



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

8th Session

10th Assembly

HANSARD
Official Report
DAY 9

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1986

Pages 247 to 301

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

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Speaker

The Hon. Donald M. Stewart, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 1877
Hay River, N.W.T., X0E 0R0
Office (403) 874-2324
Home (403) 874-6560
Office (403) 873-7629 (Yellowknife)
(Hay River)

Angottitauruq, Mr. Michael, M.L.A.
Gjoa Haven, N.W.T.
X0E 1J0
Office (403) 360-6600
(Natilikmiot)

Appaqaq, Mr. Moses, M.L.A.
Sanikiluaq, N.W.T.
X0A 0W0
Home (819) 266-8808
(Hudson Bay)

Arlooktoo, Mr. Joe, M.L.A.
Lake Harbour, N.W.T.
X0A 0N0
Home (819) 939-2363
(Baffin South)

Ballantyne, The Hon. Michael, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 1091
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X1A 2N8
Office (403) 873-7658
Home (403) 920-2968
(Yellowknife North)
Minister of Justice and Housing

Butters, The Hon. Thomas H., M.L.A.
P.O. Box 908
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X1A 2N7
Office (403) 873-7128
Home (403) 920-4411 (Yellowknife)
(403) 979-2373 (Inuvik)
(Inuvik)
Minister of Finance

Cournoyea, Ms Nellie J., M.L.A.
P.O. Box 156
Tuktoyaktuk, N.W.T.
X0E 1C0
Office (403) 979-2737 (Inuvik)
Home (403) 977-2405
(Nunakput)

Curley, The Hon. Tagak E.C., M.L.A.
P.O. Box 36
Rankin Inlet, N.W.T.
X0C 0G0
Office (403) 873-7139
Home (819) 645-2951
(Aivilik)
Minister of Economic Development
& Tourism and Government Services

Erkloo, Mr. Elijah, M.L.A.
Pond Inlet, N.W.T.
X0A 0S0
Office (819) 899-8903
Home (819) 899-8845
(Amittuq)
Deputy Chairman, Committee of the
Whole

Gargan, Mr. Samuel, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 2131
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X1A 2P6
Office (403) 873-7999
Home (403) 699-3171
(Deh Cho)
Deputy Chairman, Committee of the
Whole

Lawrence, Mrs. Eliza, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 2053
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X1A 1W9
Office (403) 920-8052
Home (403) 873-2457
(Tu Nedhe)

MacQuarrie, Mr. Robert, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 2895
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X1A 2R2
Office (403) 873-7918
Home (403) 873-8857
(Yellowknife Centre)

McCallum, Mr. Arnold, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 454
Fort Smith, N.W.T.
X0E 0P0
Office (403) 872-3224
Home (403) 872-2246
(Slave River)

McLaughlin, The Hon. Bruce, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 2637
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X1A 2P9
Office (403) 873-7113
Home (403) 873-6200 (Yellowknife)
(403) 393-2939 (Pine Point)
(Pine Point)
Minister of Health and Social Services

Nerysoo, Mr. Richard W., M.L.A.
Fort McPherson, N.W.T.
X0E 0J0
Office (403) 979-7112 (Inuvik)
Home (403) 979-2668 (Inuvik)
(Mackenzie Delta)

Paniloo, Mr. Pauloosie, M.L.A.
Clyde River, N.W.T.
X0A 0E0
Office (819) 924-6336
Home (819) 924-6340
(Baffin Central)

Patterson, The Hon. Dennis G., M.L.A.
P.O. Box 310
Frobisher Bay, N.W.T.
X0A 0H0
Office (819) 979-5993 (Frobisher Bay)
(403) 873-7123
Home (819) 979-6618
(Iqaluit)
Minister of Education

Pedersen, The Hon. Red, M.L.A.
Coppermine, N.W.T.
X0E 0E0
Office (403) 873-7959
Home (403) 982-5221
(Kitikmeot West)
Minister of Renewable Resources and
Personnel

Pudluk, Mr. Ludy, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 240
Resolute, N.W.T.
X0A 0V0
Home (819) 252-3719
(High Arctic)

Richard, Mr. Ted, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 1320
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X1A 2L9
Office (403) 873-7920
Home (403) 873-3667
(Yellowknife South)

Sibbeston, The Hon. Nick G., M.L.A.
P.O. Box 560
Fort Simpson, N.W.T.
X0E 0N0
Office (403) 873-7112
Home (403) 695-2565
(Nahendeh)
Government Leader, Chairman of
Executive Council and Minister
of Culture & Communications

T'Seleie, Mr. John, M.L.A.
Fort Good Hope, N.W.T.
X0E 0H0
Home (403) 598-2325
(Sahtu)

Wah-Shee, Mr. James, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 471
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X1A 2N4
Office (403) 873-8099
Home (403) 873-8012
(Rae-Lac la Martre)
Deputy Speaker and Chairman,
Committee of the Whole

Wray, The Hon. Gordon, M.L.A.
Baker Lake, N.W.T.
X0C 0A0
Office (403) 873-7962
Home (819) 793-2700
(Kivallivik)
Minister of Municipal &
Community Affairs and
Public Works & Highways

Officers

Clerk
Mr. David M. Hamilton
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Clerk Assistant
Mr. Henry Zoe
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Law Clerk
Mr. Joel Fournier
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Editor of Hansard
Mrs. Marie J. Coe
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Sergeant-at-Arms
Mr. Gordon Barnes
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

TABLE OF CONTENTS
MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1986

	<u>PAGE</u>
Prayer	247
Ministers' Statements	
- 11-86(2) Acquisition of NCPC	247
- 12-86(2) Boards of Secondary Education	248
- 13-86(2) Law Reform Committee	249
- 14-86(2) Consumer Week	250
- 15-86(2) Employer Assessment Rates Set by Workers' Compensation Board for 1987	250
Members' Statements	
- Hon. Gordon Wray on Party Politics in the East	251
Returns to Oral Questions	251
Oral Questions	254
Written Questions	268
Returns to Written Questions	269
Replies to Opening Address	
- Ms Cournoyea's Reply	271
- Mr. Ballantyne's Reply	273
- Mr. Angottitauruq's Reply	276
Reports of Standing and Special Committees	280
Tabling of Documents	280
Notices of Motion	281
First Reading of Bills	
- Bill 2-86(2) Elections Act	281

TABLE OF CONTENTS (CONTINUED)

	<u>PAGE</u>
Second Reading of Bills	
- Bill 2-86(2) Elections Act	282
- Bill 7-86(2) Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 3, 1986-87	281
- Bill 9-86(2) Write-off Of Assets and Debts Act, 1986-87	282
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of:	
- Bill 7-86(2) Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 3, 1986-87	282
Report of Committee of the Whole of:	
- Bill 7-86(2) Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 3, 1986-87	300
Orders of the Day	300

YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1986

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Angottitauruq, Mr. Appaqaq, Mr. Arlooktoo, Hon. Michael Ballantyne, Hon. Tom Butters, Ms Cournoyea, Hon. Tagak Curley, Mr. Erkloo, Mr. Gargan, Mrs. Lawrence, Mr. MacQuarrie, Mr. McCallum, Hon. Bruce McLaughlin, Mr. Nerysoo, Mr. Paniloo, Hon. Dennis Patterson, Hon. Red Pedersen, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Richard, Hon. Nick Sibbeston, Hon. Don Stewart, Mr. Wah-Shee, Hon. Gordon Wray

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): Orders of the day for Monday, October 27th. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Butters.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement 11-86(2): Acquisition Of NCPC

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to advise Members that, in response to the direction from the House last June in the matter of the acquisition of NCPC, the Executive Council has made the following decisions:

- 1) To establish a fully integrated utility operation, subject to satisfactory conclusion of negotiations with the Government of Canada. This means that we will establish a company located in the NWT that will carry out all the normal functions of an electrical utility such as the generation, transmission and distribution of electrical power to NWT customers. These are the functions that NCPC does today. I will be returning to this point later, as a satisfactory conclusion to our negotiations is a paramount consideration in the devolution of NCPC to the NWT.
- 2) To examine more closely a number of alternatives before determining the method of transition management.
- 3) To commence financial negotiations with the Government of Canada on the basis of the following objectives: no financial dependence on this government's long-term fiscal framework; the NWT utility should be viable and self-sustaining in the long term; the transfer terms must be fair and reasonable for NWT consumers in the long term; there must be equitable treatment of NCPC employees. As a result of this decision, the deputy minister of Finance will commence financial negotiations with the federal government in early November. We remain committed to the conclusion of a final agreement by March 31st, 1987.

Our assessment of the financial capability of the NWT operations of NCPC has been exhaustive. We have included in this assessment a full review of the debt which NCPC attributes to the NWT rate zone, to ensure that the loans which are being discussed are properly attributable to assets employed in the service of NWT customers. Further, we are undertaking a major appraisal of the capital equipment in use in the NWT. All major assets will be inspected, including large diesel generators, hydro dams and works, transmission and distribution lines. Smaller isolated plants will be inspected on a selective basis. The results of this assessment will be available to us prior to concluding the financial agreement with the federal government.

There are many steps to be taken, Mr. Speaker, many matters to be resolved and much careful planning required in order to smoothly move NCPC from a federal crown corporation based in Edmonton, to an effective territorial crown corporation based in the NWT. We must accomplish all of this in as short a time as possible without a loss in the reliability of this essential service. We are going to need competent help in this task. I am reviewing two basic alternatives in this regard. One option is to develop now, the nucleus of our future management team. This team would work with the existing resources of NCPC and plan for the establishment of an efficient head office in the NWT. Alternatively, we would contract a competent agency to assist us with the transition, with a planned phase-out once our own operation is established. I will be working closely with my Executive colleagues on these options in the coming weeks.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, as I stressed at the outset, the objective of our negotiations is to ensure a stable and financially successful territorial utility company providing reliable and responsive service. This new utility must be able to finance the new capital equipment that will be needed to meet the demands of NWT consumers. All of this must be accomplished in an environment of reasonable rates; rates which are not subject to wide fluctuations as a result of unforeseen economic or natural disruptions.

Further, it must serve the NWT without drawing upon resources which this government would otherwise put to other important needs. We expect to achieve these objectives in our negotiations with the federal government. I expect to be able to inform this Assembly in the winter session of our substantial progress. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. Ministers' statements. Mr. Patterson.

Minister's Statement 12-86(2): Boards Of Secondary Education

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You will recall that at the June session I informed the Assembly that the Executive Council had approved the preparation of an amendment to the Education Act to provide for a form of governance for territorial secondary schools that provide programs on a regional basis.

The need for such legislation was prompted by the arrangement which is presently in place at the Sir John Franklin school in Yellowknife. For more than 25 years this school has provided high school programs to the graduates of the Yellowknife public education system and to the graduates of those other community schools where no high school programs are available. During all of this time the school was under the direct operational control of the Department of Education. For the most part the arrangement has been a satisfactory one and I am sure that Members will agree that the Sir John Franklin school provides excellent programs to all its students.

In recent years, however, the Yellowknife public board of education has repeatedly requested that it be given jurisdiction over the senior high school programs in its district. This request has received strong, consistent support from all Yellowknife MLAs, including my Executive Council colleague, Mr. Ballantyne. I welcomed that request but at the same time I received requests from the regional education representatives for assurances that any change to the existing arrangement would adequately provide for the needs of the regional students.

Mr. Speaker, the necessary discussions with the public board of education, the community education society for the Sir John Franklin school and the regional education representatives have been held and I am pleased to announce that a form of governance for the school has been determined. It has the approval of all the participants who will continue to be served by the school. The draft legislation has been prepared and will be tabled in this Assembly today. It is my plan to introduce the legislation during the winter session. If all goes as it is planned, the change in governance for the school should take place on April 1, 1987. Members, and other interested parties, will have an opportunity to examine the legislation and to make submissions to the standing committee on legislation.

Major Provisions Of Legislation

Mr. Speaker, I would, with your permission, like to take a minute more to highlight the major provisions of the proposed legislation. The legislation is general enabling legislation and can be used with any regional secondary school. It provides for an appointed board of secondary education

with members appointed by the Minister. In choosing such members, the Minister must consider the areas of the Territories that the school serves. Although all employees of the board remain in the public service, the board will have the authority to select and appoint all staff, to determine their duties and to generally administer and manage the school. Funding will be by way of an annual contribution from the Department of Education. The board will determine the program to be offered, subject to the approval of the Minister.

