is a good friend.

MR. SPEAKER: I can assure the honourable Member that there will be no division on this particular marriage and everything will go fine and the position will stay in Hay River.

---Laughter

Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 249-86(1): Recreation Position Moved From Fort Smith To Hay River.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Yes, the position is a Fort Smith position and if it happened that Ms Dragon were to vacate the position, then the position would revert back to Fort Smith.

MR. SPEAKER: We are back to the private conversations again. Oral questions. Oral questions. That appears to conclude oral questions for today. Item 5, written questions. Mr. Appaqaq.

ITEM 5: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question 250-86(1): Annual Medical Examinations For Sanikiluaq Residents

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask a question of the Minister of Health. I gave you a telex today regarding Sanikiluaq. My question is regarding Sanikiluaq residents no longer receiving annual medical check-ups. Nowadays, only the people who become sick are examined by medical professionals. In some cases, diseases are detected when it is too late to do anything about them. The concern of my constituents is that they feel that all residents of Sanikiluaq should undergo annual medical examinations and that these should not be restricted to tuberculosis examinations.

Would the Minister responsible for Health investigate the possibility of my constituents receiving annual medical examinations through Manitoba Health Services and report the result?

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any further written questions? That appears to conclude written questions for today.

Item 6, returns. Are there any returns today? Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Speaker, I have a return to an oral question from the Member for High Arctic. He was not there, I wonder if I can present it to him at this time?

MR. SPEAKER: The object of trying to put the replies back into the oral question period is so that Members can ask supplementary questions to the reply that is given. So unless it is a matter of urgency, I would prefer that it be left for oral questions tomorrow. Item 6, returns to written questions. There do not appear to be any returns.

Item 7, petitions.

Item 8, reports of standing and special committees.

Item 9, tabling of documents. Item 10, notices of motion. Mr. Wah-Shee.

ITEM 10: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 30-86(1): Paving Of Highway Between Rae-Edzo And Yellowknife

MR. WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on June 16th I will move the following motion: That this House recommend to the Executive Council that it consider giving priority to the paving of the highway between Rae-Edzo and Yellowknife in the very near future; and further that the Executive Council immediately begin negotiations with the federal government to obtain the necessary funding for this project.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. Notices of motion. Mr. Pedersen.

Notice Of Motion 31-86(1): Appointments To NWT Water Board

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to give notice that on Monday, June 16th, 1986, I will be introducing a motion concerning recommendations for appointments to the NWT Water Board by the Commissioner in Council to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pedersen, could you give the meat of the motion to include the names? We would have to have the basic facts of the motion as well as just the part that brings you into the motion. Mr. Pedersen.

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will read you the motion: Whereas vacancies will be occurring in the very near future in the NWT Water Board; and whereas certain appointments to the NWT Water Board are to be made by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, on the recommendation of the Commissioner in Council; now therefore, I move, seconded by the MLA for Inuvik, the Hon. Tom Butters, that the following individuals be recommended for a two year term by this House to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development for appointment to the NWT Water Board: Mr. Glen Warner, Mr. D'Arcy Arden. That is the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The necessary part to be read is where you "move that". That is the section that has to be on record. Notices of motion. That appears to conclude notices of motion for today. Item 11, notices of motion for first reading of bills. Mr. Wray.

ITEM 11: NOTICES OF MOTION FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 17-86(1): Summary Conviction Procedures Act

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Monday, June 16th, 1986, I shall move that Bill 17-86(1), An Act to Amend the Summary Conviction Procedures Act, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Notices of motion for first reading of bills. Mr. Wray.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 18-86(1): International Commercial Arbitration Act

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Monday, June 16th, 1986, I shall move that Bill 18-86(1), An Act Respecting International Commercial Arbitration, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Wray. Notices of motion for first reading of bills. Mr. Butters.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 23-86(1): Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1985-86

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, June 16th, 1986, I shall move that Bill 23-86(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 first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Notices of motion for first reading of bills. Mr. Sibbeston.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 20-86(1): Public Service Act

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, June 16th, 1986, I shall move that Bill 20-86(1), An Act to Amend the Public Service Act, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Notices of motion for first reading of bills. Mr. Butters.

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 24-86(1): Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1986-87

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, June 16th, 1986, I shall move that Bill 24-86(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 first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Notices of motion for first reading of bills. Bill 22-86(1) is not going to be moved today. I am assuming that Bill 20-86(1) has no financial implications and does not require the consent of the Commissioner. Is that correct? I do not have that bill in front of me. That appears to be all right. There are no problems. Item 12, motions. Motion 27-86(1), Mr. Richard.

ITEM 12: MOTIONS

Motion 27-86(1): Fourth Electoral District For Yellowknife

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS the city of Yellowknife comprises approximately 22 per cent of the population of the Northwest Territories, yet is limited to only three of 24 seats in this Assembly;

AND WHEREAS such an imbalance results in the people of Yellowknife being underrepresented in this Assembly, contrary to the fundamental principle of democratic government of representation by population;

AND WHEREAS the Northwest Territories Act provides for a 25 seat Assembly;

AND WHEREAS the minority report of the chairperson of the Northwest Territories Electoral District Boundaries Commission, dated the 7th day of May, 1983, recommended "in a spirit of fairness" that an additional electoral district be created for the city of Yellowknife and set out in the boundaries therefor;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the Member for Slave River, that the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act be amended to include a fourth electoral district for the city of Yellowknife;

AND FURTHER, that the boundaries of the four electoral districts be those set out in the minority report of the chairperson of the Northwest Territories Electoral Boundaries Commission dated the 7th day of May, 1983.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Richard. Your motion is in order. Proceed.

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

---Laughter

MR. MacQUARRIE: Is that a dagger in his hand?

---Laughter

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Speaker, in the late 1970s -- I cannot recall the specific date but the Government of Canada, at the request of northerners, increased the allowable number of seats in this Assembly to 25 from 15. In or about 1979 the seats were increased from 15 to 22 by an act of this Assembly. In 1983 the Potts Commission was appointed to make recommendations to this Assembly, including the possible increase from 22 up to 25. At that time, as Members know, two seats were added. One in the Fort Simpson, Fort Providence area; essentially Mr. Sibbeston's then constituency was divided into two. Also in the Central Arctic or Kitikmeot area, a constituency there was divided into two.

The chairman of the Potts Commission, Mr. Justice Potts, in his minority report, as Members know, recommended that one other seat be added for Yellowknife because of the important factor of representation by population and, as Justice Potts stated, "in a spirit of fairness". In May, 1983, in the Ninth Assembly there was a motion to adopt the minority report. That motion was defeated. My friend the Member from Aivilik, Mr. Curley, at that time stated, Mr. Speaker, that the matter of the 25th seat should be adjourned and left for the 10th Assembly to decide. This is the 10th Assembly and I am following Mr. Curley's advice today, Mr. Speaker.

In October, Mr. Speaker, of 1984, when I was elected, during that election campaign many people spoke to me and to the other candidate, about the fact that Yellowknife only had three seats in this Assembly. Mr. Speaker, next to the housing shortage which existed in this city, this was the issue that was most talked about by people at that time. They felt that with our large population in this city that we should have four voices, four votes and not three, to represent all of the people in this city.

In my first speech in this Assembly, Mr. Speaker, in November, 1984, I indicated then that I would at one point during this 10th Assembly be asking my friends and colleagues in this Assembly to correct this imbalance and to give the residents of Yellowknife the same political power and rights that other residents of the Northwest Territories have and enjoy.

At that time, in November, 1984, my colleague Mr. Patterson, the Member for Iqaluit, responded that he was concerned that I would dare raise -- that I would dare raise this issue because it had already been debated in the Ninth Assembly. Although my friend, Mr. Patterson, is not here -- he is paired off today, Mr. Speaker, with Mr. Ballantyne...

---Laughter

...to him, and I know he will read the Hansard, to him I say, I know that he disagrees with me on this issue as do some other Members of this House but, surely, he would agree that I have the right to raise it. I was not in the Ninth Assembly. If the tables were reversed, if the Baffin Region had a sudden surge or increase in population and was underrepresented in this Assembly, Mr. Patterson would be the first to raise the matter again and again and again. I would defend and support his right to do so.

Comparative Statistics On Population Within Constituencies

Mr. Speaker, let me give some current population figures and the source I use, Mr. Speaker, is the publication of the population estimates produced by the bureau of statistics of the Government of the Northwest Territories just last month or in April of 1986, giving population figures as of June 1985. The population of the Territories, Mr. Speaker, is 51,012. The city of Yellowknife, 11,077 so together with the population of Detah, 143, this city has 22 per cent of the population of the Territories. Mr. Speaker, 22 per cent of 24 seats, is in my mathematics, 5.3 seats; 22 per cent of 25 seats in this Assembly would be 5.5 seats. I am not asking, Mr. Speaker, for five or six seats, merely four. I have taken the Yellowknife population statistics and with the help of city hall and the research staff, broken it down to the three constituencies. The figure I want to draw to the attention of my colleagues is my own constituency of Yellowknife South now has a population of 6330, 12.5 per cent of the population of the entire Territories. The next highest population of any constituency is that of my friend from Inuvik, 3166; Iqaluit and Hay River come in third and fourth with approximately 2950. Mr. Speaker, the point here is even if my constituency was divided in two, the two new constituencies would still have the largest population or would be equal to Inuvik, in effect. The average constituency size is 2125.

The other interesting statistic from the government report is the number of natives living in Yellowknife. Yellowknife now has the second highest native population of all NWT communities. Frobisher Bay has the highest at 1828, Yellowknife is next with 1508. More than Rae-Edzo, more than Inuvik and more than Fort Smith. Mr. Speaker, I am not asking for a strict adherence to the mathematical formula or to the principle of representation by population, that would mean five or six seats for Yellowknife. But I do ask my friends and colleagues in this Assembly for more fair treatment and I do not believe, Mr. Speaker, it is being unreasonable to request a fourth seat.

Recently I had the privilege of attending a workshop of the Western Constitutional Forum with Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. Wah-Shee, Mr. Nerysoo and representatives of the Dene Nation, Metis Association and COPE. At that meeting various constitutional models for future government of the NWT were discussed, along with the notion of guaranteed representation. When we looked at models at that time, we looked at an Assembly in the western territory of 24 or 25 seats and the calculations that were being discussed there would indicate that representation by population would mean seven seats for Yellowknife. I would state, Mr. Speaker, that I would never insist on such a proportion. Large communities will always be underrepresented on a mathematical formula to some degree. I made a commitment at that meeting that I would be reasonable on behalf of the people I represent in such a model in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I am asking my many friends and colleagues in this Assembly to be reasonable and fair with this request when they consider their position on this motion. Some Members have indicated their support to me in the past and I am asking for their confirmation of that support in voting for this motion. I am also trusting the Executive Council Members will have a free vote on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, in British Columbia there is a court challenge before the courts at the present time. Some citizens are challenging the electoral boundaries distribution in that province as being unconstitutional because of too few seats in the larger centres. I do not believe that we should rely on court challenges in the NWT or wait for any court challenges. I am asking Members to redress the imbalance right here in this Assembly and I ask Members for their support for this motion. Mahsi cho.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Richard. Mr. McCallum, as seconder.

Assembly Should Take Advantage Of Available Seat

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am in favour of correcting what I consider to be an imbalance here. I voted in 1979 to ensure that this House would have better representation of Members and I put a lot of time and effort in that kind of redistribution. I voted in 1983 again for the redistribution of seats. The Potts report, as Mr. Richard has indicated, settled two particular areas, but there was a minority report as well by the chairman that recommended a fourth seat in Yellowknife, the third seat to make up 25. I do not believe it is simply a situation of representation by population. The other factors that come into play are involved here as well, those of communications, community of interests and everything else.