As mentioned, the legislation is drafted to give the Minister the flexibility to adjust the details of the form of governance to meet the individual school situation. For the Sir John Franklin school, it has been agreed that the board will consist of seven members. Four members will be appointed from the public board of education, three members will come from the regions. Instead of setting up an administration unit, the board of secondary education has the option to contract those services from the public board of education. The department will retain ownership of the facilities, pay all utility costs and perform all major maintenance. The board will advise the Minister on major capital requirements. The board can call its own meetings and by agreement, will ensure that there is at least one regional member present at each meeting. The department will continue to provide the necessary funds to meet the special needs of the students entering the school. These, and many more additional details will be included in the memorandum of understanding that will be entered into by the Minister of Education and the board of secondary education for the Sir John Franklin school.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that what is being proposed is the best solution that can be put forward at this time. In a sense it is an interim solution. As the capability to provide high school programs at the community level increases, and as the number of regional students at Sir John Franklin school decreases, the necessity to retain the school as a territorial school will disappear. At that time, subject to further discussions and agreements, the board of secondary education will be dissolved and the school transferred to the Yellowknife public board of education. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. The Chair would like to recognize Judge Jim Slaven, chief territorial court judge. Welcome to this Assembly.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Ballantyne.

Minister's Statement 13-86(2): Law Reform Committee

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to advise the House that I have now appointed the first Northwest Territories law reform committee. The committee will be chaired by the Hon. Mr. Justice T. David Marshall and for the present will consist of the following members: Ms Katherine Peterson, the president of the Law Society of the Northwest Territories; Mr. Geoff Bickert, the representative of the federal Department of Justice in Yellowknife; Mr. Gord Gamble, chairman of the Legal Services Board; Ms Carol Roberts, from the private bar; and Mr. Stien K. Lal, my deputy minister.

The law reform committee of the Northwest Territories has been set up by me in response to the concerns expressed in this House by honourable Members about the lack of law reform capability in the Territories. In view of the size of the population of the Northwest Territories and the limited resources available to us, I have decided at this stage not to establish a law reform committee on the lines of southern jurisdictions. Instead, the law reform committee will consist of volunteer participation and will receive research and secretariat capability from within the Department of Justice.

In contrast to the law reform bodies in the South, the mandate and terms of reference of the committee will be directed toward problems peculiar to the Northwest Territories and its predominantly aboriginal population. The committee will, I hope, address such issues as the adoption of aboriginal customary law into our present system and the statutory recognition of such concepts as customary adoptions.

The committee will have a free mandate to consider all law reform issues that are of special interest to the Northwest Territories. In addition to the topics of special concern in the Northwest Territories, the committee will consider existing legislation of the Northwest Territories and recommend appropriate changes to it. In particular, legislation such as the Companies Act, the Securities Act, and family law legislation are areas that the committee will be reviewing.

Impact Of Use Of Aboriginal Languages In Administration Of Justice

As its first item of business, the committee has undertaken the study of the impact of the proposed amendment to the Jury Act, which will allow a person who speaks only an aboriginal language to sit on a jury in the Northwest Territories. As a result of that amendment, it will be necessary to put in place appropriate administrative capability to implement the proposed act and to consider all legal questions arising out of the proposed amendment. The committee is presently considering the amendment and will be making a full report to me in due course.

Mr. Speaker, I am very mindful of the motion of this House to give a report on the administrative resources which will be needed before the amendment is proclaimed. The Department of Justice is in the process of finalizing a contract to study in detail the impact on the department of the use of aboriginal languages in the administration of justice. Once the study is concluded, the department will be in a better position to know what resources will be required.

Mr. Speaker, I have also sought the co-operation of aboriginal organizations in the Northwest Territories to name representatives to a committee on aboriginal justice issues. This committee, which I hope to establish shortly, will provide me with advice on issues that are of particular concern to aboriginal people of the Northwest Territories. I am hopeful that through their advice I will be able to address some of the concerns of the aboriginal people.

These are small beginnings but, in my view, they are very important beginnings. These initiatives will result in giving law reform capability to the Northwest Territories for the first time. I am very pleased with the co-operation extended to me by the judiciary and the bar in launching this important project. It is a step long overdue. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Ballantyne.

Minister's Statement 14-86(2): Consumer Week

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to announce that I have proclaimed this week as consumer week in the Northwest Territories. We are all consumers, and I believe it is important that we should be aware of our rights and responsibilities as such. As a government we have a responsibility to ensure that consumers are protected in a number of ways. For example, we have laws with respect to door-to-door sales, we enforce compliance with federal product safety regulations, and we ensure that only qualified persons are registered or licensed in such areas as the practice of medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, insurance, etc.

Our government has introduced a program for providing information on a wide range of consumer-related matters. Our brochures, newsletters and other printed information are distributed to communities throughout the Territories. In this manner, we hope to reach all consumers, thus making them more aware and capable of making wise decisions on all day-to-day consumer matters. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. McLaughlin.

Minister's Statement 15-86(2): Employer Assessment Rates Set By Workers' Compensation Board For 1987

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Later today I shall table, on behalf of the Workers' Compensation Board, the employer assessment rates set by the board for 1987. These are the rates used in calculating the amounts that employers pay to insure their workers for compensation in the event of injury at work. I am pleased to tell the House that the assessment

rates for 1987 show an overall reduction of around 25 per cent compared with the 1986 rates. As a result, and allowing for the increase in the maximum insurable remuneration from \$30,400 to \$36,800, the board will be collecting 13.7 per cent less revenue from employers in 1987 and the vast majority of employers will be paying less for workers' compensation in 1987 than they paid in 1986.

This is a very satisfactory state of affairs from my point of view, Mr. Speaker. The higher insurable maximum will bring improved benefits, particularly to widows and dependant children, and the reduced assessment rates will bring significant cost relief to the employers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 2, Ministers' statements. That appears to conclude Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Wray.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Party Politics In The East

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On October 24th in this House there was an announcement made in a rather jocular fashion and probably received in even a more jocular fashion...

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. GORDON WRAY: ...that in the upcoming election in 1987 Liberal candidates will be run in the election in some ridings. As a member of the Nunatsiak Liberal Association, this caused me great concern, Mr. Speaker, as discussions with Yukon and southern politicians have convinced me at this point in time party politics would be a major step backwards in the evolution...

---Applause

...of responsible government in the Northwest Territories. After discussions with the president of the Nunatsiak Liberal Association...

MR. RICHARD: Federal.

HON. GORDON WRAY: ...he has assured me that no decision has been taken in our area with regard to party politics.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: It was implied.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Who is on whose side?

HON. GORDON WRAY: And if such a decision were to be made, Mr. Speaker, then in true Liberal Party fashion, it would be made only after full public debate at the regional and community level and not at a gathering of private individuals in the confines of a private home in the suburbs of Yellowknife. Thank you.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Yellowknife South.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Wray. Item 3, Members' statements. That appears to conclude this item. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Mr. Sibbeston.

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

Further Return To Question 050-86(2): Cotterill Report On Fort Smith Region

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, this is the response to Question 050-86(2), asked by Mr. McCallum on October 21st, 1986 regarding the Cotterill report. The purpose of the study conducted

by Ewan Cotterill and Associates was to consider alternative organizational structures to the existing Fort Smith Region that would allow for more efficient and effective program and service delivery within the current and projected organizational needs of the territorial government.

The Executive Council reviewed the report against such criteria as: government direction relating to the fair allocation of regional resources; the optimum use of available financial resources and physical infrastructure; and program accessibility to those being served.

One of the key findings of the Cotterill report was that the Fort Smith Region, the region in closest proximity to headquarters with the most highly-developed municipal governments and best transportation and communications facilities and systems, has the greatest number of intermediate organizational levels and the largest number of staff assigned to co-ordinating and support functions both in terms of the number of positions and as a percentage of total positions. It was discovered that of all the regions in the Northwest Territories the Fort Smith Region had the highest number of managers. The Executive Council has accepted the concept of three area offices with managers reporting directly to headquarters, rather than the current situation of area offices reporting to regional offices, which in turn report to headquarters. We accept that this extra level of bureaucracy should be removed. The consultant has recommended area offices in Fort Smith, Fort Simpson and Rae-Edzo.

Adoption of this new organizational structure will obviously have implications for our staff, particularly in the town of Fort Smith, and for the town itself. The Executive Council is particularly conscious of this government's responsibilities to our staff. It is the government's intention to review the staff housing policy to safeguard employees who own their own homes.

The town of Fort Smith has enjoyed a steady influx of GNWT positions over the past several years. Preliminary estimates indicate approximately 25 positions could be relocated to area centres. This, in effect, means less than seven per cent of the GNWT establishment in Fort Smith would be affected. There is no reason to suppose that the growth experienced by Fort Smith in the past, related to GNWT programs, will not continue in future years.

The Executive Council is very aware that implementation of the new organizational structure must be carried out carefully and in a manner which does not interrupt program delivery. Therefore, I am pleased to advise that Gary Black, regional director in Fort Smith, has been assigned the responsibility for implementation. I expect that Mr. Black will complete the implementation plan by March 31, 1987. Mahsi.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Mr. Curley.

Return To Question 058-86(2): Relocation Of Tank Farm Dispenser, Gjoa Haven

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Return to Question 058-86(2), asked by Mr. Angottitauruq on October 22nd, 1986, regarding location of fuel dispensing unit at Gjoa Haven.

Concern has been expressed that the government's fuel dispensing unit is too close to a residential building and is therefore posing a safety hazard. Departmental officials have followed up on this matter. The September 1986 fire marshal's report indicates that the existing location of the dispensing unit is within the national fire code and that there is no safety or fire hazard. We have examined other options in relocating the dispensing unit but they are costly, ranging from a capital expenditure requirement from \$100,000 to \$150,000. Because of these costs and the fact that the present location is not a safety hazard, we do not intend to move the dispensing unit. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Mr. Wray.

Return To Question 095-86(2): Construction Of Community Gym, Hay River Reserve

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Return to Question 095-86(2), asked by Mr. Gargan on October 24th, in regard to a community gym on the Hay River Reserve.

My department has budgeted funding this fiscal year to plan and design a primary community gym on the Hay River Reserve and has included in its plan for the 1987-88 fiscal year, funding to construct this facility. Providing that the Legislative Assembly approves my department's 1987-88 capital main estimates during the February budget session, the Hay River Reserve primary community gym will be completed in the 1987-88 fiscal year. Thank you.

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

Further Return To Question 087-86(2): Status Of Revision Of Statutes And Regulations

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Return to Question 087-86(2), asked by Mr. Richard on October 24th, concerning the revision of the Northwest Territories statutes.

This return is in response to the oral question asked by the Member for Yellowknife South seeking a status report on the revision of the Northwest Territories statutes. I am pleased to inform the honourable Member that I am in the process of completing all the final preparations for the commencement of the revision. The process will begin on 1st December, 1986, and is expected to be completed by 31st March, 1989. The first three months of the project will be utilized to prepare the various manuals to establish the procedures and style to be adopted in the revision and a revision bill which I hope to introduce next year.

My department is also finalizing arrangements with the office of the Secretary of State to carry out translation of the revised statutes on a piecemeal basis as they become ready in English. The result of this co-ordinated approach will be that the revised statutes of the NWT will become available in both English and French at the same time and hopefully in time to meet the dates set out in the Official Languages Act. Thank you.

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

Return To Question 083-86(2): Assistance In Purchasing Kerosene

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to Question 083-86(2), asked by Mr. Arlooktoo on October 23rd, concerning assistance for kerosene.

As the Department of Government Services has not been involved in providing kerosene to communities, it does not have any funding to provide assistance to get the product to the communities. However, I will be writing to the retail stores, such as co-ops, to ask if there is a demand for the product, why they are not offering it to their customers. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Returns to oral questions. Mr. McLaughlin.

Further Return To Question 022-86(2): Transportation For Patients At Airports

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to Question 022-86(2), asked by Mr. Angottitauruq on October 20th, regarding transportation for patients at airports.

In his question, Mr. Angottitauruq expressed his concern that unilingual Inuit patients from the Kitikmeot Region are stranded at the airport, from time to time, while on medical travel. Because of the communication problems, it can be a long time until these patients receive the help they need. This is a source of great discomfort to these people, and understandably, they may be reluctant or fearful to travel again for medical reasons. I agree with Mr. Angottitauruq that this situation must not be allowed to continue. The medical services branch and the Department of Health should be seeking ways of minimizing, if not totally eliminating, such unfortunate occurrences.

I will be instructing my staff in the Department of Health to develop a permanent solution that could be implemented, hopefully in the next two to three months, to alleviate the situation in Yellowknife. The Department of Health would bear the cost. I must emphasize, however, that any solution we propose to implement must have the support of Health and Welfare Canada, as the co-operation of their staff would be required for the idea to work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Replies to oral questions. Mr. Government Leader.

Return To Question 094-86(2): Response To Question 053-86(2), And Further Return To Question 053-86(2): Policy Regarding Senior Civil Servants Entering Private Business Enterprise

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, a reply to Question 094-86(2), asked by Mr. Wah-Shee on October 24th, regarding restrictions on senior managers.

At present the territorial government does not have a policy that would prevent a senior manager from entering business after leaving the government. However, some consideration has been given to this matter, particularly where a conflict of interest might arise. I have asked the Minister of Personnel to examine this issue to determine if a policy is required in this area and, if so, how it might be implemented and enforced.

Return To Question 076-86(2): Criteria For Capital Plan

Mr. Speaker, I also have a return to Question 076-86(2), asked by Ms Cournoyea on October 22nd, regarding capital allocation criteria.

In response to Ms Cournoyea's request concerning the criteria of community needs used to set capital allocations, I will be tabling this document under the appropriate item on the order paper.

Return To Question 077-86(2): Recommendations Re Downturn In Economy Related To Capital Plan

Lastly, my response to Question 077-86(2), asked by Ms Cournoyea on October 22nd, concerning the relationship of the working group on the downturn in the economy to the capital planning process.

Mr. Speaker, the working group has no direct role in the capital planning process. It is possible that economic strategies developed by the ministerial action force could have an impact on the capital planning process in future years, but it is impossible at this time to predict the nature or extent of that impact. I will be tabling the terms of reference of the ministerial action force on economic development for the information of all Members at the appropriate time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Government Leader. Returns to oral questions. That appears to conclude this section for today. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Nerysoo.

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 096-86(2): Tabling Of Report On Review Of Fort Smith Region

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a question for the Government Leader. In response to an oral question, he suggested that the review of decentralization with regard to Fort Smith had been concluded. I was wondering if the honourable Member is going to table in this House the conclusion or the report itself so that we, in this House, could consider discussing, thoroughly, that particular document?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Return To Question 096-86(2): Tabling Of Report On Review Of Fort Smith Region

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker. I have considered the matter and before the Assembly ends, I would be prepared to table a background paper which the Executive used in considering the matter and making that available to Members of this Assembly. I would be prepared to do that tomorrow or the day after.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Wah-Shee.

Question 097-86(2): Former Deputy Ministers Using Information For Personal Gain

MR. WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Government Leader. In regard to the response to the question I raised earlier, is there a policy in existence now in regard to your deputy ministers when they leave their posts, where there is a possibility that they may be using the information they have for monetary gain? Do you have any existing policy now in place in regard to when those individuals leave their posts?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Return To Question 097-86(2): Former Deputy Ministers Using Information For Personal Gain

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, my response, I believe, indicated that we do not have a policy at the moment. Most of our deputy ministers are long-time career civil servants and they have taken the job as deputy ministers based on their long career and service to our government. We are

considering starting a practice of entering into agreements or contracts for certain provisions with respect to any new persons that will be hired on as deputy ministers and attempting to deal with their eventual departure should they do so. This whole area of the responsibility or role of deputy ministers is a new one for our government because of the growth of responsible government. So, it is an area that we are simply entering and as we get further into it, and gain more experience, we will obviously be better able to deal with the matter. So it is a matter that is under review and I would be pleased to provide information to the Member as soon as possible when we have finalized our consideration in dealing with this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Wah-Shee.

Supplementary To Question 097-86(2): Former Deputy Ministers Using Information For Personal Gain

MR. WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a former Minister responsible for Personnel, did he not feel that there was a need for such a clear-cut policy in that area since, of the two former deputy ministers of Economic Development and Tourism, it would appear that the first one is now into private enterprise and there is really nothing stopping the one who most recently resigned from using his knowledge in regard to the various programs that he has been involved in negotiating between the federal and territorial governments. So when he was the Minister of Personnel, did he not see a need at that time to establish such a policy?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Further Return To Question 097-86(2): Former Deputy Ministers Using Information For Personal Gain

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker. Deputy ministers or managers of our government in the senior levels take an oath of secrecy on entering the service which they undertake. On the question of whether I was aware when I was Minister of Personnel, no, I was not. I did not anticipate, I guess, that the deputy minister of Economic Development would be leaving and that whole experience of deputy ministers leaving is a new phenomenon, I guess, in our government. So when I was Minister, I was not conscious of a need to quickly develop a policy. But from my short experience, I could see where it would be to our benefit to have such a policy in place. As I said, I raised the matter with the present Minister of Personnel and he has undertaken to review the matter. In due course, I hope that we will have a policy that deals with this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Government Leader. Supplementary, Mr. Wah-Shee.

Supplementary To Question 097-86(2): Former Deputy Ministers Using Information For Personal Gain

MR. WAH-SHEE: Thank you. I wonder then if the Minister could indicate what is the policy right now in regard to all the deputy ministers and top management who are under the Hay Plan? Are they required to sign some sort of commitment or an agreement between the administration and themselves that, in the event that they should leave their posts, what the time period is in which they agree they will not enter into business enterprise that may put them in a situation where they may be in direct conflict of interest? Do they sign such an agreement? And if not, why not?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sibbeston.

Further Return To Question 097-86(2): Former Deputy Ministers Using Information For Personal Gain

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, we do not have a policy at the moment. We do not have an effective means of dealing with managers in the high levels of government, as it relates particularly to their conduct and activity once they leave our government. But, as I said, I will look into the matter. We do not sign agreements with them covering this particular aspect of their employment or departure. It is one that we will obviously have to look at.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Pudluk.

Question 098-86(2): Regional Involvement With Acquisition Of NCPC

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was very happy to hear Minister's Statement 11-86(2), read by the Minister of Finance. I would like to ask him, because this is going to be very important to the NWT, will NCPC be advertising these consultations in the regions and who will be able to participate in these? I do understand. I would like to find out now whether the regional governments will be able to participate in this.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister

Return To Question 098-86(2): Regional Involvement With Acquisition Of NCPC

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, the major element in which the various regional offices will be involved, I expect will be in assisting the company chosen to do the assets review and to carry out that review in the various settlements chosen. At that time my expectation is that they will be requesting assistance from the regional offices and working with the communities in which they may be carrying out the assets review. I do not know what other type of consultation the Member might be foreseeing here and if he has some other specifics, maybe he could direct me to that question.

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

Question 099-86(2): Centre For Teaching And Learning, Igloolik

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Education. On September 16 the education authority made a motion that a language centre be in Igloolik. The Igloolik residents have the experience of handling and have been working for some time on the Inuktitut teaching curriculum. I think there is a slight mistake in the motion that they made. Would you be able to provide a centre if the Baffin Divisional Board of Education approved it?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question 099-86(2): Centre For Teaching And Learning, Igloolik

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, some time this summer I asked the Baffin Divisional Board of Education to give me advice on what would be an appropriate location for the proposed centre for teaching and learning in the Baffin Region, which will be established in the coming fiscal year. I am aware that the education council in Igloolik is in strong support of the centre being established there but I have yet to receive the recommendation from the Baffin divisional board. So without receiving that recommendation I am not prepared to give a definite answer to the Member today. I understand the divisional board is meeting this week to consider this important matter and once I receive their advice I will be making a decision quite quickly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, then you are taking the question as notice.

The Chair would like to recognize our MP, Dave Nickerson, a former colleague of this House.

---Applause

Supplementary, Mr. Erkloo.

Supplementary To Question 099-86(2): Centre For Teaching And Learning, Igloolik

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question. If Baffin Divisional Board of Education approve this resolution from Igloolik, I would like to find out if the Minister would support the resolution of the Baffin Divisional Board of Education, asking for the centre to be in Igloolik, not in Frobisher Bay. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Location is the question, I presume. Mr. Patterson.

Further Return To Question 099-86(2): Centre For Teaching And Learning, Igloolik

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as I told the Member I am waiting for the recommendation from the divisional board before I make a decision. I think it would be premature to say at this point what I will do since I have yet to receive their recommendation. I do have to consider whether adequate space is available in the location which the divisional board might recommend since there is no capital money available for this facility. So it is premature for me now to make any kind of a commitment without receiving their recommendation and studying the matter thoroughly. But I can assure the Member I will be as fair and objective as I always have been in these matters. Thank you.

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

Question 0100-86(2): New School For Gjoa Haven

MR. ANGOTTITAUQU: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will direct this question to the Minister of Education. I tabled a document on October 26th, Tabled Document 4-86(2). It is about a new school for Gjoa Haven and the community is not happy about it. I would like to get the Minister to reply to me on this question if possible today. If he has to take notice I will not mind getting a reply in that way.

According to the community, they were not consulted in the planning stage on that and they were given notice when the plans were already done. I would like to know if there is any special planning for the future on that matter, on the way the school is going to be built? They have portable classrooms and they have a larger school. In their letter they had all kinds of comments...

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. ANGOTTITAUQU: Well, I am asking. Sorry. The question is, does his department have a long-term plan on the way they are building that school with two offices? That is the question. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 0100-86(2): New School For Gjoa Haven

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, Mr. Speaker, we do have a long-term plan for that community. In essence, as I explained to the chairman of the Gjoa Haven education society this past weekend, after carefully examining the feasibility of adding to the existing school, the Department of Public Works has recommended that it is not feasible to add onto the existing school. There is not enough land. The land that is available is unsuitable and, furthermore, an addition would block window space in existing classrooms. So, Mr. Speaker, it has been determined that since there is a need for additional class space in Gjoa Haven, the best way to handle it would be to build a stand-alone elementary school beginning in the next fiscal year. Construction would begin this summer. This first stage, which would be a seven classroom addition, would allow the delivery of a kindergarten to grade four program. In the long run the design is planned so that there can be a further addition to bring the elementary school up from kindergarten to grade eight and the existing school would then become a junior high school which could accommodate grades nine to 12. That is the long-range plan, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Question 0101-86(2): Account For Gasoline, Sanikiluaq

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Economic Development. I asked this question before about the item of gasoline. I am asking for the individuals that have employment. I was wondering if they could get an account set up. The contractor in Sanikiluaq has said that sometimes it is very hard to do. But when we have to go looking for somebody that is missing, it is very uncomfortable. So I was wondering if there is something we could do about this. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Curley.

Return To Question 0101-86(2): Account For Gasoline, Sanikiluaq

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In government departments and other agencies if they are going to buy gasoline -- in small businesses and I think it is in all the communities, it is hard to get an account. You have to pay right away to get the gasoline. Maybe bigger companies can get credit but individuals would find it hard to get credit. This was a previous policy of Shell Canada and we will be speaking to Shell Canada in the coming year. They have problems in POL. For Sanikiluaq we will not stop these negotiations with Shell Canada, in regard to your question. Thank you.

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

Question 0102-86(2): Composition Of Law Reform Committee

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a question to the Minister of Justice. Mr. Speaker, the honourable Minister of Justice, Mr. Ballantyne, made a statement today with regard to a law reform committee. Did the honourable Member request participation of the native organizations, Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik and the native courtworkers of the Northwest Territories, in the law reform committee, to deal with such issues as statutory recognition for customary adoptions or aboriginal customary law or a review of the amendment to the Jury Act to allow for aboriginal people to participate in the jury process?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ballantyne.

Return To Question 0102-86(2): Composition Of Law Reform Committee

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It was a fairly complex undertaking to put together this package. The actual law reform committee will be dealing with the technicalities of law. In order to respond to what I know would be a concern of this House, what I have asked is co-operation of aboriginal organizations to name representatives to a committee on aboriginal justice issues that will be able to present their concerns directly to me as Minister. I think in that way I will be able to handle those concerns. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Nerysoo.

Supplementary To Question 0102-86(2): Composition Of Law Reform Committee

MR. NERYSOO: Supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I am not opposed to the idea of the law reform committee, but I do have a concern on the comments made by the Minister that native people do not comprehend the technicalities of the court process. In reality you do have legal support in native organizations, in particular in Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik we have two legal people available who can participate in developing the process or refining the technical process with regard to the court procedure. So I am wondering, Mr. Speaker, is the Minister prepared to consider recommendations from the aboriginal organizations, for individuals to sit on the law reform committee?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 0102-86(2): Composition Of Law Reform Committee

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One of the problems that I have to deal with as Minister is that historically, law reform commissions, or in this case committees, are non-political. To make them political really undoes what they are trying to accomplish. What I tried to do is separate the process into two separate functions. One function will be the technical aspects of it where we have a judge, a representative from the federal department and as Mr. Nerysoo suggested, a private citizen, Mr. Gamble, who will be sitting there as a private citizen. As the Member knows, Ms Carol Roberts is an aboriginal person and a lawyer who will be a representative also, on the law reform committee. But in order to keep it non-political, the advice I have -- and I think it was sound. I have gone to the aboriginal groups and planned to set up a separate body to give me advice. I can take that advice and put it through my deputy minister into the law reform committee.