I do not believe that Yellowknife is represented simply by all the Ministers that are on the Executive. Those Ministers are not elected by the people of Yellowknife. I believe that the people of Yellowknife should have the other seat that is available to this particular House. Nothing untoward about it, I simply believe that it corrects an imbalance that is there because there are a lot of people in the city that should have the representation. I do not think it is fair to have the large constituencies in this city as opposed to smaller ones in other places. And if there ever comes a time for increased distribution or another distribution to another particular community, then I would make sure that I would vote for that as well. I believe that we should be setting the number of MLAs to represent the constituencies throughout the Territories, that is why in each of the instances where there has been this redistribution, I was for taking full advantage of what was available to us.

Under our particular rules in the NWT Act we can have no more than 25 and no fewer than 15. We had to work hard to get that changed. Once having gotten it changed, we should take advantage of it. In my opinion I think the city of Yellowknife deserves another seat. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McCallum. To the motion. Mr. Paniloo.

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Regarding this motion, I will not support it. I have several reasons. In our communities in the Eastern Arctic and in the Mackenzie, there are many people living in communities and not all of them have access roads. In Yellowknife you can move around no matter how much of a population there is -- simply to get their opinions. If that is the only reason you want another seat in the NWT, the other communities would want to have more seats as well. For this reason because we are representatives by being elected, each one has been given different reasons. Being Inuit or Dene, that should not be the criterion for having a seat in the Assembly. Regarding the election. When there are only 24 in the Assembly, there can always be a different vote on issues. I think I will not support this motion.

MR. SPEAKER: To the motion. Mr. Erklou.

Eastern Arctic Outvoted

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say I understand his motion quite well. The population difference in Yellowknife is the main issue here and it should be used as a criterion for representation but because they have city status, they have three representatives when they only have one community here in town. There was a commissioned research on electoral districts in 1976. Pond Inlet was put in with Resolute Bay area and we had Ludy

Pudluk as our representative. During the research where the electoral boundaries were decided, Pond Inlet stated that they did not want to speak to the research commission because if the Legislative Assembly representation is increased, they would not represent Nunavut but at this time we are sorry that we did not welcome the commission or the research party at that time. Today, at this time in Eastern Arctic we have only 11 representatives and in the Western Arctic 13 representatives. As I look at it now it would not be in fairness when the Eastern Arctic is always being outvoted by the Western Arctic. The Inuit ancestors that used to live here years ago, the elders of the community are always worried that the Western Arctic people are always outvoting the Eastern Arctic issues; if we are going to have 25 representatives, if the Member is not going to be from the Eastern Arctic we should not support it. Because of this I know there will be a lot of discussions. I want just to clarify the reasons for our saying no to this issue. It is because of my constituents. I want to have more representatives from Eastern Arctic. That way we would be able to have more votes in the Legislative Assembly. People in my region would be very angry if there were more additions to the Western Arctic caucus.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Erkloo. To the motion. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have some difficulty with the particular motion too. Perhaps I would be in support of the fourth seat if there was party politics but...

MR. RICHARD: We can add that if you like, an amendment.

---Laughter

MR. GARGAN: ...but I believe that when the report came out for the three additional seats, I understood that the recommendation was that the fourth seat in Yellowknife would be designated for the aboriginal group. I do not know whether that still applies to this motion and I am not too clear where the fourth seat would go, if it went to Yellowknife. This is the problem I am having right now. Mr. Speaker, I will be abstaining from voting on this.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Gargan. To the motion. Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Speaker, I feel that if I do not comment on this motion that I will not be doing my region a favour. The Members for Yellowknife South and for Slave River have made some points. Mr. Richard's main argument is an argument of numbers. Mr. Richard says that Yellowknife has 22 per cent of the population and therefore deserves six or seven seats but only has three. It seems to me that in this instance that the main consideration for an extra seat for any region should be not based on numbers but based on a quality of life, on the ability to represent yourselves and in those terms I do not think that Yellowknife deserves another seat. In my view the government is Yellowknife. I think that the city of Yellowknife can take the Executive Council for supper every night if it wanted to...

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

--Laughter

MR. T'SELEIE: I do not take the motion seriously, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Richard has not approached me about this motion. I think that in order to support a motion like this, that for myself anyway, I would expect to have a reason to support this motion and Mr. Richard has not given me that reason. I can only conclude that it is being done as a way of getting some publicity and so, sir, for those reasons I cannot support this motion. My view is that this government is a government of Yellowknife, Pine Point, Fort Smith, Hay River, Inuvik...

MR. McCALLUM: Arctic Red River, Fort Good Hope...

MR. T'SELEIE: ...Frobisher Bay and a few others and because it seems to me they are the ones who know the rules of this government and...

MR. RICHARD: Being penalized.

---Laughter

MR. T'SELEIE: No, I do not say they should be penalized, I am stating a fact which says that these communities are the ones who are most able to represent themselves...

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: They do a very good job.

MR. T'SELEIE: ...so, sir, I find it really, really difficult to support this motion. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. T'Seleie. To the motion. Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for giving me the opportunity to speak. Mr. Speaker, what Ted Richard is saying is all true and it is very hard to say that it is not true especially when you are coming out with statistics to prove your requirement. I cannot say that Yellowknife requires more representatives in the House but I think that we should talk about the other communities in the Northwest Territories, not based on statistics but because it is a part of the NWT and the part of the NWT which requires the most development. I think that if we were to say that we are more densely populated in one area of the Northwest Territories I am sure that our constituents would not be too happy.

Yellowknife MLAs Have No Problems Of Expense And Travel

I would just like to make a few comments with respect to that. The MLAs for Yellowknife represent their constituents. They do not have difficulty in representing their constituents or speaking for them because they do not have to worry about the additional expenses that are required to represent their constituents. They do not have to worry about whether or not their planes will actually arrive or whether or not the vehicles that they require to meet their constituents will be able to operate. They have no worries about tie-ups or if, I were to see the Government Leader, not being able to meet the Government Leader because of bad weather for example. I believe that my colleague would be able to see the Government Leader on my behalf but I would not be able to see him personally. As the Minister of Economic Development I would not be able to approach him with certain matters the same way as other MLAs have access to the Government Leader, for example. Also your constituents in Yellowknife, if they want to see you, for example, the businesses in Yellowknife do not have problems seeing their representative.

So we cannot make any decision based on the statistics that have been given because there are other factors that should be considered when you are going to decide whether or not there should be additional Members. I think that we could support overall, the Electoral District Boundaries Commission report that was submitted. So I would not support this motion because all of the people in the NWT have to be represented equally. I think we should consider this. In 1986, we will be advised, perhaps next year if it is not 1986, how many people there actually are in the NWT because the Canada census is taking place now and I am sure there are more people than before. This is one of the reasons I would not support the motion. I think we will have to review the report of the Electoral District Boundaries Commission again and get another report on what the boundaries in the NWT should be. For example, even in Fort Good Hope, the boundary in that area should be amended. If we will be holding elections in 1987, perhaps Pine Point needs more representatives. So I will not support the motion. (Translation ends)

Respectfully I say that because I do not think we want to get into acrimonious debate on this motion because that was the case when we went through the last report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission of the NWT. We do not want to get into that situation. I say that there are other facts that must be addressed and the fact of the matter is that numbers only, technicalities only, should not speak for the people of the NWT, because that is the way the reality is. Some of us do not have a highway, some of us do not have other means of communication or transportation. So I say Yellowknife is well-represented. I say that Yellowknife has more than three Members in the House of this Legislature of this government. Mr. Speaker, I can say that Yellowknife actually has, in my calculations, six members to represent them to the Government of the NWT. These Members are: honourable Ted Richard, honourable Bob MacQuarrie...

MR. MacQUARRIE: Neither of us is "Honourables".

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: ...Hon. Michael Ballantyne. And we have other members here -- Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, News/North...

---Applause

...and the city of Yellowknife, representing Yellowknife. So I say that you guys are well-represented in that regard. I do not think we should be seriously thinking about the fact of trying to convince the media that media is not fairly represented. They will do a darn good job tomorrow morning and you just count what kind of issues they are going to support tomorrow and I say they will represent you very well. So therefore I will vote against the motion.

---Applause

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

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Members know, I was involved in causing the motion to come to the House in the last Assembly to create the extra seat and I fought very hard at that time to get a 25th seat and that being a fourth seat in Yellowknife on that occasion. I was sympathetic due to the size. But you have to remember that Members like the Hon. Tom Butters and our Speaker and Mr. Wray, represent significantly large constituencies, some with just one community and some with a couple of communities.

Yellowknife MLAs Represent Constituents Well

The other thing I think you should realize is that in the last Assembly and in this Assembly, the three Members from Yellowknife did an excellent job of representing their constituents. They also have the advantage because there are three MLAs representing one community, that they can divide issues up amongst themselves if they chose to do that and centre in on certain departments or specialize on certain issues. They can also hold joint constituency meetings which they do on occasion. In addition I would also put this to Members of the House, not only do you have three MLAs, you also have eight Ministers, some residing full-time in this constituency, who are accessible at coffee, lunch, going to get their mail, walking down the street and accessible to residents of Yellowknife who come up to us and approach us on issues. That is not something that other communities have access to.

In addition to that, this is the headquarters, there are deputy ministers, assistant deputy ministers, all the heads of the departments who make policies for the NWT living here in this community. When they feel this community needs a better service they are right in there making sure that the paper gets moved and the work gets done to make sure that Yellowknife does not suffer. You can see in the area of education the pupil/teacher ratio in Yellowknife and in regional headquarters, as compared to other communities. That is a good example of how senior civil servants make sure that programs are well-delivered in their communities. So although I was sympathetic in the last Assembly, now that I have become involved in the Executive Council and realize how accessible the Executive Council is to Yellowknife residents and different organizations, I cannot support the motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McLaughlin. Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not believe I will be supporting this motion as well, although Mr. Richard did approach me. If we have to consider the number of people that we are representing then I think we should consider the distance that some of us have to travel. Even though we are not representing that many people we do cover a lot of mileage and spend many hours travelling to visit some of our constituencies. Furthermore, I believe that Yellowknife is well-represented with the Ministers that are living here, as well as the three MLAs, not to mention the CBC. So, I will not be supporting this motion. Mahsi cho.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Lawrence. To the motion. Mr. Wray.

Yellowknife Is Not Treated Unfairly

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also have to indicate that I will not be supporting this motion. I can agree with the tenet that in a democracy there should be adequate representation by population but I think that that argument can be carried a little bit too far. In the North we have always attempted to strive for a balance between small community, big community, between native and non-native and the composition of this House is a balance. It is a balance to all regions. I would base my decision and I do base my decision on one simple question and that is, is Yellowknife being treated unfairly? Are the MLAs in Yellowknife overworked? Does Yellowknife have limited access to government?

MR. MacQUARRIE: That is three questions.

HON. GORDON WRAY: In other words, is Yellowknife being treated unfairly? Nothing...

MR. RICHARD: Only in representation.