It was difficult, and those particular concerns that you brought forth are ones that we wrestled with. I think we were able to come up with something which will be non-political and also will be able to incorporate the concerns of the aboriginal people of the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Nerysoo.

Supplementary To Question 0102-86(2): Composition Of Law Reform Committee

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is the honourable Minister prepared to consider the recommendation from a non-political organization such as Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik and the native courtworkers to have representatives and be part of the law reform committee?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 0102-86(2): Composition Of Law Reform Committee

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, of course I am prepared to consider those recommendations.

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

Question 0103-86(2): Possibility Of Changing Plans For School, Gjoa Haven

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Regarding Tabled Document 4-86(2), I made a mistake. I said October 26th but it should have been October 16th. Since I know the long-term plan of the government, the Department of Education, what would happen if that community went very strongly against the idea of the government and wanted to try to make changes? They said on their document, their letter to me, that one of those decisions is on what kind of a building we want and need. What would happen if they tried to change the government's plan for that building?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 0103-86(2): Possibility Of Changing Plans For School, Gjoa Haven

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, there is a sizable amount of money budgeted in the capital plan for next fiscal year to construct this new school addition. I have discussed the concerns of the community with the Minister of Public Works. Their concern mainly is that instead of building a stand-alone elementary school, we should try to add on to the existing school. Mr. Wray advised me that what the community wants is probably technically possible, although not recommended by experts, but that the plans are now so far along that if there is a strong desire to abandon the plans that are in place, the community wishes would certainly delay any construction next year and would put the addition of classroom space in Gjoa Haven off at least a year, if not longer, as well as increase the costs considerably.

So the short answer, Mr. Speaker, is that if the community wants us to abandon plans that are in place, any classroom additions will be delayed and we will have to find significantly more money than is presently budgeted -- and that will be difficult. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 0104-86(2): Financial Implications Of Cotterill Report Recommendations

MR. MCCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question to the Government Leader. Given that the study conducted by Ewan Cotterill and Associates in connection with the regional organization was to include an identification of the financial implications of the proposed organization in terms of personnel and budget and in terms of new and expanded infrastructure, can I ask the Government Leader if he would indicate to the House, what are the financial implications of this review?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Return To Question 0104-86(2): Financial Implications Of Cotterill Report Recommendations

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, the Cotterill report has identified that the reorganization that the report talks about will cost this government an additional three million dollars in capital structures. But at the same time, there will be a saving of \$700,000 in O and M costs per year.

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

Supplementary To Question 0104-86(2): Financial Implications Of Cotterill Report Recommendations

MR. MCCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A supplementary question to the Government Leader. He indicated in his press release that there is no reason to suppose the growth experience will not continue and that it is his intention to review the staff housing policy to safeguard employees. Can I ask the Minister what he is doing to safeguard the socio-economic impact on the town of Fort Smith in relation to this particular move that he intends to implement by March 31st?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Further Return To Question 0104-86(2): Financial Implications Of Cotterill Report Recommendations

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, the government, in deciding as it did to pursue some of the recommendations made by Mr. Cotterill, is very conscious of the economic state of Fort Smith. The government is considering a number of possibilities with respect to decentralization of certain government activities that are presently handled in headquarters here. That is a matter that is ongoing since I committed myself to do so a number of months ago. I cannot be very specific, Mr. Speaker, with respect to possibilities or what the government may do in the future with regard to the economic future of the town, but it is a matter that is on the minds of the Executive Members and so the government is sensitive to that. I prefer to await a number of months. As I indicated in my statement, Mr. Black will provide a plan to our government with respect to the implementation of the changes and at the same time, our Executive will consider what could be done to promote and enhance the economic viability of Fort Smith.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Government Leader. Supplementary, Mr. McCallum.

Supplementary To Question 0104-86(2): Financial Implications Of Cotterill Report Recommendations

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A further question of the Minister. Have the 25 positions been identified as to what the positions are? Could he indicate to me of that 25, how many of those present employees, incumbents, own their own homes in the town of Fort Smith?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Government Leader.

Further Return To Question 0104-86(2): Financial Implications Of Cotterill Report Recommendations

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, yes, the 25 positions are outlined in Mr. Cotterill's report. They essentially surround the Executive, the regional directors and staff. We do not have information concerning those employees, who may be moved, as to whether they own their own houses or not. That is a matter that, I guess, we will be dealing with and, as indicated, the government is sensitive and conscious of the adverse effect that our decision may have on any home-owners in Fort Smith. It is a matter that we are prepared to deal with when the matter arises.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. Supplementary, the final supplementary, Mr. McCallum.

Supplementary To Question 0104-86(2): Financial Implications Of Cotterill Report Recommendations

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I asked the Government Leader if he would table in the House what those positions are.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 0104-86(2): Financial Implications Of Cotterill Report Recommendations

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker. I am loath to provide the Member with this detail at this moment because the 25 positions that are outlined in the report are just recommendations to our government. We are considering the recommendations in the whole and are not certain whether those positions outlined will be precisely those positions that may be transferred from Fort Smith. As indicated, Mr. Black has been given the task of dealing with the report and putting forth an implementation plan for us. When this work is completed, then I would be very pleased to indicate more specifically precisely the positions that will be changed. But until then, I am loath to provide these to the Member, in the event that these are not the positions that will eventually be transferred.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions? Mr. Richard.

Question 0105-86(2): Pavement To Yellowknife From South

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Highways. Earlier this year, Mr. Speaker, one of my colleagues inquired of the Minister in this Assembly as to the intentions of this government, if any, for pavement of the Mackenzie highway from Fort Providence or Rae-Edzo, for that matter, into the capital city.

AN HON. MEMBER: Where is that?

MR. RICHARD: The current capital city. Can the Minister indicate, Mr. Speaker, whether any decisions have been made with respect to this request since the time of the response in this Assembly? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 0105-86(2): Pavement To Yellowknife From South

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Mackenzie highway is what is classed as an interterritorial highway which is currently under DIAND control. This means that they still have the capital funding in their budget for all works such as paving. We are currently negotiating the turnover of that responsibility, hopefully by April of 1987. We are tentatively looking at trying to establish a funding level of approximately \$10 million per year for the interterritorial highways. If we are successful in negotiating that amount, then the priority of the department would be the reconstruction and the paving of the Mackenzie highway from Enterprise to Yellowknife, a distance of about 430 kilometres. The initial cost that we have established will be in the neighbourhood of \$96 million or about \$100 million to do this work. We plan to do this work between the years 1989 and 2001.

---Laughter

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Only Tom Butters will be here.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: We will be collecting the old age pension by then.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Because of the extremely high cost -- I will give you an example. From Enterprise to Fort Providence is a distance of 127 kilometres. The total cost of paving that section would be about \$27 million or \$210,000 a kilometre. From Fort Providence to Rae-Edzo is 211 kilometres; the cost would be \$34 million or \$160,000 per kilometre. From Rae-Edzo to Yellowknife, which is the section which the MLA for Rae-Lac la Martre asked about, the distance is 88 kilometres and the cost would be \$35 million or \$400,000 a kilometre. Because of the excessively high cost of the Rae-Edzo to Yellowknife portion, which is a result of the fact that the subgrade on the existing road is in very poor shape and the entire road would have to be reconstructed, that section has been scheduled to take place last, simply because it would cost double what any other section of the highway would cost and therefore the entire program would be put off even longer.

So the answer to the Member's question is yes, we have the plans to do it but with the present level of funding it will be approximately the year 2000 or 2001 before it will be paved. That is at a cost of \$100 million. Thank you.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: You Liberals can promise that for the next five elections.

---Laughter

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

Question 0106-86(2): High Incomes Disqualify People For HAP

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have spoken to some applicants for home-ownership in my constituency. In talking to some of those people, there is something that does not seem to be right. They are paying 25 per cent of their gross incomes, which are in line with \$40,000 a year of salary. They were told when they got their applications back that they were making too much money. I am asking this question of the Minister of Housing: Is it true that when you are making over \$40,000 you are not eligible, that you are making too much money, and if so, why is that a reason?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 0105-86(2): High Incomes Disqualify People For HAP

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The Member asks a good question. It is a difficult one. Unfortunately, CMHC have threshold amounts whereby you are eligible for housing. They still perceive HAP to be social housing even though we call it home-ownership. We have a problem. The principle of the

home-ownership program is that once somebody has built the house, then they need to have the resources to maintain it themselves. There is a problem in that if your threshold is too low, low income people, once they get into the house, will not be able to maintain it. The other end of the scale is that if we make the threshold too high, then CMHC will say that it is not really fair that high income people are getting this advantage.

We are trying to work right now with CMHC to give us some flexibility in this whole program. But it is a very, very difficult one. As it stands right now, we have been able to get more flexibility than any other jurisdiction in the country. They are starting to tighten up, and my greatest fear is they will give us such a narrow range between what low income people have to make and a ceiling that we only can target five or 10 per cent of the housing needs in the Territories. So it is a difficult problem, but we are working on it and we are just trying to keep our program as flexible as possible. Also we have to recognize that the needs and the realities in different regions are very different. For instance, it is more expensive above the treeline than it is below the treeline.

MR. McCALLUM: (Inaudible comment)

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: And any other advice I need, Mr. McCallum is always able to help me out. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Ms Cournoyea.

Question 0107-86(2): Constraints On NWT Government In HAP Decisions

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, as a supplementary to that question to Mr. Ballantyne. In the new negotiations with the federal government on the HAP program, with their involvement, are you saying that in fact the criteria have lessened the ability of the NWT government to move in an area of decision-making on who is qualified to receive a unit?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 0107-86(2): Constraints On NWT Government In HAP Decisions

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Yes, it has. When we entered into the global agreement with CMHC for 50-cent dollars, obviously there are some limitations that would not be in if we developed our own program. We still have the option to develop another program 100 per cent funded by the territorial government. But to answer your question, yes, there are limitations because of the 50-cent dollars.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Angottitauruq. Is this a supplementary or is this a new question?

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: A new question.

MR. SPEAKER: It is just that I have other people on my list ahead of you. Mr. Wah-Shee.

Question 0108-86(2): Representation On Board Of Secondary Education For Sir John Franklin School

MR. WAH-SHEE: I will ask a simple question, Mr. Speaker, not very complex or difficult. My question is directed to the Minister of Education. In his statement in regard to the Sir John Franklin school, he indicated that three members will be appointed from the regions. I wonder if the Minister could indicate to the House which regions is he referring to and why are the regions outnumbered by the Yellowknife public school board? In other words, if it is a territorial school and it is still serving a lot of students from outside of the city of Yellowknife, why do we have this imbalance and why is it that the influence in terms of scale is being tipped in favour of the residents of this particular city, when it is supposed to be a territorial high school?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 0108-86(2): Representation On Board Of Secondary Education For Sir John Franklin School

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to point out at the outset that I am only tabling this legislation today and I am open to input. But the reason that I was determined to put a proportion of approximately three for regions to four for the city representation is simply that regional students make up only between 30 and 40 per cent of the high school population at Sir John Franklin. So it was proposed that the board be set up to reflect approximately the proportions of the regional and city students.

I would also like to point out that in developing this board and the memorandum of understanding which will establish it, I will be very careful to put in safeguards to ensure that there are no unreasonable barriers to admissions of regional high school students, to guarantee that funds are provided to educate regional high school students, and I would also point out that it is the intention of the government to retain control of the residence. So the Akaitcho Hall residence would not come under the jurisdiction of this proposed board.

Mr. Speaker, the Member also asked which regions would be represented. We have consulted with the Kitikmeot Region educational authority and I would expect that they would nominate a member, also the Dogribs and the Deh Cho/South Slave region. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Mr. Wah-Shee.

Supplementary To Question 0108-86(2): Representation On Board Of Secondary Education For Sir John Franklin School

MR. WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Am I correct in my assumption that the costs of the operation of Sir John Franklin school at the present time are being financed totally by the Department of Education? In other words, the residents of the city of Yellowknife are not contributing in terms of local school taxes toward the general operation of Sir John Franklin school. Am I correct in my assumption?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 0108-86(2): Representation On Board Of Secondary Education For Sir John Franklin School

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, the Member's statement is correct. There are no special school taxes levied on the residents of the city of Yellowknife toward the operation of Sir John Franklin Territorial High School. They do pay school taxes toward the operation of the separate and public school boards but not the territorial high school. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Supplementary, Mr. Wah-Shee.

Supplementary To Question 0108-86(2): Representation On Board Of Secondary Education For Sir John Franklin School

MR. WAH-SHEE: Mr. Speaker, in the event that the public school board wants to take control of Sir John Franklin high school, then can we anticipate that the Yellowknife school board will contribute toward the operation of the school if they want to take control of it?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 0108-86(2): Representation On Board Of Secondary Education For Sir John Franklin School

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it is proposed that when the full authority over that school is turned over to a local school board, in the event that the regional students are reduced to a minimal number or none at all, it is my intention that the taxpayers of the city of Yellowknife would then contribute to the cost of that school, similar to the way they contribute to the cost of the present public and separate boards. However, for this interim stage where the board of secondary education will be established to run what is basically still a

regional high school, it is not my intention to expect tax contributions from the residents of the city of Yellowknife beyond what they are already paying toward the public schools. I understand that the school boards are strongly opposed to any further addition to their present tax burden. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Final supplementary, Mr. Wah-Shee.

Supplementary To Question 0108-86(2): Representation On Board Of Secondary Education For Sir John Franklin School

MR. WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was trying to keep track of my supplementaries. To the Minister of Education: This transfer of responsibility, will that in any way have implications for the general operation and management of Akaitcho Hall as a student residence or is that a completely separate issue?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 0108-86(2): Representation On Board Of Secondary Education For Sir John Franklin School

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, since Akaitcho Hall really is a residence for regional students, it is my view that it is not appropriate to transfer the operation of that residence to this new board. There is an Akaitcho Hall advisory board composed of local representatives as well as regional representatives which I would propose should continue doing the good job that they are doing in advising the government on the operation of that residence. So the situation as far as Akaitcho Hall is concerned is that I do not think it will change in any regard whatsoever. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 0109-86(2): NWT Sports Hall Of Fame

MR. MCCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. I rather hesitate to ask the question but nevertheless I will. I wonder if the Minister would give the House an update on a two year old or plus motion that was made in the House concerning the establishment of an NWT sports hall of fame. I note that in a recent news item that even the Yukon have one. We seem to be the only one without it. Two and a half years ago people spoke very eloquently, other than I, on establishing such a set-up and I wonder if the Minister could give us an update on it?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: It is part of the downturn of the economy. We will look at doing our action course.

---Laughter

Return To Question 0109-86(2): NWT Sports Hall Of Fame

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Member is correct that there was a motion passed in the House a couple of years ago to set it up. I guess the department at that time took steps to do it and appointed a board to oversee it and to come up with things like criteria for getting into the sports hall of fame; where it is going to be; what type of exhibits would be there. A whole range of questions were to be asked. However, three of the six board members either left the North or went to work for government departments and really in the last year nothing has been done. It is not a high priority and I think the officials of my department, and I must admit so was I when I found out, a little bit scared off by some of the advice that we were receiving from some of the provinces. We went to some of the provincial authorities and asked them, and almost all of them came back and their first words were "Be very careful. We got into it and it became a very expensive proposition." Estimates ranged anywhere from \$10,000 to a quarter of a million dollars, and quite frankly I just do not have that kind of money in my budget. So we are looking at it. We may very well decide to go on just a small scale with an exhibit perhaps in the museum here in Yellowknife or maybe set up a few exhibits in the various communities or regional museums in Fort Smith, Frobisher Bay -- something like that. But whatever we do I think that quite frankly it is going to have to be something that is done fairly cheaply because we just do not have the money.

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Modestly.

HON. GORDON WRAY: I am not supposed to use the word "cheap". Modestly, Mr. Speaker. But we are working on it and eventually something will happen and the Member shall have his name in lights one day.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. McCallum.

Supplementary To Question 0109-86(2): NWT Sports Hall Of Fame

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a supplementary of the Minister. Perhaps I can indicate to him where he can pick up \$700,000 that the government is going to save.

---Laughter

You could use some of that. Annually too. I guess I have a concern that if there are certain particular people that had been chosen to take a look at the establishment of it and they have left, would the Minister indicate to me whether he intends to put somebody in there who is going to stay around for a little while? I know that it is an idea that you normally honour people who have passed away -- I do not mean passed out of the Territories, but I would like to see somebody set this up so that we may honour those who are still alive; and that is not necessarily somebody who comes into the Territories for a short period of time and it was not because they came in to play sports or anything else. But I think there are a lot of people who were born and raised in the Territories who have made a name for themselves and I would like to see them honoured before they pass away as well. So could I have an undertaking from the Minister, if you have this board that has been set up to look at these things, and some of them have left the Territories, could you get somebody else who is still around and still part of the Territories to look into the establishment of it?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 0109-86(2): NWT Sports Hall Of Fame

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I certainly will undertake to get somebody to look at it. I really do not know if I want to go ahead and set up another board because the minute you set up another board, then the money starts to roll in. They want staff, then they want to travel and then the next thing you know, you are spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on a board. I think maybe what I might do is go to Sport North, for example, and maybe get them to look at it or maybe ask for interested volunteers, whatever. But, yes, I can certainly undertake to do something to replace the people that left the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

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

Question 0110-86(2): NWT Highways

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Economic Development in his capacity as chairman of this ministerial committee that is meeting with the federal action force on arctic initiatives. In a recent press release by the federal Minister, Mr. McKnight, although Mr. McKnight states that northern economic development is a priority item on his government agenda, in the same press release the Minister responds to the recommendations of the federal standing committee on aboriginal affairs, northern development. In particular he rejects the standing committee's request, Mr. Speaker, that the funding priority for road construction be enhanced beyond the current \$10 million, as the Minister of Highways indicates. Given the horrendous costs outlined by the Minister of Highways and the call in the northern part of the Western Arctic for projects such as the construction of a road from Inuvik to Tuk, will the Minister be asking the federal Minister and his action force to revisit that particular response to that recommendation of the federal standing committee? Thank you.

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

Return To Question 0110-86(2): NWT Highways

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not have the particular document that you are referring to but I would be pleased to look into it. But as far as the issue of the highways goes, I think it is of concern to every Member of the Assembly, as well as the economic groups and the

mining community. So in that regard, I want to assure the Member that that is one thing that members on the action force committee will attempt to, at least keep it as one of the items that we wish to be brought before the action committee, as well as our own Executive Council. I know my colleague, Mr. Gordon Wray, is very busy with keeping on top of the whole issue of the highway construction in the NWT. But I just want to assure the Member that is one issue for which we believe the two governments should have a long-time strategy. In the short term the costs we are faced with are very difficult and complex, as my colleague indicated. But in the long run, I think the two governments should have some sort of a policy with respect to the highways. One thing I want to assure the Member is that we will undertake to at least keep it on our issues that we will be raising with our federal counterparts.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Nerysoo.

Question 0111-86(2): Classroom Assistants Taking Teacher Training

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a question to the Minister of Education. Recently there has been concern expressed in the Delta with regard to the idea of transferring classroom assistants to positions of teachers-in-training. Is the Minister going to consider increasing the number of professionals in schools that lose their support within the teacher/student ratio?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 0111-86(2): Classroom Assistants Taking Teacher Training

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, if a classroom assistant enters the field-based teacher education program and becomes a teacher after a period of years, then that person would take a teaching position in the school they left or another school. There would be another classroom assistant hired to take their place. So there would be no net loss of positions because classroom assistants become teachers.

However, Mr. Speaker, I believe the Member may be referring to a problem that we have run into because of financial constraints with the new field-based Western Arctic teacher training program. Namely that, while classroom assistants are away on course, there is no money in the budget, I understand, to replace them in the classroom while they are off taking training. I should point out that the major six week course which is planned in the coming year, will take place at the end of school, during the summer break. There will be three courses, January 12th to 30th, March 2nd to 20th, and April 22nd to May 15th, where classroom assistants will be away from their schools and I am informed that because of the extra costs of this program we have not been able to budget for substitute teachers. It is hoped that communities will be willing to sacrifice the support of their classroom assistants for these periods of time in order to meet the laudable goals of training them to become teachers. We also feel that in many cases, in the smaller communities, there are sufficiently small numbers of students in the classroom that the teacher can manage without support for that period of instruction. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I should thank the Member for notice of that question.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Nerysoo.

Supplementary To Question 0111-86(2): Classroom Assistants Taking Teacher Training

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if the Minister could give me some assurance that the criteria by which the teacher/student ratios are reviewed and the number of professionals that are made available to various communities can be reviewed, in light of the decision and the new direction that the Department of Education is going, in order to, in fact, ensure that students in the communities are receiving their proper education?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 0111-86(2): Classroom Assistants Taking Teacher Training

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The formula for providing staff in community schools was implemented last year and has provided a basis for equal allocation of teaching and classroom assistant positions throughout the NWT. Mr. Speaker, with all respect to the Member, I do not think a review of the staffing formula will solve the problem he is referring to, which

really only covers the three periods between January and May where classroom assistants are out of the schools for periods of around two weeks to take courses. What I will do however, Mr. Speaker, is undertake to review immediately, whether there is some way we can provide instructional support during those periods when classroom assistants are away taking training, either through substitute teachers or perhaps through some other means. I will review that question, Mr. Speaker, but I do not really think that a review of the staffing formula would change the situation one way or the other. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question 0111-86(2): Classroom Assistants Taking Teacher Training

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not wish to be critical of the direction that the Minister of Education is going, but I do believe there is a need to review the formula, in light of the additional responsibilities that are going to be placed on the teachers in those particular schools. Because part of the training session, Mr. Speaker, is in fact to have part of the program being offered at a particular school where the classroom assistants are not participating. But I am wondering if the Minister might reconsider or at least review the formula. I know that the Minister has said no, but I am wondering if he would consider reviewing the formula in light of the new responsibilities that are going to be placed on the professionals that are now in these particular schools?

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister has answered that question. Unless he has another answer, Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question 0111-86(2): Classroom Assistants Taking Teacher Training

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Well, quite frankly, Mr. Speaker, although I realize that there will be a shortfall of teaching resources for three periods of around two weeks between January and May, I do not think the solution to that problem is to hire another teacher. I think the solution to that problem would be to investigate whether we can hire substitute teachers or substitute classroom assistants. The staffing formula does not touch the issue of substitute teachers or substitute CAs. So I will review, as I said, whether we can provide some extra resources, even within a tight budget, to ease the instructional burden on teachers who are left without CAs while they are out on training. I will repeat that I do not think a review of the staffing formula itself is required, at least as far as this issue is concerned. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 0112-86(2): Development Of Fish Plant, Gjoa Haven

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be directed to the Minister of Economic Development. It is regarding the development of a fishery plant in Gjoa Haven. They are still after that project and since they are living in that community they seem to know where the fish are, but your department seems to be going by the federal government's quota. Therefore, I am asking you whether you would review this matter and do something about it as soon as possible, since the community knows exactly where the fish are. Would you plan this project with the community, not with the federal government's Fisheries and Oceans?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question 0112-86(2): Development Of Fish Plant, Gjoa Haven

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to indicate to the Member that I have already instructed my staff to try and update the progress that was made a couple of years ago when we were seriously attempting to establish a small fish plant at Gjoa Haven. Economics at that time did not make it viable to go ahead with the project, but I have since asked my departmental officials again, to seriously attempt to develop a small fish plant this summer in Gjoa Haven. I will be pleased to speak to the Member again and I have sent him a copy of my letter which I sent to my department and I am looking forward to some progress before too long on the matter. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Oral questions. That appears to conclude the matter for today. Item 6, written questions. Mr. Appaqaq.

ITEM 6: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question W16-86(2): Annual Elders' Conference

MR. APPAOAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have three different written questions to the Government Leader. I was informed by the elders who go and attend the elders' conference in northern Quebec that the GNWT contributed an amount of \$7000 just once, three years ago. Avataq Inuit Cultural Institute, operated in Quebec, has been paying the expenses for the delegates from Sanikiluaq. Avataq would like the elders from Sanikiluaq to participate as their culture and their language are the same. Recently I was informed that Avataq Inuit Cultural Institute felt the GNWT was not contributing enough.

I feel the elders should continue to attend the elders' conference in Quebec as there do not seem to be any elders' conferences in the NWT or in Baffin Region. Also, these conferences are very important. It is outstanding when the elders' conference is being talked about. For these reasons, I would like to ask the Minister responsible if the travel and accommodation can be paid, as the elders' conference is held just once a year. I feel Avataq should receive assistance, annually, for travel for the delegates from Sanikiluaq.