HON. GORDON WRAY: ...in the four years that I have seen would lead me to believe whatsoever that Yellowknife is treated unfairly. They have access, and the Ministers that live here will attest to the fact that we are more accessible to residents of Yellowknife than to any other residents of any community in the Northwest Territories. Our deputy ministers, our chiefs, our directors, everybody who is connected with the creation of government policy resides in this community. Everybody who is in a position to make any decision of any influence in Yellowknife is located in Yellowknife. The heads of most of the territorial organizations live here. CBC, and we are not being frivolous, I can tell you from being a resident in this community that I quite frankly sometimes find it disgusting that CBC, which purports to be CBC North, spends most of its time reporting on Yellowknife and reporting Yellowknife issues. The News/North is again, in my opinion, not much more than a Yellowknife newspaper. They have plenty of representation...

MR. RICHARD: The paper will not give them a vote, though.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Do the MLAs treat Yellowknife unfairly? If we were unreasonable and unfair then we would not have elected a Yellowknife Member to sit on the Executive Council. They have the best of all possible worlds. In a debate a year ago the Member for, at that time, Yellowknife North made a big splash and stood up and showed us all a section of rotted sewer pipe and said this is what we have in Yellowknife. Well, any one of us, Mr. Sibbeston or Mr. Curley or myself or any of the Members could have stood up and shown you that, because that is what we have got. We have got nothing. But that did not stop us from pouring millions of dollars into the Yellowknife city water and sewer project.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. GORDON WRAY: So, are we being unfair to Yellowknife?

AN HON. MEMBER: No way.

HON. GORDON WRAY: I do not think so. It has the most developed...

MR. RICHARD: Only on this motion.

HON. GORDON WRAY: ...infrastructure of any community in the Northwest Territories, a lot of it paid for by government. It has the best developed recreational facilities of any community in the Northwest Territories.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. GORDON WRAY: A lot of it paid for by the territorial government.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: That is a good speech.

HON. GORDON WRAY: So, Yellowknife is adequately looked after. Mr. Richard would give the impression that if we do not support this we are unreasonable and unfair and I do not think we are at all. Are the MLAs overworked? Is Yellowknife too big for three people to represent? Well, they had a meeting last week, Mr. Speaker, and 50 people showed up. That, to my calculation is about 13 people apiece. Well, if they cannot handle 13 constituents apiece in a public meeting then maybe it is the people who are representing Yellowknife that have a problem.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: They had CBC.

HON. GORDON WRAY: And CBC was there. I do not see CBC showing up at my constituency meetings.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Do you ever have them?

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: No way.

HON. GORDON WRAY: I have many constituency meetings. The newspapers were there. They showed up at the constituency meeting. None of us are afforded that privilege.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: No way, they cannot afford it.

Electoral Boundaries In Yellowknife

HON. GORDON WRAY: So, no, Mr. Speaker, I really do not think that an argument can be made by the honourable Member that Yellowknife is being treated unfairly. Perhaps maybe the problem is that the boundaries within the three ridings are at fault because if one constituency has 6300 people then it means that the other two only have 5000. Maybe what this House should do is change the boundary lines within the city of Yellowknife so that there is a more adequate representation of population among the three ridings as opposed to just having it all in one. Maybe that is something we could do, split the ridings in Yellowknife up so there are 3500 to 4000 per riding. That might be a little bit better thing to do. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

HON. TOM BUTTERS: It is quite obvious that the Executive will be approaching this question on the matter in a free vote but I have just a very few comments. I would suggest, sir, that the most important element in representative government is not the quantity of the representation but the quality of the representation.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Hear, hear!

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Yellowknife enjoys excellent representation at the present time and has over the past years.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Too much.

---Laughter

HON. TOM BUTTERS: The other situation has been described by preceding speakers and that is that if they wish to approach government they just have to walk across the street and many Members in this House have to travel thousands of miles and countless hours to get to the seat of government.

The third element, sir, is that this House at the current time is in delicate balance. I think we recognize that fact and one of the most important balances that must be maintained by this House is the balance between the East and the West. I agree with the concern that I have heard expressed by Members of the Eastern Arctic, that another seat for the West would put this House into serious imbalance. I would agree with that. I think that this is why the situation that currently exists should be maintained. Now I have a constituency concern and that is that obviously Inuvik too, would be very interested in the 25th seat and I would suggest sometime if we are looking at apportioning that 25th seat it should be done with an examination of all communities by all constituencies which may have an interest in being represented by the 25th seat. There is one solution I would put to the honourable Member.

Decentralization A Step To Resolving Problem

Mr. Wray has indicated that possibly there could be a splitting of the existing constituencies for the city of Yellowknife, but I would also suggest that the honourable Member might consider the fact that the bulk of his constituents, I believe, are servants of this government. Now a decentralization of government functions to the regions would remove his problem, or reduce Yellowknife's problem considerably. I think that if we decentralize government functions to the Eastern Arctic and to Kitikmeot and Hay River and Inuvik Region and Fort Smith...

MR. McCALLUM: Where?

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Fort Smith...

AN HON. MEMBER: Not any more, we are not.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: ...this would be a great step, sir, toward resolving the problem that Mr. Richard has brought before us.

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

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will make a brief comment regarding this motion. I will not make any response today, I will not offer my support to the motion today. If I was going to be one of the Members attending the 11th Assembly I would definitely support this motion.

We have been discussing the 25th seat time and time again and it seems there was a lot of animosity concerning this particular seat when we were arguing about seats from time to time. I definitely want that seat also for my constituency and in my point of view, I think we really have to look at the region also instead of the population.

Those people who are across from us made nice comments earlier. We all get together for, I think, eight or nine weeks. During those periods we usually have 24 representatives and we usually meet in Yellowknife. We usually have Yellowknifers attending and we definitely are informed by Yellowknifers also about their problems and their concerns.

Easy Access To Ministers And Government

I know we are treating Yellowknife properly and the government is right here in Yellowknife. A person in one of my communities wanted to meet with the Department of Education earlier. Last year I asked him if he could come and visit my community and he responded by saying, "Yes, I will." He responded by saying, "Maybe in July, I will visit your community." As you can see, that is a long period. If I request a visit last year and he will come to visit us in July that is a long period. If you reside in Yellowknife, if you request a visit with a department or a Minister, you could only wait for one hour.

Looking at those areas I will not support the motion. I know he is doing it for good purposes and we definitely have good reasons also in our communities too. There are three MLAs representing Yellowknife, and maybe it would be best if you took turns. If this MLA who is representing this area can also collaborate with other MLAs from time to time, I think that will resolve the problems that you have. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Wah-Shee.

MR. WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I find it rather disturbing that the Members of this House continue to be rather overly parochial and self-righteous in terms of representation. The reason I say this is because we all realize in this House that there are interests that represent the group from the Eastern Arctic, there are also groups that represent the interests of the West. As Members will be aware in the Ninth Assembly there was a great deal of debate in regard to how the three additional seats should be dealt with and I can recall the debates in regard to both sides of the issue.

The fundamental overriding concern that I got was that any time we were dealing with issues that represent the East and the West, both sides were extremely concerned that no one group should be outvoted in protecting their interests. I think one of the ideas that we did bring forward was that the 25th seat could be one that was at large in the territory. The other one is that we could consider giving it to the city of Yellowknife.

Now, where I come from, I certainly do not represent the people from the East, I represent the people from the West but I respect the views that were brought forward by the Eastern Arctic representative, that if it is not a case that the 25th seat is given to the Eastern Arctic then obviously you are not going to be prepared to support it. I can respect that. But on the other hand I think the 25th seat is available to us right now without making any changes to the NWT Act. It is part of the boundaries commission report that was submitted so this House has the authority to have the 25th seat allocated.

Opportunity For Aboriginal Representative

Also, I think that had Yellowknife had the opportunity to have the fourth seat that would give the large population of the aboriginal people that live in this city, that make Yellowknife their home, an opportunity to represent the city of Yellowknife. As you know, Yellowknife is a population which, generally, represents the total territory because it is not only the Euro-Canadian that

resides in this city, it is also the Dene, the Metis and the Inuit. So, it does make it unique in that way. I would like to see the fourth seat because it will give an opportunity to the aboriginal people to represent this city. I do not agree with the viewpoint that just because Yellowknife is the capital that it should be denied certain democratic considerations.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

Two Ministers From Keewatin

MR. WAH-SHEE: I do not represent the city, I represent my own region. However, I feel that we are coming to a mentality in this House that any time that we talk about the interests of the city of Yellowknife it has got to be negative. I say to you that two Ministers representing Keewatin are equivalent to four or even six MLAs representing the city right now.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Hear, hear! Hear, hear!

MR. WAH-SHEE: Now, we even have a problem in terms of representation on the Executive Council.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Why?

MR. MacQUARRIE: Boy, Curley watch out!

MR. WAH-SHEE: I will tell you why. We come down into numbers. In the case of where we make selections of the Members that sit on the Executive Council, we have a mutual agreement amongst ourselves, as 24 Members, that four seats on the Executive Council will be allocated to the Members of the eastern caucus, the other four will be allocated to the West. However, the last time round when we looked at candidates, you had five eastern candidates that wanted to get on the Executive Council, so obviously you did not have very much of a selection to make. But when you come down from the West, you had something like nine or 10 for four. So I am talking about quality selection here. If you only had four from the East obviously you would not have any election, it would be automatic. Now that makes it a problem in terms of having some region being overrepresented on the Executive Council. So you do not necessarily get quality here, you get quantity.

---Laughter

MR. McCALLUM: Did you read that newspaper, James?

MR. MacQUARRIE: That was said respectfully.

MR. WAH-SHEE: That is a matter of opinion. But anyway I do believe that we have to start looking at some of the democratic principles when we are talking about representation. Some people here do not want to look at statistics; they do not even want to consider them. But when it comes down to issues closer to home, obviously they want to look at all kinds of statistics to justify their views concerning their region. But when we are talking about somebody else's region, obviously let us not look at statistics and let us not even be logical about it. The whole issue becomes an emotional kind of issue. What I am saying is that I think that the people of the city of Yellowknife need a little better consideration. When they are looking at your population and your communities, I am sure that the Members of this House are interested in the concerns that you are raising in regard to your communities and your constituency. All I want to see is just fair play all the way around.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Wah-Shee. To the motion. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: When the motion was first introduced and I saw the smiles on the faces of Members around the House, I was momentarily heartened.

---Laughter

After the comments, I realize that they were like the smiles on the faces of Cassius and Brutus as they approached Caesar on the Ides of March. At any rate, I think that the kinds of comments that have been made by Members are unfair, in a particular way. When you talk about representation and

the numbers of representatives, it seems that many Members focus only on one aspect of representation and that is the ability of the representative to come into contact with his constituents. And it is said that that is easier here in Yellowknife and therefore no further representation is needed.

Voting Power Is The Foundation Of Representation

But there is another critical aspect of representation that is ignored by all of these Members and that is the aspect of voting power. In a representative democracy, representation by population is the foundation and the basis of representation so that you can have a free society and a society whose citizens are equal to one another, essentially, in their ability to shape the decisions that are made in that political jurisdiction. If you disregard equality of representation in that respect then you have a situation where it takes several thousand Yellowknifers to have one block of voting power in this Assembly and perhaps several hundred or only scores of people from the Hudson Bay riding to do the same thing. So that is why representation by population is important. I do not say it is the only element, but it is the foundation of representation.