Question W17-86(2): Historical Artifacts In Sanikiluaq

I will just go on to the next question. The second question is to the Government Leader. I was told, in Sanikiluaq, that the historical artifacts should be left alone in Sanikiluaq. I know that the artifacts go to Frobisher Bay to the museum. It seems like the museum in Frobisher Bay does not do any good to us and the children of Sanikiluaq. The artifacts should be of use to the people of Sanikiluaq too. The people of Sanikiluaq have requested that the historical artifacts stay in the community. They feel strongly about this request.

We would like to have the traditional clothing that was used for hunting purposes by our people left in our community. The museum in Frobisher Bay is of no use to us as we cannot just walk in there and see the historical artifacts display anytime we feel like it, and our children cannot see them either. I am asking the Minister of Culture and Communications to supply the people of Sanikiluaq with funding in order to put the historical artifacts on display. We would be more than happy to receive the funding for next year, if possible.

Question W18-86(2): Jets Over Sanikiluaq

The third question is still directed to the Government Leader concerning the aircraft that is very loud. Last summer, in July, we did not like the jets passing through Sanikiluaq when they fly through, going from England to Vancouver and also from the USA to Europe. We were told that it will still go through Sanikiluaq and this is a major concern to us. This summer, the people of Sanikiluaq had heart-shattering experiences because of the jets flying so low.

I also found that in Yellowknife our church minister, Mr. Williams, had to go to the hospital for his heart. The jets had caused that to happen to him. I have been requested to ask the Minister if the jets' course could be changed because it seems dangerous to pass above people. I am talking about the large noisy jets.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Arlooktoo.

Question W19-86(2): Hunters And Trappers Association, Lake Harbour

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have Question W19-86(2) for the Minister of Renewable Resources. In Lake Harbour the funding which is used by the hunters and trappers association is always too small each year, and it would be very helpful if the amount could be increased to a larger sum. Could the Minister responsible for funding such as this see what could be done about it?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Arlooktoo. Written questions. Mr. Gargan.

Question W20-86(2): Resurfacing Of Roads, Hay River And Fort Providence

MR. GARGAN: I would like to direct my Question W20-86(2) to the Minister of Local Government. In 1985-86 there was an allocation of \$438,000 for resurfacing of the access road to Fort Providence. This capital project was withdrawn. What is the capital plan for the resurfacing of the Fort Providence area and the Hay River Reserve access road?

Question W21-86(2): Elizabeth Ward School, Fort Providence

I also have Question W21-86(2) for the Minister of Education. The shop and home economics room at the Elizabeth Ward school, Fort Providence, is in need of repair. There exists unsafe machinery, etc. I would like to ask the Minister of Education what is the plan for the Elizabeth Ward school with regard to these two issues? Thank you.

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

Question W22-86(2): Institutional Care Of Native Children

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have Question W22-86(2) for the Minister of Health and Social Services. Would the Minister provide me and this House with information on the government's present policy dealing with the institutional care of native children in the Northwest Territories? Also, would he provide information on the government's present budget and staff resources working in the area of institutional care? Further, would the Minister outline his department's plans for the next five years in this important area? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Lawrence. Written questions. Mr. Arlooktoo.

Question W23-86(2): Permit To Hunt Bowhead Whales

MR. ARLOOKTOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Renewable Resources. The people of Cape Dorset have asked if the hunters could get a permit to get a bowhead whale at least once a year. The people have requested this for quite a while now. Could the Minister responsible for Renewable Resources see what can be done in this respect?

Question W24-86(2): Funding For Campsite Clean-Ups

I have another question; Question W24-86(2) to the Minister of Renewable Resources, regarding the funding for campsite clean-ups. The hunters and trappers association of Cape Dorset are concerned about the messy campsites all around Cape Dorset. It would help the tourist industry if there could be funding to clean up these campsites. Would the Minister responsible for Renewable Resources look into this matter and report back to this House?

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Arlooktoo. Written questions. That appears to conclude this item for today. Item 7, returns to written questions. Are there any returns for today? Mr. Clerk.

ITEM 7: RETURNS TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Speaker, filed in accordance with the rules.

Return To Question W7-86(2): Bingo Licensing In Sanikiluaq

Hon. Michael Ballantyne's return to Question W7-86(2), asked by Mr. Appaqaq on October 21st, 1986, regarding bingo licensing in Sanikiluaq:

In reply to your question regarding the issue of bingo licences, I wish to report that licences may now be issued from the regional headquarters in Frobisher Bay, but not at this time from the hamlet of Sanikiluaq. The decision to devolve this licensing function to the regional level was made last year at the request of Members of this House. In the Baffin Region, this process appears to be functioning satisfactorily. Slow mail service between Sanikiluaq and Frobisher Bay still causes some delay, but the level of service should improve for the residents of Sanikiluaq.

The devolution to regional level is a step toward devolution to the community level in future. As and when that occurs, lottery licences will be issued by the municipalities. The telephone office in Frobisher Bay which could be reached for the issue of lottery licences is 979-6237.

Return To Question W11-86(2): Arctic Winter Games Sports Selection Meeting

Hon. Gordon Wray's return to Question W11-86(2), asked by Mr. Nerysoo on October 22nd, regarding Arctic Winter Games sports selection meeting:

The meeting held October 18th, 1986, was sponsored by the Arctic Winter Games Corporation, NWT directors, for the purpose of receiving input from territorial sport governing bodies and other interested sport groups on sports which should be included by the corporation for the 1988 Arctic Winter Games.

The NWT directors have confirmed that approximately 75 sports information questionnaires were distributed. The main distribution of these questionnaires was through Sport North, with the sport and recreation division of Municipal and Community Affairs also distributing some questionnaires. Questionnaires were sent to Sport North and the sport and recreation division by the corporation on September 23rd, 1986 and distributed to individual sport bodies shortly thereafter. Sport North's distribution included all NWT sport governing bodies, their board of directors and other groups whose interest in the Arctic Winter Games was known. Copies were sent by the sport and recreation division to their regional recreation development officers for distribution to regional and community groups. As well, advertisement of the meeting appeared in the October 10th and 18th edition of News/North.

A total of 16 groups made presentations at the October 18, 1986 meeting, including: arctic sports; badminton; gymnastics; ladies broomball; cross-country skiing; curling; figure skating; hockey; indoor soccer; silhouette shooting; ski biathlon; snowshoeing; snowshoe biathlon; speedskating; team triathlon; and volleyball. Interest was expressed by several other groups but presentations were not received.

It has been pointed out by the corporation directors that the meeting was open to the public and that interested individuals or groups were welcome to make a presentation. Traditionally, however, these presentations are made by representatives of territorial sport governing bodies on behalf of their membership, which includes community clubs and individuals. Indeed, it is the expected role of a territorial sport governing body that they consult with their membership and make representation on their behalf.

Return To Question W12-86(2): Government Building, Clyde River

Hon. Gordon Wray's return to Question W12-86(2), asked by Mr. Paniloo on October 22nd, 1986, regarding a government building in Clyde River:

Mr. Paniloo asked that funds be arranged to renovate the former school portable classroom to provide office facilities for GNWT employees and relieve the shortage of office space in Clyde River. I have previously given approval to do the work when funds are available. At this time, some \$20,000 worth of materials are on site; however, there are no funds for the required labour and construction costs contract in Public Works and Highways office renovations account at this time. It is our intent to complete the work in the 1987-88 fiscal year. The long-range capital plan provides \$75,000 in 1988-89 and \$5000 in 1989-90 for completion of exterior work for this portable which, when completed, will provide good quality office facilities for GNWT staff in Clyde River.

Return To Question W13-86(2): Benefits To Public Servants

Hon. Red Pedersen's return to Question W13-86(2), asked by Mr. Nerysoo on October 22nd, 1986, regarding staff accommodation rental rates:

The determination of staff accommodation rental rates and payment of standard accommodation allowances to employees in the Inuvik Region, and throughout the NWT, are fully in accordance with the staff accommodation policy approved by the Executive in 1981 and currently in effect. This policy defines three different levels of communities as follows: level I communities -- tax-based municipalities where there is a private housing market; level II communities -- communities where the private housing market has not matured to the point where a market can be determined; level III communities -- communities where there is little prospect of private housing markets developing in the near future. Specific criteria for determining community levels are as below.

Inuvik, Norman Wells, Fort McPherson and Arctic Red River are designated as level II communities for purposes of staff accommodation. All other communities in the Inuvik Region are level III. Staff accommodation rental rates in level II communities are based upon market rates, whereas in level III communities, rents are charged on a square metre basis. Employees who pay market rent rates are entitled to receive the \$450 per month standard accommodation allowance. Employees whose rent is calculated on a square metre basis are not entitled to receive the \$450 allowance.

By and large, rental rates for staff accommodation of a similar size and type are set so that net cost to employees is reasonably equivalent in either level II or level III communities. Therefore the rental rate for a unit in a level II community is approximately \$450 per month more than for a similar unit in a level III community. This additional \$450 per month is offset, however, by the payment of the \$450 monthly standard accommodation allowance in the level II community.

Two employees residing in the same unit in a level II community would receive a total of \$900 per month in standard accommodation allowances. A similar situation in a level III community results, however, in only one \$450 subsidy per household unit regardless of the number of employees who may reside in that unit.

Selection Criteria

Level I communities: a) local property taxing authority; an elected local government is responsible to community members for the quality, quantity and cost of municipal services; b) road access and scheduled air service; c) a developed accommodation supply service sector.

Level II communities: a) road or scheduled air access; b) regional administrative centre.

Level III communities: a) those which cannot be classified as level I or II.

Classified Communities

Level I communities: Yellowknife, Fort Smith, Hay River and Fort Simpson.

Level II communities: Frobisher Bay, Inuvik, Norman Wells, Rankin Inlet, Cambridge Bay, Pine Point and all communities on the Dempster and Mackenzie highway system.

Level III communities: All those not classified within level I or level II.

Note: Although Inuvik and Pine Point were initially classified as level I communities, they have been subsequently converted to level II status at Executive direction. Records of recommendation 84-17-10 and 84-17-11, each dated October 19th, 1984.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. That is part of the new rules that are now being observed. The Clerk will just read in the replies. Item 8, replies to the Opening Address. Ms Cournoyea.

ITEM 8: REPLIES TO OPENING ADDRESS

Ms Cournoyea's Reply

MS COURNOYEA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In relation to the government activities and to the issues that are taking place in the Northwest Territories, at this time I appreciate that I have time to comment.

In regard to Expo. To date it has been a source of good will and pride and recognition to the majority of organizations and individuals of Nunakput. I have a general feeling of pride in that particular exposition, pride which is being felt in other communities and not only in the Beaufort communities. I feel that it is not often that a single event brings such a collective position response. On behalf of the people who gave me the privilege to occupy this chair, I would like to compliment the Minister responsible for this very positive event and all the people who are part of making this massive machinery work.

Most of all I would like to recommend that this government acknowledge the great number of community people, particularly the LEAs, who have worked so hard in order to raise funds to send the hundreds of young school-aged children to have an experience that would have never been otherwise achievable.

---Applause

To the industries, such as the airline which gave special rates, and the individuals who used their office, such as the past Commissioner Stuart Hodgson, an appreciation in providing more than normal ability for mobility to maximize the limited funds that could be raised at a community level.

In regard to Arctic airports, in past statements particularly by the Government Leader, he has expressed that airports may not be a priority and that other priorities have to be dealt with. While I appreciate that not all airports are priorities, there are a few very critical problem areas. Given that in these instances there is no other option in transportation, I feel that these needs should be addressed and early negotiations initiated to resolve these problem areas.

In the announcement by the Minister of Social Services to upgrade benefits and social assistance, it is acknowledged and appreciated that the Minister has been able to deal with this long outstanding problem.

Downturn In Oil And Gas Industry

In the matter of impacts regarding the downturn of the oil and gas industry, it is of great interest that the federal government at its highest level has decided to team together with the Government of the Northwest Territories in an attempt to find solutions to the repercussions of industries' abandonment of certain areas within the Northwest Territories. While this action force is necessary and supported, let it not happen again whereby it is a committee to justify why positive action cannot take place. We all know that the effect of taking away the expectations that have been built up, pulling a large number of northerners into oil and gas related industrial employment and businesses will at least be profound.