The practice has been in representative democracies to modify that principle and rightly so, I agree with it. It is modified from time to time in order to give a stronger weighting to rural ridings than to urban ones because of some of the reasons that were mentioned by Members in this House. It is common to modify representation by population, taking into account certain geographic and cultural features, so that there will be some good rationality to the kind of representation that occurs. But while you modify for those reasons, you can never lose sight of what is the basis for representation and that is representation by population. And I say that, in fact, Mr. Wray earlier said that representation for Yellowknife was carried too far -- the consideration for representation by population was carried too far. I say, not at all, that it is precisely the opposite of that. We have carried the modification of the principle too far and we are asking for a little redress.

Some of the reasons that were given by Members for not supporting this motion really do not stand. Certain organizations and institutions were mentioned as being equivalent to Yellowknife representation. I would say, first of all, in regard to the media, CBC and News/North, that those were insulting statements concerning the media because they are generally objective and do try to take account of the interest everywhere. Insulting and unfair. And they do not represent Yellowknife any more than they represent other communities. In fact, it ought to be well-known that in the case of CBC news there are news offices in Inuvik, Rankin Inlet and in Frobisher Bay as well. And I must say that they seldom call me to ask for my points of view on many things.

---Laughter

And where else in the world, may I ask, is there a television network for approximately 15,000 people but in the Eastern Arctic with the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation?

Some Members say that they need additional representatives because of the costs of getting around the riding. But let us not pretend that that is not taken account of in the rules of this House. Members who have constituencies that are larger in numbers of communities and require travelling, receive significantly increased constituency allowances in order to make it possible for them to do that.

And then talking about Members in Yellowknife -- three Members, there is added wear and tear on the representatives now because we are so accessible. The door is always open and people drop in frequently. And we are glad of that, but the fact is that we have large volumes of people to deal with and probably that is why I have become gray since I was elected to the Assembly six years ago.

At any rate there is now too great a disparity in the size of seats and something should be done to rectify that. I said that to the Potts Commission in 1983 and I still believe it. My colleague for Yellowknife North, who other Members graciously elected to the Executive Council, wished it to be noted that he also made that representation to the Potts Commission and if he were here today he would support this motion indeed, but then probably Mr. Patterson would not, so I guess that is fair enough. But at any rate, the reasons that I supported this position in front of the Potts Commission are the same reasons that I just outlined now. I certainly will support this motion.

Western Members Do Not Use Voting Power Unfairly

I disregard the arguments that it is critically a matter between East and West, because in fact if another Yellowknife seat were provided that does not really change the voting balance. There are already more western Members than eastern. As to the danger then of decisions always going against the East, I say that in the future that would be no more true than it is at the present time. Because despite the fact that there are more western votes, that is seldom, if ever, used to decide any issue, including the fact that there should be four Members from East and four Members from West on the Executive Council. If western Members had wanted to vote as a block as western Members that would not exist. But we do not exercise the voting power that we have in that kind of way. We have not done it with public housing. We have not done it with respect to division itself.

AN HON. MEMBER: Really?

MR. MacQUARRIE: Well, that is because...

MR. McCALLUM: That is because you could not count.

MR. MacQUARRIE: ...the eastern Members voluntarily left the House, and we just felt -- you talked about the quality of representation, it is there -- we felt committed. We were in the House, and we must do the public's business, so we voted in your absence.

MR. McCALLUM: For you.

MR. MacQUARRIE: At any rate, as I said I will support this motion knowing that if it were adopted we would be moving toward more fairness in the matter of voting power but at the same time we would not seriously erode the balance of cultural regions that are already reflected in this House and I would not want to seriously erode that balance. I ask other Members to reconsider now even after having made your statements and perhaps feeling a twinge of sympathy, a little notion of fairness and rightness...

MR. RICHARD: Common sense would do.

MR. MacQUARRIE: ...and vote, yes, to Mr. Richard's motion. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. To the motion. Mr. Angottitauruq.

Both Sides Have Valid View

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess just before the vote I would like to state where I am going to be standing. As for me I will be abstaining on the vote, after hearing both sides, the East and West conflict going on on this very important decision-making vote, I believe. So, for that reason I agree with both sides, either if they are putting it into the East or into the West. I am not worried about Yellowknife itself. I guess the speakers that spoke against the motion and spoke for the motion all know what it means to them and know what they are saying. Believing that both sides have a valid view, I am not going to be voting for this motion, in the hope that in the future it will come up again and then hopefully, I will make my decision. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Angottitauruq. To the motion. Last call. To the motion. You have the prerogative now of summing up, Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Very briefly, some of the Members' comments on the motion, if I could address them briefly, Mr. Speaker, in closing. First of all, Mr. Gargan had some concern with the motion and wanted to know where the fourth seat would go. The motion refers to the boundaries set out in the minority report and there is a map attached to the minority report but in effect, Mr. Speaker, the fourth seat would be created by dividing the current constituency that I represent, Yellowknife South, so under the map attached to the minority report, Yellowknife North and Yellowknife Centre would essentially remain the same but Yellowknife South would be divided in two.

My colleague from Sahtu, Mr. T'Seleie. With respect, Mr. Speaker, I would refresh Mr. T'Seleie's memory by indicating to him that I had raised it in a meeting of western caucus last fall where a number of us made some commitments each to the other, which I recall very specifically and will still recall. Also I did approach Mr. T'Seleie with a copy of the motion in the February-March session seeking his support. As I recall Mr. T'Seleie's response to my request for support, he did not indicate yea or nay but suggested that I should put the motion and I interpreted that one way but I am not sure if I was correct.

And finally, Mr. Speaker, as to Mr. Curley's remarks about the media, let me say with all sincerity that I feel no more or less represented by the media of the North than do any of the Members who spoke and I am not going to count on CBC being a vote for Yellowknife until you, Mr. Speaker, are prepared to recognize their vote. Those are my remarks to close the debate, Mr. Speaker, and I would ask for a recorded vote.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Richard. A recorded vote has been requested, Mr. Clerk. All those in favour of the motion please stand.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Wah-Shee, Mr. McCallum, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. Richard.

MR. SPEAKER: All those opposed to the motion please stand.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Erkloo, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Paniloo, Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Arlooktoo, Mr. T'Seleie, Mrs. Lawrence, Mr. Wray, Mr. Curley, Mr. Butters, Mr. Pedersen, Ms Cournoyea.

MR. SPEAKER: Abstentions.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Gargan, Mr. Sibbeston, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Angottitauruq.

Motion 27-86(1), Defeated.

MR. SPEAKER: Can you provide the Chair with the count, please? The motion is defeated. The count was 12 negative, four for and four abstentions. The motion is defeated.

---Defeated

---Applause

Item under motions, Motion 28-86(1). Mr. Wray.

Point Of Privilege.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of privilege and I do so now because the offending culprit is present in the House and I wish him here to hear my point of privilege. My point of privilege refers to an article in the News/North on Friday, June 6th, under a heading "Reporter's Notebook", by Doug Holmes, entitled "Native MLAs can force language issue." There is a paragraph in this article, Mr. Speaker, which quite frankly I find offensive to myself and insulting to my constituents and to this House. The paragraph states, "Six of the eight Ministers, that is 75 per cent, do not speak a native tongue" and then it goes on to say, "and neither do most of the constituents."

Mr. Speaker, I represent the largest native constituency in this Assembly. Collectively, the Executive Council, the Ministers, represent something like 35 per cent of native people of the Northwest Territories. I and my colleague, Mr. Curley, represent the largest and the second largest native constituencies in the North. My constituents, Mr. Speaker, and for the gentleman -- 100 per cent of them, of the native people in my constituency -- speak a native language. I find it insulting that a reporter who purports to be a northern reporter would not take the time to at least walk to the Assembly office and get statistics which are freely available to all people of the Northwest Territories that would show this. In fact, most of our constituents do speak a native tongue. We represent something like 11,000 native people in the Northwest Territories. We only represent 7000 non-native. So, Mr. Speaker, I rise on that point of privilege. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Wray, for that point of privilege. Under motions. Motion 28-86(1), Funding for HAP Housing. Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Would you have a copy of the English version of my motion? No, we do not. We will need funding for the HAP housing program because whereas the NWT Housing Corporation has made an application to the federal government to apply for training programs for HAP housing for people who would like to get their own housing -- construction trainee programs. We do not have a copy of the translation in English.

MR. SPEAKER: Would the interpreters just read the first section over again so that it agrees with the document as presented in the books? Then Mr. Pudluk can pick it up from there.

Motion 28-86(1): Funding For HAP Housing

INTERPRETER: Funding for HAP housing.

WHEREAS the NWT Housing Corporation has submitted a proposal to the federal government which would fund a meaningful training and employment program through the construction of HAP houses in the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs has indicated strong support for the proposal;

AND WHEREAS the proposal was strongly supported by the Legislative Assembly, native organizations, regional and community groups in the Northwest Territories;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs be urged to give immediate consideration to committing additional financial resources to ensure the success of this important program.

This was seconded by Arnold McCallum.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order. You have the floor.

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a very important issue in communities, both in large communities and small communities. We need support for construction programs by funding. There are three people in my community who are trying to get their own HAP houses and to learn how they can make their own houses. I have never learned how to make my own house and I do not have funding to contract someone to build my house. I would like to direct this to the Minister. The federal government has indicated that they would support this training program in the future. We should start implementing it in the not too far future because the Inuit and the people of the Northwest Territories need that type of training. This would be below the tree line as well as above the tree line. For this reason, I would like to get support from you people. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. McCallum, as seconder.

MR. MCCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to indicate that I totally support this motion and I would trust that Mr. Ballantyne, the Minister responsible for Housing, would take this to heart and try to put his office behind this particular resolution as well.

The HAP program has been increased at the request of this House. It doubled over a couple of years. These housing units are vital to correct the situation, or help to correct the situation, that is prevalent in the Northwest Territories. The cost of construction, of course, has increased because of the advances in technology in housing. Trying to put these housing units together requires an even greater knowledge than in the past. This funding will not only allow the people, or help them, to erect their units but it will also bring into play a training program that, hopefully, will result in some employment within particular communities.

For this particular reason, Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to support the motion, second the motion to impress upon the federal government that there is a need. There has been much talk in the past year or two about the requirement for housing units and together with the Government of the Northwest Territories policy or movement toward home-ownership, people require the expertise to help them to put these units together. They are of a better quality than in the past. The aspect

of training that will eventually lead to employment, having northerners going around into other communities and being able to translate their expertise and to help other people, is a worth-while part of this motion, Mr. Speaker, and I would trust that it would receive unanimous consent of this committee.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McCallum. To the motion. Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a former Minister of Housing I would like to indicate that I fully support this motion. This area was probably the most difficult area that I encountered in my time. The present Minister of Housing, Mr. Ballantyne, is in fact, right now, in Ottawa attempting to resolve part of this problem and I know that he is very supportive of this motion. He has had the same type of successes that I had, which was very limited, but he is at Ottawa at the present attempting to meet with the various federal Ministers involved. He will be meeting with the federal Minister of Housing, I believe, tomorrow. This is, for him, the highest priority that he has right now so we will be supporting this motion. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, in support of this motion. The most recent happening in support of the Dene and Metis and the Inuit organizational human resources funding that is coming from Indian Affairs, is a meeting this week on how that funding is going to be distributed.

Particularly in the Inuit communities, because of the support for HAP there has been a fairly clear decision in the Beaufort area, as well as in the Central Arctic, that this human resources funding from the Department of Indian Affairs will be directed as a first priority to the HAP units. However, the total amount that is available as sectioned out to the various regions is approximately \$7000 per unit. This is possible, particularly in the Central Arctic and the Beaufort areas, under the Inuit human resources funding because of the fact that there are not as many houses to fund. As well, in the Mackenzie Delta area the decision from the Dene associations has been to allocate their funding which comes through another section of the federal funding -- they have fairly well decided on the \$7000. The Baffin Region, to my understanding, is going to be in serious difficulty because of the number of units.

Mr. Speaker, in my experience and being very closely involved with this program within my communities, the average amount to allow for the necessary labour funding for each unit is generally around \$12,000 to \$13,000. In continuing discussions with Mr. Ballantyne it was my understanding that the territorial government would try to look into their own coffers to see if they could top off the funding, if in fact, the human resources funding from Indian Affairs was being allocated to the HAP units. In support of this motion, even though it may be that when Mr. Ballantyne reaches Ottawa the decision has been made at the community level to allocate to the units the funding that is available, I feel that the amount that will be available falls far short from the past requirements for each of the units that were being built. I feel that I support the motion but I would also indicate that perhaps the territorial government should look to see if there is anything that can be done within the Northwest Territories funds. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms Cournoyea. To the motion.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question is being called. Mr. Pudluk, you have the right to summation.

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, I am ready for the question.

Motion 28-86(1), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. All those in favour? Let the record show that the motion has been carried unanimously.

---Carried

Item 12, motions. Motion 29-86(1), Community Organized Hunt Funding. Mr. Paniloo.

Motion 29-86(1): Community Organized Hunt Funding

MR. PANILOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My motion is with respect to the community organized hunt fund.

WHEREAS the communities of Broughton Island and Grise Fiord are at considerable disadvantage in their access to caribou for subsistence due to their remoteness from the caribou country, the absence of roads, and very high alternate transportation costs;

AND WHEREAS there is a program with the Department of Renewable Resources, called the community organized hunt program, which is available to such communities as Grise Fiord and Broughton Island where assistance is needed to subsidize the travel cost of obtaining access to wildlife for subsistence;

AND WHEREAS there do not appear to be sufficient moneys allocated to the Baffin for the community organized hunt program;

AND WHEREAS the Baffin Regional Council has made a motion to the effect, "Whereas Broughton Island and Grise Fiord do not have very good access to hunt caribou, due to the distance and high cost of gear and fuel; therefore, I move that the Baffin Members of the Legislative Assembly be asked to look for possible funds for the Baffin Region hunters and trappers committee to be used for community caribou hunts for Broughton Island and Grise Fiord;"

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for High Arctic, that this Assembly recommend to the Executive Council that the budget for the community organized hunt program for the Baffin Region be increased to ensure adequate funding for the communities for the community organized hunt program.

This motion is seconded by Ludy Pudluk.

MR. SPEAKER: Your motion is in order. You have the floor.

MR. PANILOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I moved this motion and I had not mentioned the motion that was made by the Baffin Regional Council in Inuktitut. I would just like to repeat it in Inuktitut.

(Translation) Whereas three Baffin Region communities, Broughton Island, Grise Fiord and Resolute Bay, do not have very good access to hunt caribou due to the distance and high cost of gear and fuel, I believe that the funds have been set aside for 1986 for this program. For example, if I were to use this money in Broughton Island I would be able to obtain transportation to hunt caribou or other wildlife. We would like the Executive Council to seek funding to assist the community organized hunting program. The hunters would not use the caribou for any commercial purposes but as food for the people.

The Baffin Regional Council has requested and feels that it is very important to obtain funding for the hunt program, as some communities do not have access to caribou. I do not believe that the Baffin Regional Council could obtain this funding alone. Therefore, because it is a program made available through the government, we feel that it should be made available to them. Funding that is made available under this program for Yellowknife and the Fort Smith, Keewatin and Inuvik Regions would not be affected heavily, although we would like you to know that we do not want to decrease the funding made under that program to the other regions. That is all I have to say for the time being. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pudluk, as seconder.

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Very briefly, I support this motion as the seconder and I support it as the Baffin Regional Council made a motion on May 8th, 1986. They requested that we inquire into the possibility of obtaining funds for the community organized hunt program. I personally know, and I have lived in Grise Fiord, that we do not have access to caribou because the caribou are so far away and because Ellesmere Island does not have very many caribou, if any at all. There may not be any left at all. Because of that, we have difficulty obtaining caribou for subsistence. Very often people rely on seal meat alone because, also, of the limited daytime that we have there and because of the distance that we have to travel to obtain caribou. We feel that it is very important that these communities are provided funding. Broughton Island

also indicated that they would require further assistance in this area because of the distance that they have to travel and because of the high cost of gear and fuel. My own community, Resolute Bay, also has difficulties obtaining caribou in terms of access. It is impossible for us to travel by snowmobile to hunt caribou, even around my community.

The funding that is available under this program is \$47,000 to the North, I believe. Fort Smith, for example, utilizes the most money, \$22,000, under this program and as to other communities, Yellowknife has access to about \$5000 under the same program, Inuvik as well has \$5000 available, and Baffin has \$7000 available under this program.

Just to get across the island alone would use up all of that \$7000 that is made available to the Baffin. It is impossible for the Baffin Region to use only \$7000. I do not believe it would even cover one hunting trip, because of the high alternate transportation costs. We do not have access to roads, and those communities that have access to highways or roads receive more funding under the same program. The remote communities, where we are required to travel by air transportation, receive much less funding or not enough funding. I am not saying that we should not provide any funding to the other regions who have used this program. I support their use of the program as well as in my community and in the other constituencies where people have concerns and have even requested assistance from the hamlets of the communities for the community organized hunt. However, the hamlets of our communities do not have very much funding for the year for their operations, and they could not provide assistance to us in terms of funding. We would like to know if this matter could be looked into, where the funding that is made available to the Baffin might be increased. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion 29-86(1), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: To the motion. Question being called. Mr. Paniloo, you have the right to finish the debate. You are the final speaker. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Item 13, first reading of bills.

Item 14, second reading of bills. Item 15, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Bill 13-86(1), Write-off of Assets and Debts Act, 1985-86; Tabled Document 37-86(1), Constitutional and Political Development in the Northwest Territories; First Report of the Special Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges; Bill 5-86(1), Jury Act; Bill 7-86(1), Official Languages Act; Report of the Standing Committee on Legislation on Bills and Other Matters; Tabled Document 42-86(1), Report of the Task Force on Aboriginal Languages, with Mr. Wah-Shee in the chair.

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

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER FIRST REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON RULES, PROCEDURES AND PRIVILEGES

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): The committee will come to order. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I realize that the House will be proceeding with and completing the First Report of the Special Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges this afternoon and following that, sir, I would suggest that we would again, if we are completed, introduce Bill 7-86(1) and then move to Bill 13-86(1). The item, Report of the Task Force on Aboriginal Languages, we would recommend be set for a day certain, which is Tuesday, at which time we would have available to us members from the task force. So, I am just suggesting that we would indicate at this time that the aboriginal languages report could be set for Tuesday and then members of that task force could be invited to attend then and answer any questions that Members of this committee may wish to put to them.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Butters, we are aware that this Tabled Document 42-86(1) has been tabled. However, by formal motion there is another item that would have to precede that at the direction of the House. We will take 15 minutes coffee break.

---SHORT RECESS

First Report Of The Special Committee On Rules, Procedures And Privileges

Further Discussion Of Motion To Amend Motion To Delete Rule 3(1) And Replace With New Rule 3(1)

We are dealing with Recommendation 14 on page 21, dealing with sitting hours and we are dealing with an amendment that is proposed by Mr. McLaughlin. To the amendment. Mr. McLaughlin.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The purpose of the amendment that I have made is to recognize the experience we have had in this House of trying to keep a quorum during the long five hour session which we have. So what I am proposing is that basically the Speaker would take the chair at 2:30 on the sitting days Monday to Thursday and go through the normal order of business and then we go into committee of the whole until 5:30. At that time, if there was further business to be done, the committee would then adjourn until the next morning at 9:30 a.m. for a two hour sitting and that would leave Monday morning entirely free for committee meetings and it would also leave on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, three hours between 11:30 and 2:30, for luncheon meetings and time for Members to change and come to the Assembly. I think that would be a more orderly way of doing things.

In the House of Commons, you do not see the Members there having to sit for that period of time. They have 282 Members and they have question period for an hour and then they go into their committee of the whole which only requires 25 Members and they take turns making sure there are 25 people there and all the rest of them go to committee meetings. I think if we broke the day up like that -- so what I am proposing is a total of 21 hours of sitting, as opposed to the present 23.5 but that time would be made up by the fact that, if we sat for three hours as our maximum period, we would not need to have coffee breaks and waste 15 minutes to half an hour as we do. We would probably actually still sit the same number of hours in a week but it would be broken up so that we would not have the long period of time.

Some of the other advantages are finishing slightly earlier. It would allow the media, who are so good at putting things accurately on the news for us, time to get the news of the day onto the 5:30 news through CBC stations in the North. The other advantage is that every lunch hour from Monday through to Friday there is adequate time for a full committee meeting which could also include luncheon meetings if necessary. I think it gives you a lot more flexibility and it also shortens the length of the day you have to sit by breaking it up. I just think it is a more humane thing to do for Members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I certainly respect the Member for proposing an alternative to the much more clear, workable routine that we would have to live by during the life of any Assembly. But I think the Member should know that if we were to sit certain hours, as he proposes, at 2:30 p.m. for instance, on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and adjourn after three hours, we would really be dealing with one issue most of the time, because most of the time we cover one issue for about that length of time. We just look at one motion that was introduced. I think it would be very difficult to make progress toward the legislative agenda. Therefore, as far as I am concerned, I cannot support the amendment because I think, in my view, there needs to be a consistency of hours so that we can get appropriate work done, not only committee work, but the government as a whole. The Ministers, whoever they are, are going to have to understand fully because the Executive Council is normally pretty heavily log-jammed with their workload as well. Mr. Chairman, I just personally cannot support the amendment as proposed. Thank you.

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion To Amend Motion To Delete Rule 3(1) And Replace With New Rule 3(1), Defeated

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

---Defeated

To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

Motion To Amend Motion To Delete Rule 3(1) And Replace With New Rule 3(1)

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would move an amendment to the third line of the motion that we replace 6:00 p.m. with 5:00 p.m. so that it would read "The Assembly shall meet on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m."

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Your amendment is in order. To the amendment. Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just basically I feel that 6:00 p.m. is just a little bit too long. I usually find that by 6:00 p.m. Members are starting to get very tired and I think that 5:00 p.m. will be a much better cut-off time. It would also allow time for Members to do things, if they wish to go shopping and things like that. When we finish the House at 6:00 o'clock, when we get out of here, everything is closed.

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

MR. RICHARD: Well, Mr. Chairman, with respect to Mr. Wray's amendment, I simply would remind Members that would take four hours out of the week and these recommendations, particularly with respect to the hours, were put in this recommendation after extensive canvass of all Members and we did compare the hours in the Assembly compared to other jurisdictions and felt that we should keep the 1:00 to 6:00 on those four days of the week. It does not mean, as Members know, that we have to work in the Assembly until 6:00. We are always free to report progress earlier if Members are tired or need to go shopping. I am supposed to be unbiased in these recommendations but I urge Members to keep the hours as is. Go ahead, Gordon. Over to you.

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

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I remind Members that yes, we certainly report progress, conversely we can also extend sitting hours.

MR. McCALLUM: Not very likely.

HON. GORDON WRAY: If at 5:00 p.m. it was felt that we needed more time we could simply extend the hours to 6:00 p.m. It works both ways. Mr. Chairman, by the way, if we lose four hours, with respect I suggest to the chairman that they could have perhaps considered limiting question period to an hour or an hour and a half and that would have saved us a lot of time.