The full impact, Mr. Speaker, will be felt over a period of time. Whether it is disastrous will, in a great measure, depend on how this government, itself or through its working relationship with the action force, deals with this most critical situation. The long-term objective is for this government to build a political situation for this territory that is more than a storehouse for federal decision makers to make decisions in order to exploit the resources at their convenience and schedule.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MS COURNOYEA: For the recent media given to certain committee desires to rewrite mandates to prolong their lifespan -- this government should only consider whether the mandate has been expended and then rechannel the much needed funds to be directed to new priorities.

The Question Of Division

Mr. Speaker, among the questions that have been facing my constituency particularly, is the question of division. Among a series of impact developments taking place in the Beaufort, the most planned or unplanned confusion is the issue of division of the Northwest Territories. At a meeting in Winnipeg of the forums and the Alliance, the Nunavut Constitutional Forum requested that the Inuvialuit leadership work out with the Western Constitutional Forum, an attempt to find a way whereby the Beaufort wealth could become part of a western territory. This very difficult decision was made after weighing the stance of the Western Constitutional Forum; that there would be no division unless the Beaufort communities were within a western territory. The Inuvialuit leadership collectively agreed to attempt to work toward this objective and also set a date to accomplish this task. A set of principles was presented to the Western Constitutional Forum. The Member from Yellowknife has tabled that particular paper. These principles relate to a regional government and were to gain some assurance that the Inuvialuit would not be colonized if they became part of a new western territory.

There was a great deal of surprise during the initial talks with the Western Constitutional Forum which indicated they appeared not to be contemplating regional governments in the make-up of a new regime and were emphasizing more to centralized control. Mr. Speaker, given the present thrust of this government directed toward decentralization and regionalization, this position was not expected. Since, some forward motion seems to have been made with the Western Constitutional Forum in their reply to these principles, although somewhat watered down, this slight movement toward acceptance that perhaps regional governments could be part of this new regime -- decisions are taking place under that particular understanding.

Mr. Speaker, statements about regional government are leading to a great deal of confusion, particularly inferences that communities will not control a regional government and that it would take away control from the communities. What must be fully understood is that any regional government must be controlled and must be by those communities. After all, it goes without saying that, regional government is the communities that are involved with it. They are the regional government. What is sure, with the experience that the Beaufort-Delta has had on numerous government advisory bodies, is that any regional government would indeed, have to be controlled by the communities involved. They must take control, make decisions and take accountability over certain programs and areas of concern that affect them; and that, would be more than advisory.

Determining A Boundary

The general principles were thought to be the minimum that would be required in order to expedite the determination of the boundary. Decisions to go with a minimum guarantee took into consideration the very disruptive way in which people were needlessly torn apart by the discussions and how they were held. However, it must be understood that the general principles put forward by the Inuvialuit leadership were thought to be minimum requirements, and these requirements would move the question of the boundary ahead. However, it must be understood that, as leaders, the responsibility is great because of the stated position of political needs of those around us. The leadership has the ultimate responsibility to uphold the political self determination and rights of those whom they represent and cannot allow these basic rights to slip into a black hole of no return. Neither should it be expected that the Beaufort-Delta be set up to divert attention away from the real mandate of the forums. Although the boundary has been put to the forefront, and it is a critical question and it has to be dealt with in order to expedite division, the real question is, if we determine a line, that that would expedite that question of division.

It should be further understood that other conditions continue to be built up. A series of ultimatums have been put forward -- such as the Western Constitutional Forum expect that all details of structures, government systems, financial and political make-up, should be set before division takes place. While I feel that the financial discussions surrounding financial issues would be done in a clinical manner, the long list should be examined to evaluate what the process is going to be in order to expedite division. The holding up of the advancement of a Nunavut until all these questions and details have been resolved, can mean years of negotiations. Are there other options to meet the same goals? If the original design was to conclude all these determinations, why then was a decision on a boundary significant to resolve at this time?

As time and effort and money have been expended to resolve the boundary question, then once that it is settled, Nunavut should be allowed to set its pace in setting its objectives. If in fact the intention is to continue this process with the stated ultimatums, then the electorate should be advised of the time frame that is needed to deal with these ultimatums. The mandate of the forums, which I understand, was to expedite division. In this venture, it has been my understanding in developing any government, that the understood criteria were to respect self-determination, devolution of power and not to consolidate power.

Mr. Speaker, these areas of concern here, notwithstanding another number of smaller ones, are the issues that are outstanding in the region that I represent. But, Mr. Speaker, in any area of consideration, I think that the saving part of deliberation always comes in humour. In relation to a meeting that just took place in Inuvik on division, one of our outstanding people made the statement "Why are we talking about division?" It should not be a question. The name of the region that we live in already assumes that division has already occurred. For exactly what we are called is the Northwest Territories, there is "North", there is "West" and "Territories" spelled with a "ties". Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Ballantyne.

Mr. Ballantyne's Reply

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I welcome this opportunity to reply to the Opening Address. Yellowknife is a diverse and exciting place to live and work. People from a wide variety of backgrounds and ethnic origins combine to give the city a very cosmopolitan flavour.

This flavour is reflected in such organizations as the Multicultural Association and the Association Culturelle Franco-Tenoise. Yellowknife is also home to over 1700 people of aboriginal descent, making it the second largest aboriginal community in the Northwest Territories. Yellowknife is indeed a community of communities.

My constituency of Yellowknife North is made up of many different neighbourhoods including Old Town, Giant Mine, Detah, Rainbow Valley, Latham Island, Wool Bay, the Ingraham Trail, Trails End, School Draw and a portion of uptown. A growing number of community organizations including the Willow Flats/Joliffe Island Community Association, the Back Bay Community Association, the School Draw Residents Association, Mitchell Drive Residents Association, the Rainbow Valley youth club, the newly formed Ingraham Trail Residents Association, play an increasingly active role in community affairs. A number of recent controversial issues such as the city's waterfront development study, a site for a marina, and upgrading requirements for sewer and water, have demonstrated the importance of the involvement of Yellowknife North residents, through their associations and individual efforts, with issues that directly affect their neighbourhoods.

Another issue which demonstrates the importance of strong neighbourhood involvement concerns the cottagers and permanent residents in the Ingraham Trail area. These people have a considerable personal and financial commitment to the area and have valid concerns about the long-term security of their leases. Yellowknife MLAs are very supportive of their legitimate concerns and I believe that with good will and common sense among the residents, governments and native organizations, a long-term acceptable solution will be found.

Blows To Our Fragile Northern Economy

All northerners are concerned by the recent blows to our fragile northern economy. The decline in the oil and gas industry, unstable base metal prices on the world market and the international attacks on the fur industry all contribute to that uncertainty. In response to the economic difficulties the federal and territorial governments have established ministerial action committees. The GNWT subcommittee is composed of Mr. Curley, Mr. Butters and myself. We will be co-ordinating our efforts with those of the federal action force to develop longer-term economic strategies for the North.

The mining industry is key to a stable northern economy. Mining alone directly employs over 3000 workers and injects millions of dollars into our economy through exploration and other services. These services include trucking, air transport, expediting, drilling and freighting, just to mention a few. The past year has seen some signs of increased activity, especially in the area of gold exploration.

Giant Mine, part of my constituency, is currently negotiating the merger of the operating properties of several gold mines in Timmins, Ontario. Giant has also begun deep drilling in an attempt to establish long-term gold reserves at its present site. Two smaller gold operations, Terra and Tremingo Mines in the Yellowknife area have reopened. Another property, Thor Lake, just south of my riding expects to begin operation, pending the results of a market survey. The benefits of the mining industry to the NWT in general and to Yellowknife in particular, must be recognized and encouraged if we are to strengthen our economy.

Another area wide open for development is the tourism industry. Expo '86 created a totally new awareness of the North. Expo has sparked international curiosity. Our people and our land are special and there are thousands of potential visitors who are ready to explore what we have to offer. Yellowknife is a case in point. Fifty per cent of the visitors to the NWT will pass through Yellowknife, some on their way to other destinations, some specifically to visit the city. In my constituency, visitors can enjoy such experiences as lake cruises on the Naocha; informative bus tours guided by Joan Remmers of Raven Tours; a spectacular view from the Bush Pilots' monument, lunch at the Wildcat Cafe; a visit to Weaver and Devore Trading Ltd. and many other attractions. Our history is also of great interest to visitors. The Northern Frontier Visitors' Association consider the Old Town to be Yellowknife's number one tourist attraction. Yet, it is slowly disappearing under the pressure of a soaring real estate market. The problem of our disappearing heritage is being tackled by two civic groups: the heritage committee and SPIRIT Yellowknife. It is hoped that with their help and with a sensitive approach from the residents of the city, our remaining heritage will be preserved.

Renewable Resources Sector In Yellowknife

Another area of economic development which is not often associated with Yellowknife is the renewable resources sector. We are all aware that the fur industry is under attack but it is sometimes difficult to relate to this assault on the North's most fundamental industry while living in a large urban centre. Did you know that in Yellowknife alone last year, 136 trappers sold over \$155,000 worth of fur? The Department of Renewable Resources has taken numerous steps toward ensuring the viability of the northern fur industry in co-operation with groups like the Dene Nation, Indigenous Survival International, etc.

Commercial fishing is another industry not often associated with Yellowknife. Yet the Wool Bay fish plant located 12 miles out of Yellowknife, in the corner of my riding, is one of the most productive plants on Great Slave Lake. This summer, approximately 10 boats, mostly from Yellowknife, produced over 528,000 kilograms of fish. Discussions are presently under way between the fishermen and the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation toward increasing the lucrative, high quality, winter fish industry in the Yellowknife area. The senate committee on fisheries last month recommended that the federal and NWT governments set up a pilot project to enable northern fishermen to market their own high quality fish.

The future of these resource industries in the Yellowknife area looks good except for one factor. Some of the trappers and most of the commercial fishermen live on untitled land in Yellowknife North and are under increasing pressure to give up their homes. Unless measures are taken to ensure more permanent and realistic living conditions for these valuable community members, the city may lose them to communities offering more flexibility in lifestyle.

Until recently, the communities of Detah and Rainbow Valley were largely ignored by the government in spite of their proximity to Yellowknife. This government has taken steps to remedy the situation especially in housing, recreation and education. In the past year public and home-ownership units have been constructed and more housing is planned for the future. Recreation facilities have been non-existent both in Detah and Rainbow Valley. A gymnasium is nearing completion in Detah and one is slated for construction next year in Rainbow Valley. These are multipurpose facilities serving as an activities centre for young people, a community meeting place and as a recreation facility.

At the request of the Rainbow Valley youth group, an upgrading program began last week in the valley. Fourteen young people, ranging in age from 14 to 20, are attending adult upgrading in the Tree of Peace building. A qualified teacher has been hired and it is hoped that this program will provide a viable alternative to the regular education system which has not successfully responded to the needs of these young students. The Department of Education has also agreed to the formation of a divisional school board for the Dogrib area and is looking into the possibility of a new school for Detah.

Need For Adequate Recreational Facilities In Yellowknife

Like all other communities in the Northwest Territories, Yellowknife has a need for adequate recreational facilities. Drug and alcohol use and related problems among young people are on the increase in our community. It has been said many times in this House that recreation provides a healthy outlet for our young people's energy. For a number of years the city of Yellowknife has requested assistance from the government in replacing expensive, inadequate and unsound recreational facilities. The taxpayers of Yellowknife will pay the operating, maintenance and a significant portion of capital costs of replacement facilities. I ask that this House continue to show the same fairness and sympathy with legitimate requests from Yellowknife as they do with requests from other communities.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The Ingraham Trail, the most heavily travelled road in the Northwest Territories, provides access to Yellowknife's primary recreation area for both residents of Yellowknife and Detah and tourists. In the winter, the road is heavily used by a number of mining companies. The safety of this road continues to improve as a result of the upgrading program.

The crisis centre for victims of spousal assault, recently opened and run by the YWCA, is filling a tremendous regional need. The facility has been used to capacity since its opening with 80 per cent of the victims and their children coming from smaller communities outside Yellowknife. Volunteers and staff people from the YWCA and the Society Against Family Abuse deserve much credit for their efforts in making this facility possible.

I would also like to express my appreciation to the Yellowknife Association of Concerned Citizens for Seniors, commonly known as YACCS. This group has been very effective in bringing the concerns of senior citizens to the attention of government. The new senior citizens home under construction would not have been possible without the hard work and perseverance of this group. Their fund raising efforts for this facility are continuing and they are receiving tremendous community support as evidenced by a city-wide door-to-door canvass and two benefit dinners held at the Wildcat Cafe.