Motion To Amend Motion To Delete Rule 3(1) And Replace With New Rule 3(1), Defeated

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

---Defeated

To the motion. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I am inclined to amend Friday's sitting hours but before I do I would like to discuss it a little bit. It seems to me that sitting for two hours then having a two hour break, then coming back for two hours just does not make sense to me...

AN HON. MEMBER: Nobody will come back.

MR. MacQUARRIE: ...and the possibility that no one will come back for the last two hours is one of the problems. I understand that this was proposed in response to some concerns that were expressed about making use of the Friday afternoon a little more but we do make use of it. For example, this Friday afternoon there is a standing committee on legislation meeting which will probably go the rest of the afternoon until 5:00 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. So that could be made use of in that way and the four hour time frame on Friday is fine. To me, it is just a question as to when to start and when to close. I would like to see it all done in one block and 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. would be fine as far as I am concerned. I just see a number of nods here and there, so I think I will chance it right now.

Motion To Amend Motion To Delete Rule 3(1) And Replace With New Rule 3(1), Carried

I will move an amendment, Mr. Chairman, if I may, so that in the fourth line after the word "to" I would delete the words "12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.", all of those words would be deleted. What would replace it is "2:00 p.m.". So it would read "and on Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. unless otherwise provided by order of the House". That is the amendment that I move, Mr. Chairman.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

To the motion as amended.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion To Delete Rule 3(1) And Replace With New Rule 3(1), Carried As Amended

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

---Carried

Recommendation 15: Smoking, Food And Beverages In The Chamber

We now come to Recommendation 15. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, this number 15, if passed, will result in a new situation in our chamber and I have a picture of the new future in the Assembly and am having the Page pass it around to Members just so Members are aware of what we are getting into here if this recommendation passes. It was discussed at length when our committee met with MLAs in our informal meeting. This recommendation, as indicated in the note, does not have the unanimous support of the Members of our committee, let alone Members of this Assembly. I wish in some respect, Mr. Chairman, that Mr. Patterson were here because as I recall he was very vocal in supporting this recommendation and he did remind Members of a statement made by the youth forum in this Assembly last year when the youth delegates said to us, as MLAs, that we should be setting an example in various respects when we meet or do anything in public for that matter. It was as a result of some of those discussions and submissions that the committee decided to put this recommendation forward and the committee, Mr. Chairman, has given its own Members a free vote on this issue.

MR. McCALLUM: It will not be held against us.

MR. RICHARD: No, it will not be held against any of the Members of the committee. The current rules, Mr. Chairman, if we look at Rule 16 which deals specifically with strangers in the House not doing such things as smoking or...

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible comment)

---Laughter

MR. RICHARD: ...taking food or beverages. Mr. Chairman, the rules are silent on the conduct of MLAs with respect to smoking in the chamber or bringing coffee or beverages to their desks. It was felt, Mr. Chairman, that with the flexible rules on quorum Members of this House have ample opportunity to leave the House to light a cigarette, to grab a bite to eat or attend to constituency or other matters.

Mr. Chairman, there are two paragraphs in the motion on this page but I am going to move the first one only because I feel it may be in some jeopardy and I would rather wait and see the will of the Members on the first one before dealing with the second one which is just consequential.

Motion That No Smoking, Food Or Beverages Be Allowed In The Chamber

Mr. Chairman, with that background coming from a smoke free environment in the very corner of this room, I move that there be no smoking, food or beverages allowed in the chamber at any time and further, that a rule be developed and incorporated into the rules which would apply these restrictions to all people. Amen.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Richard, just for a point of clarification and so that all Members of the committee clearly understand the intent of your motion.

---Laughter

You are only moving the first part of the recommendation. Is that correct?

MR. RICHARD: Yes, sir, that is correct.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Richard, your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: I get the first crack, Mr. Chairman. First of all, Mr. Chairman, I would like clarification from the chairman of the committee. I have Webster's dictionary here and beverage is defined as a drinkable liquid. I therefore take it that no water would also be allowed in the chamber. A rule is a rule and if it says "no beverage" and that is what a beverage is defined as, then water is a beverage. I would like that clarification first of all.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Richard, would you clarify a point for the Member?

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, as much as I would like to have more power than I do, our committee's mandate is to recommend the rules. It will be for the Speaker to interpret them. It was the intent of the committee to prohibit beverages other than water, to answer your question. That is the discussion that took place in the committee. You correctly point out, Mr. Wray, that technically the word "beverage" would include water. We may want to change it. If the thrust of the motion is adopted by the Assembly, if you agree that there be no smoking, no food and there be no coffee, juice, etc., then we can tidy up the language if you wish. That is the best explanation I can give, Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think that certainly it is going to have to be tidied up because I can see no difference, quite frankly, if a Member comes in with a glass of water or a glass of orange juice. I cannot see the difference in that.

To the smoking part. I understand the feelings of some people in terms of second-hand smoke and its causes. I am sympathetic and supportive of agencies and groups and governments who move to make certain areas non-smoking areas. However, we do sit in a very large room that has excellent air circulation and I do not feel that the second-hand smoke bothers anybody unduly. Secondly, I would, with respect, point out that in the provinces most of the work which we call committee of the whole work is not done in the Legislature chamber, it is done in committee rooms. We do not do that here, we do a lot of our committee of the whole work actually in the Legislature chamber and, as such, we sit here for long periods of time. I would suggest that if this rule is enacted then

what you are going to find is contrary to what the Member said. You are going to find that you are going to have a difficult time obtaining quorums because I think you are going to have people getting up and leaving quite frequently and it could cause problems for the House. Other than the fact that I do smoke so I might have a conflict of interest here, I cannot support this one. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Example Of Other Legislatures

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In putting forth this particular recommendation within the committee we were, I think it is fair to say, under the impression that very few jurisdictions allowed food, beverages or smoking within the Legislature, not just for Members but for anybody and everybody. Certainly in the House of Commons, for example, you do not take anything into the House at all unless you are a Member. We came to find out, though, that that was not necessarily so. For example, in one of the areas we visited, in formal session during question period, Members would come in with a coffee, bottle of pop or glass of pop or whatever. They did not allow the smoking aspect but they did allow people to have it even in formal session, when the Speaker was in the chair. I think that when we were trying to put something down there was a move to restrict the smoking but Members of the committee suggested, after listening to other Members of the Assembly, that if you are going to get rid of one area then you might as well go all the way.

Most of us on the committee would have said yes to that kind of proposal -- that it is all or nothing and, as I said, we were under the impression, at least I was under the impression we were one of the few if not the only one who carried this business of taking food or beverages or smoking, even in committee of the whole, into the Assembly. As I say, that is not necessarily what is occurring in jurisdictions across the country. I had indicated on numerous occasions that I would go along if it was everything but, in light of the out that the chairman has given Members, I would still be of the same opinion that if it were all of it I would not mind going along with it but just to single out one aspect of it, I do not think is fair. That is why we went with the whole thing. I just wanted to raise the point, Mr. Chairman, that there are jurisdictions that allow the taking of beverages into their session when the mace is up and when the Speaker is in the chair and not just in committee of the whole.

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

No Justification For Change

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When initiatives are made to change something that exists one would hope that the change is initiated because there is some compelling reason to do so. So if the committee demonstrated that in some way the practice in this House now, permitting smoking and cups of coffee or juice and water, was in some way physically damaging to other Members or to the public or detrimental to the work that is carried on here, then I would have seriously to listen to what was said and support the initiative for change but it is clear that that is not the case whatsoever. It appears to me that this recommendation is advanced to satisfy someone and I do not know who, but someone's idea of decorum. What is proper or...

HON. GORDON WRAY: Dennis Patterson.

MR. MacQUARRIE: The Hon. Dennis Patterson, says Mr. Wray -- someone's sense of decorum and what is proper to the dignity of a Legislative Assembly. That is not an adequate reason at all in my consideration. I would much prefer to maintain an informal atmosphere in this Legislature. We need not be guided by what people do elsewhere. Mr. Curley, if you want to take your tie off that is okay with me. I think that always there may be some standards but each one that is advanced ought to be justified specifically and it is possible that someone would care to justify the wearing of ties -- I would not wish to myself, but that would be open to somebody justifying it.

I think that when groups meet together to conduct business as we do, that the more informal the atmosphere for carrying out debates such as we do when in the committee of the whole, the better and I would like to see the informality maintained with the right to smoke and the right to drink coffee or juice maintained. Advocating that, particularly with respect to smoking, might not be appropriate if it were a closed room where the smoke gathered and was particularly offensive to other Members but, as Mr. Wray has already pointed out, that is not the case in this chamber. It is large and it is well-ventilated and therefore it seems to me to be adequate to allow smoking to take place.

In the matter of maintaining dignity in the Assembly I think that the best way for us to do that is to satisfy people with the laws and the policies that come out of the Assembly, that it is a dignified Assembly. I would refer to you the remarks of someone who is very well-known and respected for the comments that he made, and I refer to the one who said that it is not what goes into your mouth that is important but it is what comes out of it. If what comes out of this Assembly is worthy of respect, if it is wise and sensible, then the Assembly will be dignified even if we do puff while we are doing it.

I recognize, too, that there could be the matter of example. It is generally recognized that smoking may be injurious to an individual's health. Personally, I am not proud of the fact that I smoke. I certainly do not advocate others to do it and rather regret that I am addicted, but I am, and the question that must face me in speaking to this is, should I be setting an example to others in this? Well, I try setting an example in other ways -- in the matter of honesty, matter of industry and the matter of sobriety. This only goes to show that if I am unable to do it in this respect, well, I guess nobody is perfect in that case.

---Laughter

But at any rate, in summary, I do not think that it is something that needs to be done at this time and so I would say let us leave things as they are. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

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

Smoking Is Matter Of Health Not Decorum

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not concerned about these matters as to decorum. I think we probably all agree that when the Speaker is in the chair, there should not be smoking, food or beverages other than water. But when we are in committee of the whole, I am not as worried about that level of decorum. I think Members do not have to have their jackets on any more and they can loosen their ties and as far as I am concerned they can have food and beverages in here, if it will keep a quorum without having to have coffee breaks. But in the matter of smoking I do not think it is a matter of decorum, I think it is a matter of health. It has been proven that second-hand smoke causes cancer for people that are in close proximity, either living in the same house with someone who smokes or working in an area where someone smokes. That is one thing. It is a proven fact now that second-hand smoke causes cancer for non-smokers and the other factor is that there are some people who are quite allergic to smoke and if one of them were elected to this Assembly then where would you seat them?

So, I think it is not totally a matter of decorum, it is totally a matter that you are putting other peoples' health at risk, who are non-smokers. I support the concept of no smoking in the House, but as far as food and beverages go, in committee of the whole, I do not care what people have in committee of the whole as far as food and beverages go. I am going to support the motion but I would go along with some amendment that removed the food and beverages part. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be supporting this recommendation for health reasons. Some people are allergic to smoking and not too long ago in a public place someone was smoking and a little girl was allergic to it and as a result died. I think it is very important that we keep this in mind. If anybody wants to smoke they can always leave the room. It is not restricted. They can always go in the back and they can smoke all they want and come back. I am sure they can survive for another hour or so. It is not so much as an example either, my concern is more for health reasons. I sit among smokers many times and it really bothers me and yet you have to sit there and breathe this smoke because they are constantly puffing away from their faces, so therefore they are puffing into your face, so you are getting the worst end of it. It is not so much the smokers themselves but the non-smokers who get the worst end of it. For that reason, as large as the room may seem, you still have that smoke coming at you and I am going to be supporting this recommendation.

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

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I do not smoke that often but when we come to sessions I tend to buy packages of cigarettes and do smoke quite a bit. However, I am not addicted to smoking, as Mr. MacQuarrie, and I could pretty well refrain from smoking whenever I feel like it. I guess the other thing, Mr. Chairman, is that normally I do not smoke but I do chew snuff. There is nothing in here that says anything about chewing snuff. I was wondering about that. Mr. Chairman, I would be in support of this particular motion. Thank you.

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

Smoking Is Not A Health Example

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, with all due respect to my friends, I cannot avoid commenting on this. It is not just a matter of decorum or matter of informality, it is another thing much broader than that. I think some Members in the committee, when they were dealing with that, probably were concerned with the trend in some parts of the world and Canada and all over, that giving this kind of example is not necessarily the healthiest nor the way our young people should be heading. I think that was one of the primary reasons.

In that regard I think I would like to endorse the proposal here because I certainly would not want to restrict the freedom of an individual from smoking. We could not impose it upon them but likewise I normally tell my friends that do smoke that I like to have an equal opportunity when I am around them, that there is a bit of an inconvenience sitting among a majority of smokers, that it does affect your situation. So, in that regard if I want to smoke I should not be allowed to smoke in this House. I should be allowed to go where I could be comfortable and not irritate anybody and then I could enjoy it a lot more. I should be given that kind of privilege.

My friend here, my Keewatin colleague here, gave me one of his Export cigarettes and in one corner of the packet, it says, "Warning: Health and Welfare Canada advises that danger to health increases with amount smoked -- avoid inhaling." So therefore, I think that is good advice and I think we should all read this message and recommend to our younger generation that we are giving it one good example and I would respectfully like you to support the very important recommendation and it would likely increase your health. We are trying to make sure that you live longer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): I think this debate is getting out of hand here. To the motion. Mr. Richard, to the motion.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Curley made reference to recent trends and I think Members should consider that. The topic of smoking and dangers to one's health are very much being debated and spoken of in the public every day of the week. Mr. McCallum made reference to the fact that some of our observations when our committee visited the New Brunswick Legislature were that they permitted coffee there while the Speaker was in the chair and they permitted smoking in committee of the whole, as we do, but it is significant to note that while we were there one of the MLAs gave notice of a motion to have the entire Assembly building declared a smoke-free zone. Now, we do not know the outcome of it. We left, but I think it is significant that that kind of motion would be brought forward in a Legislature, going much further, of course, than this motion, which would permit Members to go into the Members' lounge to smoke. Also, Mr. Chairman, I noted on last night's news that no less an organization than the United States army yesterday announced that it would be implementing a no-smoking policy in any army facility throughout the world. As we know, the United States army has facilities throughout the world. They are going to have smoking zones in all of their facilities but basically no smoking throughout their facilities. Mr. Chairman, I would ask for the question.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

Health Problems Arising From Smoking

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, in terms of the issue at stake, I do not know why coffee or beverages are included with smoking. However, I would support this recommendation mainly because I certainly like to drink coffee but if I have to, I will give that up to have smoking not permitted in the House. The reason I would support that is because we do have a serious health problem in the

Northwest Territories and it is a well-known fact that many of our people smoke a considerable amount and it is very dangerous to health and many of our people probably would live a great deal longer if they did not smoke so much. The increase in lung diseases in the Northwest Territories is increasing and we do wish to say to a lot of people that in not smoking you could live longer and with the experience you gain it would be better if some of the people would live longer so that that experience that they have gained through the years can be passed on to the younger generation.

I believe that any parent will know that when you raise children you can often tell the child anything you wish but if you do not set an example, what you say is very quickly put aside as not being sincere and not being honest. I certainly appreciate that many people do have an addiction to cigarette smoking and perhaps with supporting this recommendation it will help them, to ease them out of that addiction because it is an addiction and it is a health hazard.

At this time there are many people that are not well, with many different types of diseases. The amount of money that is made available gives better health care for the new illnesses. So, I feel that there would be very little pain for a few people to not smoke at this time to set that example, that we are all willing to go a little way to say that we are willing to give up to show that it can be done. On the basis of the health problem as a result of smoking, I urge smokers to support this recommendation because it is not that far to go out the back door and there are the very nice lounge facilities we do have.

So, I would urge the smokers to say, "Well, this time let's try to set that example for the fact that there is a health problem in smoking." We all know it and no one can deny that. Thank you.

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion That No Smoking, Food Or Beverages Be Allowed In The Chamber, Carried

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Question is being called. All those in favour of the motion? Please keep up your hands so we can count them. Please keep them up so we can be sure. Thank you. Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

The motion is carried. Recommendation 15 has been adopted through a motion. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, the second part of Recommendation 15, I would like to deal with now. Just to explain what is happening. The current Rule 16(2)(c) and (e) says that strangers in the House cannot smoke or have food or beverages. The committee is recommending that those be deleted and that we simply write a new rule that would prohibit anybody in the chamber, including MLAs, from smoking, food, beverages, etc.

Motion To Delete Rule 16(2)(c) And (e) And Renumber Rule 16(2)(d)

So, I would move, Mr. Chairman, that Rule 16(2)(c) and (e) be deleted and that Rule 16(2)(d) be renumbered to read 16(2)(c).

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Point of order.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. MacQuarrie, your point of order.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Is the rule in effect the minute it is passed or can I finish my cup of coffee?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): It comes into effect at the next session.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Point of order, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Wray, your point of order.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps you could give me a clarification of my question then. In terms of the word "beverage", does this not also exclude water, given that the dictionary's definition of beverage is "a drinkable liquid"? Or, do we have to make an amendment to the motion to say "beverage other than water"? I just want to be correct on the rules here. If we are going to start using rules then we had better be clear.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): In regard to your point of order, Mr. Wray, I believe the Speaker will be interpreting the particular rule that you have supported. So, I am not really in a position to give you that interpretation. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, if I could help Mr. Wray on his need for clarification. The motion we have adopted calls on a new rule to be developed to govern everybody in the Assembly and when that is written -- issued by the Speaker presumably, I am sure there will be some clarification as to what is a beverage and what is not. So I do not think there needs to be an amendment or another motion at this time. Thank you.

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

Motion To Delete Rule 16(2)(c) And (e) And Renumber Rule 16(2)(d), Carried

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

---Carried

Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, moving to Rule 16, this next series of recommendations deals with miscellaneous or minor amendments to the rules and some of them deal with a number of procedural concerns brought before our committee by Mr. Speaker and the Clerk. There was a concern raised on these matters, that we clarify certain rules or rewrite them to be in accordance with current practices of the House.

Recommendation 16: Unprovided Cases

First, Recommendation 16. In Rule 1(2) it was felt that we had to clarify that one to include a reference to the customs not only of the House of Commons but also of other provincial and territorial legislatures as well. So, it is being recommended that that rule be rewritten to include those other references.

Motion To Delete Rule 1(2) And Replace With New Rule 1(2), Carried

I move that Rule 1(2) be deleted and replaced by the following: "In all cases not provided for in these rules or by other orders, the usages and customs of this Assembly and the House of Commons of Canada and all provincial and territorial legislatures as in force at the time, shall be followed so far as they may be applicable to this Assembly."

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Mr. Richard.

Recommendation 17: Adjournment For Lack Of Quorum

MR. RICHARD: Recommendation 17, Mr. Chairman, deals with Rule 6(2) which states that at the time of meeting, if there is not a quorum the Speaker may take the chair and adjourn. There has been some indication to our committee by some Members as to confusion as to what is meant by "the time of meeting". This recommendation simply seeks to clarify that uncertainty.

Motion To Add To Rule 6(2), Carried

I move that a new rule be added as follows: "The time for the meeting of the Assembly is at 1:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays and at 10:00 a.m. on Fridays."

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Mr. Richard.

Recommendation 18: Daily Adjournment

MR. RICHARD: Recommendation 18 deals with the hour for daily adjournment. Refer to Rule 5. This has to be changed because under Recommendation 14 that was adopted as amended we have changed the Friday hours.

Motion To Amend Rule 5, Carried

I move that Rule 5 be amended to change the hour of adjournment on Fridays from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Mr. Richard.

Recommendation 19: Motion To Extend Sitings

MR. RICHARD: Recommendation 19 deals with the motion that was permitted in the rules to extend the sitting hours. This is Rule 7(b) which indicates when that motion must be put and the committee is recommending that Rule 7(b) be changed to make clear the intent of that rule.

Motion To Delete Rule 7(b) And Replace With New Rule 7(b), Carried

I move that Rule 7(b) be deleted and replaced with the following: "the motion must be proposed prior to the scheduled time for daily adjournment".

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Mr. Richard.

Recommendation 20: Commissioner Seated With The Assembly

MR. RICHARD: Recommendation 20 deals with the Commissioner being seated within the Assembly. Currently Rule 12 permits the Commissioner to be seated within the Assembly during the committee of the whole. The special committee is aware that the Commissioner had indicated to the Assembly,

through the Speaker, that he would not sit in the House and thus the special committee feels that the rule is no longer required.

Motion To Delete Rule 12, Carried

I move that Rule 12 be deleted.

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Mr. Richard.

Recommendation 21: Amendments To Orders Of The Day

MR. RICHARD: Recommendation 21, Mr. Chairman, is as a result of the committee's recommendations which have thus far been adopted, changes to terminology and in the orders of the day. It requires an amendment to Rule 20(2) which currently sets out the daily routine of business.

Motion To Delete Rule 20(2) And Replace With New Rule 20(2), Carried

I move that Rule 20(2) be deleted and replaced with the following: "The daily routine of business in the Assembly shall be: 1. Prayer; 2. Ministers' Statements; 3. Members' Statements; 4. Returns to Oral Questions; 5. Oral Questions; 6. Written Questions; 7. Returns to Written Questions; 8. Replies to Opening Address; 9. Petitions; 10. Reports of Standing and Special Committees; 11. Tabling of Documents; 12. Notices of Motion; 13. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills; 14. Motions; 15. First Reading of Bills; 16. Second Reading of Bills; 17. Orders of the Day".

What happened to committee of the whole?

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

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, I should explain, if Members could turn in their green book to current Rule 20(2), it sets out that order. We are amending it slightly but Subrule (3) following it states that "The order of business for consideration of the Assembly after the daily routine shall be:" and then it goes into committee of the whole, etc. So it is not missing from the routine orders of the day. Thank you.

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

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Mr. Richard.

Recommendation 22: Debatable Motion

MR. RICHARD: The next recommendation, Mr. Chairman, is Recommendation 22. The special committee reviewed Rule 41 which lists motions which are not debatable. The committee after consideration at some length at its first meeting felt that there was some confusion in this area with regard to the motion to adjourn the debate. Members of the special committee felt that that motion should be debatable.

Motion To Delete Rule 41(e) And Replace With New Rule 41(e), Carried

I move that Rule 41(e) be deleted and replaced with the following: "41(e) to adjourn the committee of the whole or the House".

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

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I understand that when we went through the hours of sitting we did indicate some rationale for adjourning at 5:00 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. However, this motion indicates that if it is debatable, regardless if a Member is tired or not, that is not an excuse for an adjournment. I would understand that that would be the case then. You could get into quite a lengthy debate just to see the number of hours or the amount of time that is going to be used to debate whether to adjourn or not. Debate would probably go on to 6:00 p.m. if that is the case. I do not know whether having it debatable -- I believe it should not be debatable. There should be a vote and if people feel they can go on, then support it. If not, then they would defeat it. Thank you.

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

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, my apologies. I did not explain that well. If Members could turn to the green book, Rule 41(e), the rule currently states that all motions are debatable except the following list and in (e) it reads "to adjourn a debate". What the confusion is, Mr. Chairman, when we are in the Assembly and the Speaker is in the chair and there is a debate occurring as on my own motion this afternoon, and during that debate if someone popped up and said "I move that we adjourn this debate", our special committee feels that that motion should be debatable. Therefore, we want to take that Subrule (e), to adjourn a debate, and take it away from the lists of those motions that are not debatable. We are clarifying it by rewording (e) to say that to adjourn the committee of the whole or the House, that when we are in committee of the whole and someone wishes to report progress or moves that we adjourn committee of the whole, that is not debatable. The chairman would call the question. The change that we are making with this recommendation is that if someone rises during a debate and moves that that debate be adjourned to another time, that Member's motion would be subject to debate itself. I hope I have explained that, Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the chairman of the rules committee could explain why the Members now choose to make it debatable. For instance, I think the usual practice in the parliamentary system is that if the Member for one reason or another is either misbehaving or not conducting himself according to the rules of the House, the Speaker, normally without debate, names a Member and therefore suspends the Member from the service of the Assembly. I think that is the case. The previous rule under Rule 41(b) "to suspend a Member from the service of the Assembly", does that involve for instance, the term of the Member or just during the day? I wonder if you could clarify that for me, whether or not the Speaker would be able to name a Member to be withdrawn for the rest of the day and in that case that would be debatable?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Richard, would you like to clarify the point raised?

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, with all respect to my good friend Mr. Curley, his comment is not in order here. I am, on behalf of the committee, recommending a change to 41(e) and I would be prepared to discuss 41(b) with him some other time. It is not really part of my recommendation or motion.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Mr. Richard.

Recommendation 23: Amendments To Motions

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The next recommendation, number 23, deals with amendments to motions. If Members could refer to Rule 43. The special committee reviewed this rule which lists motions which can be made while a question is under debate. The committee felt that the reference to "for proceeding to another order" should be deleted as it is not used in our Assembly. So basically, Mr. Chairman, with this recommendation we feel clarifying with a little more certainty as to what Rule 43 means.

Motion To Delete Rule 43 And Replace With New Rule 43, Carried

I move that Rule 43 be deleted and replaced with the following: "When a question is under debate no motion should be received except to amend it, to postpone it to a day certain, to adjourn the debate or for the adjournment of the Assembly."

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Richard. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A question for you. If during a formal motion a Member wanted to make a motion to postpone it to a day certain, would he have to do that during the time that he is allowed to speak or could he make that motion at any time? The reason I ask is because you can make a motion to adjourn the House at any time. You can make a motion to amend but you have to wait until your turn to speak comes to make a motion to amend a formal motion. But I am just wondering if in terms of postponing until a day certain, can you do that at any time or would it have to be done during the time allocated to you to speak to formal motion?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Wray, if a Member has a motion, the Speaker has to recognize you to speak to the motion, at which time you are entitled to adjourn the debate on the motion. However, you cannot do it as a point of privilege or a point of order.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Question is being called. All those in favour of motion 23? Opposed, if any? The motion is passed.

---Carried

Recommendation 24, Mr. Richard.

Recommendation 24: Calling The Members

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, the next Recommendation 24 deals with calling in the Members when there is not a quorum and, again, this is fairly minor. The committee felt that we should clarify Rule 51(3), which now says that when there is no quorum on a question, the Speaker or chairman of the committee of the whole shall call in Members. Earlier in our rules, in Rule 6 it talks about the 15 minutes that the bells are to ring, and if there is no quorum then, there is to be an adjournment. This would simply clarify that when we are using Rule 51, we also refer to Rule 6(4) and (5).

Motion To Delete Rule 51(3) And Replace With New Rule 51(3), Carried

I would move that Rule 51(3) be deleted and replaced with the following: "If a quorum of Members is not present on a question, the Speaker or chairman of committee of the whole, as the case may be, shall call in the Members in accordance with Rule 6(4) and 6(5)."

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Richard. Your motion is in order.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Mr. Richard.

Recommendation 25: Departmental Officials

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Recommendation 25 deals with current Rule 66 which permits departmental officials to be seated near their favourite Minister when a bill is being considered. The special committee noted that this rule was not being followed in current practice and that the rule should be rewritten to reflect the current practice.

Motion To Delete Rule 66 And Replace With New Rule 66, Carried

I move that Rule 66 be deleted and replaced with the following: "When the House is sitting in committee of the whole to consider bills, the Minister in charge of the bill being considered may, with the consent of the committee of the whole, have departmental officials appear as witnesses to supply information as required."

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Richard. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Wray.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not know, maybe I am reading this wrong but it says, "Rule 66 currently permits 'departmental officials' to be seated near a Minister" and then it goes on to say that the rule has not been followed in current history, therefore the committee feel that this rule should be rewritten to reflect the current practice. What they are saying, first of all, is that Rule 66 currently permits departmental officials to be seated near a Minister. In what they are rewriting and what they are replacing it with are they making a distinction between behind and in the House? Oh, okay.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Question has been called. All those in favour of motion 25? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Recommendation 26, Mr. Richard.

Recommendation 26: Finance And Public Accounts Committee

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, Recommendation 26. Members are aware that we have amended the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act to split the former standing committee on finance and public accounts into two separate committees now. We are simply recommending that the rules reflect the new arrangement of two committees.

Motion To Amend Rule 84, Carried

I move that Rule 84 be amended to establish two separate standing committees, one on finance and one on public accounts.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Richard. Your motion is in order. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Recommendation 27, Mr. Richard.

Recommendation 27: Committee Quorum

MR. RICHARD: Recommendation 27 deals with the quorum of standing or special committees and Members could refer to Rule 89(3), which states that a quorum of a committee is to be specified in the motion establishing the committee. Our committee found that this is not the current practice as

the quorum is being set out in the committee's terms of reference, which are approved by the Assembly in any event, but it would simply clarify that current practice and change the rules to comply with the current practice.

Motion To Delete Rule 89(3) And Replace With New Rule 89(3), Carried

I move that Rule 89(3) be deleted and replaced with the following: "A quorum of any committee shall be specified in the committee's terms of reference."

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Richard. Your motion is in order. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Recommendation 28, Mr. Richard.

Recommendation 28: Minister/Executive Council Members

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, Recommendation 28 is consequential to the recent amendments to the Interpretation Act, changing the term of the eight gentlemen opposite from Executive Member to Minister and also the change of our ordinances to acts. The committee recommends that the rules should reflect these recent changes.

Motion That Rules Be Amended To Reflect Terminology Changes Through Amendments To Interpretation Act, Carried

I move that 1) Any and all references to "Executive Council Members" now contained in the rules be amended to read "Ministers". 2) Any and all references to "Council Ordinance" now contained in the rules be amended to read "Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act".

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Richard. Your motion is in order. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Mr. Richard, Recommendation 29.

Recommendation 29: Incorporation Date

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, the final formal recommendation of our committee at this point deals with the coming into force of the changes that we have just adopted on the 28 previous recommendations.

Motion That Amendments To Rules Shall Come Into Force On The First Day Of The Eighth Session Of The 10th Assembly, Carried

I move that each of the adopted recommendations that amend the rules shall come into effect commencing the first sitting day of the Eighth Session of the 10th Assembly.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Your motion is in order, Mr. Richard. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

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

---Carried

Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, I, on behalf of the special committee, wish to thank Members for their indulgence and patience through this very exciting process of making changes to our rules and procedures. The special committee has the mandate from this Assembly to continue with its work to provide a final report in the first session in 1987. The recommendations which have just been adopted deal with only some of the matters within our terms of reference. Most of them are matters of immediate concern that have been brought to our attention by the Speaker, by individual MLAs, by the caucus as a whole and by the MSB. The committee and the staff have continued since preparation of this report to work to fulfil its terms of reference and to investigate further matters that have been referred to it.

Some of the matters that we have not yet studied, Mr. Chairman, are conflict of interest, matters of confidence. On that I should note for Members, particularly Ministers, that the committee is entering into a contract with one of Canada's leading constitutional experts, a Prof. Eglinton to do a paper for us on what should or should not be questions of confidence in the consensus form of government which we currently have. Members will recall that earlier in this session there was a notice given of motion calling for resignation of a Minister. In other jurisdictions, where they have party politics, there are conventions and rules and customs established for when a Minister, or a government for that matter, must resign. We have nothing by way of custom, to the committee's knowledge, and we simply want to investigate this matter and possibly, Mr. Chairman, make recommendations in that area.

We are also going to study the question of privilege. We will perhaps as early as next week be making a recommendation on the use of petitions. On television in the Assembly, we have had an extensive meeting with the people in Toronto who are in an experimental period on the use of television. The committee structure is something we have not discussed in any length and other matters referred to us in caucus, being the procedural matters for the prayer and Sergeant-at-Arms.

On page 31, Mr. Chairman, there is a reference to our committee having had initial contact with representatives of the media. We will be working further in that area and will be reporting further to the Legislature on what we see as the role of the media in the Legislature. We may second Mr. Curley as an expert in that area.

There is a note in this report, Mr. Chairman, that our committee would be travelling to other jurisdictions. That has been done, as I mentioned earlier, and we will be providing a second, separate report on that trip later in this session.

Those, Mr. Chairman, conclude my remarks on our first report and in closing I would thank, for the record, Members of my committee: Mr. McCallum, Mr. Angottitauruq, Mr. Erkloo and the Hon. Tom Butters and also the staff, particularly Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Schauerte for their work to date. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Richard. Does the committee agree that the First Report of the Special Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges is concluded? Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): What is the committee's wish? Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, I indicated that government would be willing to proceed with Bill 7-86(1) if the committee wishes to examine that.

AN HON. MEMBER: Very fast.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Does the committee wish to deal with Bill 7-86(1) at this time? Progress is being called. Mrs. Lawrence, did you move progress? This is not debatable. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? Carried.

---Carried

I will rise now and report progress. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. Mr. Gargan.

ITEM 16: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF FIRST REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON RULES, PROCEDURES AND PRIVILEGES

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bills 1-86(1), 3-86(1), 5-86(1) and 7-86(1); Tabled Documents 37-86(1) and 42-86(1); First Report of the Special Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges; Report of the Standing Committee on Legislation on Bills and Other Matters, and wishes to report progress.

Mr. Speaker, your committee reviewed the First Report of the Special Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges and wishes to report that 17 motions were adopted and the matter is now concluded.

Motion To Accept Report Of Committee Of The Whole, Carried

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

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Carried

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

ITEM 18: ORDERS OF THE DAY

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Orders of the day for Friday, June 13th at 9:30 a.m.

1. Prayer
2. Members' Replies
3. Ministers' Statements
4. Oral Questions
5. Written Questions
6. Returns
7. Petitions
8. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
9. Tabling of Documents
10. Notices of Motion
11. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
12. Motions
13. First Reading of Bills
14. Second Reading of Bills
15. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters: Bill 13-86(1); Tabled Document 37-86(1); Bill 5-86(1); Bill 7-86(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. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until 9:30 a.m. Friday, June 13th.

---ADJOURNMENT

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