All Northerners Should Work Together

As I talk to my constituents I am impressed with their growing knowledge and sensitivity to issues affecting communities outside Yellowknife. We are realizing that, as residents of the NWT, the broader issues concern us all. It is a popular myth that non-native Yellowknifers are here to "make a fast buck" and get out. The fact is that Yellowknifers, many of them second and third generation, are building homes, starting businesses and are raising families. They have strong roots in Yellowknife and in the North. It is time for all the people of the Northwest Territories to recognize that these committed Yellowknifers are their friends and allies. Together we are shaping a unique northern society that respects and serves the interests of us all.

Considering the repressive and brutal regimes that govern the populations of most countries in the world, we should be thankful for the opportunity to participate in an exciting and unique process of defining our political destiny. We are less than 50,000 people in the NWT with minimal political or economic clout in the national or international scene. We cannot afford conflicts based on race, regional differences or partisan politics.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Hear, hear!

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: The North needs innovative thinking, northern solutions to northern problems and not worn-out, recycled concepts imported from the South.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Hear, hear!

--Applause

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, Yellowknifers are here to stay and will continue to make significant contributions as we work together to develop a Northwest Territories we will all be proud of and happy to call home. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ballantyne. Item 8, replies to the Opening Address. Mr. Angottitauruq.

Mr. Angottitauruq's Reply

MR. ANGOTTITAUURUQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I really do not know where to begin but I will start somewhere. There is not much I have to say but I agree with most of the Opening Address, especially the Expo '86 session there. We have been struggling all alone since the Northwest Territories was formed and we finally got our participation in a world's fair. I believe we had over two million people who visited us at Expo and that is a great boost for the economy of the Northwest Territories. The government is doing as much as it can, especially on the economic development side. That is good to hear.

The Housing Corporation is also mentioned, that is good to hear. Before I go through the whole Opening Address, I would like to express some concerns I have in my constituency and concerns of the people that have been raised to me.

Constituency Problems

No doubt my constituency has social problems with children and families. To my understanding, I am one of the persons that should be getting complaints about the social problems in the constituency, but they recognize me as not a social worker and they sometimes do not want to discuss problems with me, where I, as a Member of the Assembly, should know the facts so I can try my best to help them. Social Services should look closely at that matter and look at the social workers that are put in the communities. There is usually only one social worker in a community and they are usually males. Part of the problem, I believe, is with the children and mostly women. Men attempt sometimes to try to solve their problems and they make it worse. So I guess if there were more women involved in social services in the smaller communities, some of these problems would be eliminated before some of the families are sent away from home for special treatment.

Decentralization was raised the last time, after it was announced in the House. At the regional council meeting it was mentioned, but it had been already discussed in the House long ago and the elected members in the community knew exactly what was happening. That was one of the problems that I had within my constituency. If they wanted to make comments about decentralization, I believe that was notified to the communities before last spring's regional council meeting.

Transportation

Transportation is still one of the biggest problems and it will always be. But that part of the problem lies with the federal government and they are not doing anything about it. The territorial government has not money for that purpose, the way I hear it in the House. But my communities want to be at almost the same level as the other communities on transportation. The figures I have here do not show very clearly -- there is some difference in the means of transportation but they are on the same subject of aircraft. Some communities can only use aircraft every month through the year and they get sealift once a year. I believe and I can see that transportation is one of the biggest problems in my constituency. To put one thing into fact, we could only receive ice cream in the winter when we do not need it, because we do not have facilities for large aircraft. In one community in my region, it is not suitable for large aircraft to land there, which I believe have better equipment to bring in fresh fruits in the winter. Most of the times in the winter when fresh fruits are delivered, they are frozen before they reach the community due to the time it takes to get to the town.

But that is not the biggest problem with transportation. The biggest problem of all is the price of transportation. If I were travelling from Gjoa Haven to Cambridge on my way to Yellowknife, which is 234 miles, I would pay \$326.70 which is estimated at \$1.40 a mile. But if I were to go onto another aircraft or travel in another area, such as from Inuvik to Sachs Harbour, 318 miles, I would only pay \$159.50, approximately 50 cents a mile. That is a great difference. I guess with all their expertise, the federal government try to help people so much and to make transportation easier, but sometimes they fail to recognize the pockets of the consumer. I believe the government people themselves would not really make any complaints about it because all their operational expenses are paid for by the people. But private people, ordinary people, no matter how much complaining they do, and with the little amount of money they receive from working -- some really do get very little -- they wish to travel and they wish to get some supplies by air, they always have a hard time finding the money to travel. No wonder our Northwest Territories is so poor. We pay every little cent we get, from our pockets, for the things we need. There are people who want to start businesses and one of the biggest problems, all the time, is the high cost of living. And the major cost, I believe, is transportation because those small communities do not have everything they require at the local level and they have to get orders from other settlements and from larger places like Yellowknife and also from other provinces. I guess that is how I can express the problem of transportation in the Northwest Territories, and not only in my constituency.

Education

In my constituency there is still talk about education. As long as I am one of the Members of the Assembly and regardless of how short a time I will be in the House, as a Member, I would still comment about education and the way some of the people do not seem to understand it and the way I seem to understand it. The problem I see in the Northwest Territories, is that a lot of families, a lot of parents, do not want their kids to forget their own mother language. I see great importance in that view. But then again the problem seems to be, right now, they try to teach it

in a classroom, half an hour in the morning and possibly half an hour in the afternoon. In my constituency it is treated differently in the communities. In each community they believe that this is the best way in this community and how we will deal with it.

My greatest belief is that, if you want your children to learn Inuktitut or not to forget their culture, the best way to do it is not to take them completely out of one system for a half an hour. Possibly the best way of doing it is after the school year has ended. If the government could put some money into the communities and have these students who are able to, go and learn Inuktitut and the Inuit lifestyle, have families to take them out onto the land and make a policy at the community level, not across the Northwest Territories, that they do not speak one single word of English at that time, in that springtime that they are out. I do not know, I could not suggest how many weeks -- it should not take too many weeks. That is one of the best ways, I believe, and they would benefit from their Inuktitut language and their life skills. The argument, I believe, is that when you learn in school just for half an hour and then you get back out, you just cannot remember too many things just for that short period of time. A lot of times most of the students, regardless of who they are, if they are taught in a classroom in English, tend to speak English -- not to mention myself. Well, I could speak Inuktitut very well. The only problem I have is I do not have the dialect of the interpreters. That is the only thing that stops me from speaking Inuktitut in the House. That is one of my beliefs and that is what one of the constituency settlements believe. They want to start something like that and hope that the students are taught better in both systems.

Housing Rental Scale

Another big problem, I believe, that the constituents have and which they believe is not fair is the housing rental scale. A lot of times in, many communities, local people have only part-time jobs. For instance, if a person were to be making \$13,000 a year on a part-time basis, the housing rental scale would not recognize that person. They have to pay taxes, they just go by a flat rate of 25 per cent, they take all his money away. Now that person is sometimes accused by social services workers of not looking after his money. How can you live on \$13,000 a year and pay 25 per cent out of your pay, and on top of that, get tax deducted? I am saying this on behalf of the people that I have talked to about the rental scale, that is how it seems to be. I could explain further but I think it is a well-known problem across the Northwest Territories. That is all I have to say on the housing rental scale. It still has to be looked at to make it fair for the people.

Sale Of Country Food

In my constituency they have hunters and trappers who deal with the country food at the community level. They try to gain some profit each year so that they could help their people better, through quotas such as trying to sell caribou meat, musk-ox meat, fish, whatever they have in the community. I believe that they are not taking the proper steps and they are lacking help. I can only apologize that I did not go to the regional hunters and trappers meeting in Coppermine this fall. But I have talked to my constituents in private in order to try and get support and try to get the ball rolling on this whole issue so that something could be done. I believe that the communities have good quotas. And when they calculate their quotas and what they can commercially catch, a great sum of money seems to go to waste. It is because they cannot really sell it at the community level, since most of the community people are hunters and trappers. When a family gets short of country food, they tend to just go to their relatives or friends to get it and they sometimes forget that their local hunters and trappers association is having a stock of something to sell for a few dollars. In return they get the merchandise. The people get the merchandise and the hunters and trappers gain from it. I guess the best way the constituency could have dealt with it in the past was to have formed a hunters and trappers federation and to have started a country food store in Yellowknife. Those hunters and trappers, whoever is dealing with the harvesting of country foods, can deal with one store and on top of that they could also sell some at the local level. That way they would increase the sales and the money would roll over much faster.

They tried to deal with all their commercial harvest within the community where it is mostly not needed. That is what I am trying to say. Every time I go to Yellowknife I go to one of the stores and look for country food and I do not find it. I am sure there are a lot more people besides me who have passed through who have looked for that type of food. It is not every month I need it but transient people who would look for it would be a large number in one year I believe. A large amount of money is lost to the communities when that is not properly done, not done the way it seems it should have been done. A lot of community people lose out on some income.

Housing Shortage, Pelly Bay

One of the communities in my constituency is lacking housing. The Housing Corporation may not take it seriously -- I am talking about Pelly Bay. They may say they are looking at it seriously. The problem there is they have some houses that were built by the mission and they were turned over to the Housing Corporation. These houses are not in very good shape because at that time they did not have very good material to build houses. That is one of the great problems I see. That community has two mission houses in use I believe at this time. That is the information I got and I know for a fact because I have visited those houses that they are not in very good shape. The Housing Corporation said, I believe, in their capital plan that they would put two houses there. In return the housing association in that community will eliminate those two houses. That is not creating housing, that is making replacements. The community is growing and I believe that the Housing Corporation should look at this problem very closely.

Alcohol Problems

I guess the whole Northwest Territories is concerned about alcohol problems. We too, in the House, have discussed that same problem. Even though I drink too much too, when I am sober I know what to do. I believe the Northwest Territories knows what to do but the only problem is they only talk about it with no action.

The Northwest Territories can probably learn from a single little community in Canada -- the people have put that community into a dry position and eliminated most of their problems due to alcohol. Everybody can talk about the alcohol problems but they do not have any strength to take action. That is one of the biggest problems. In a lot of cases you do not have to take away the liquor. You just get the communities working together and they could eliminate a whole lot. I guess the problem is, "We will do this for you so you will not have any problems." Then some other people just take the help they get for granted -- if I get into a problem with alcohol I will get good help. I think the communities themselves have to get stronger on it and do something about it and not rely only on the government funding but they themselves take action and that means they need good leaders in the communities to solve that problem.

I guess in closing my most beloved subject is always division. In my own mind division is to benefit the people of the Territories on whichever side they may be. Then again it is always -- well, the whole issue is taking a long time. At this time I believe things are not as bad as at the other times, but I believe division may have not been my answer. In the Northwest Territories it is one of the hardest subjects to talk about for many reasons. The Northwest Territories is so large. Dividing it may not be one of the answers to bringing the government closer to the people.

Party Politics

One of the other subjects that I wanted to comment about was in line with the division of the Northwest Territories which may and may not -- it is only my thinking and my communication with some people in the Northwest Territories as one of the Members of the Assembly of the Northwest Territories. Some people may not think that to speak about party politics in the Northwest Territories would solve the problem. I believe in some way it would seem to bring the government closer to the people because you would have three oppositions. And the way we seem to see the Northwest Territories is that we are running a great government. I do not think we are. Some people are losing out because we do not have party politics because they do not have assigned people to argue on behalf of those people. We tend to say "I agree", but then again if party politics was the issue in the Northwest Territories the same as in this House, we would probably have a group of people, not an equal number, that would argue on behalf of certain people. That is where I seem to believe that party politics is one good thing for our Northwest Territories with so many different types of people.

I guess that closes my reply. I still have a lot more to say but I would like to keep my reply to the Opening Address short, just because I agree with what has been said. I look forward to seeing some of these things in the future, even when I am not a Member of the House, as long as I live, for the betterment of the people in the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

---Applause.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Angottitauruq. Replies to Opening Address.

SOME HON MEMBERS: (Inaudible comments)

AN HON. MEMBER: You want to cross the floor over here?

MR. SPEAKER: Some honourable Members might be crossing the door, going outside for the rest of the day if we do not keep this down.

Item 8, replies to the Opening Address.

Item 9, petitions. Item 10, reports of standing and special committees. Mr. McCallum.

ITEM 10: REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Report Of Standing Committee On Public Accounts

MR. MCCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make a very short report of the standing committee on public accounts.

In the third report of the standing committee on public accounts tabled June 18th, this committee made several recommendations to departments of this government relating to procedures for accounting for expenditures. One of its recommendations was "that the comptroller general be given the responsibility to ensure that all departments act, in a timely manner, on the recommendations of the public accounts committee." Another recommendation was "that the chairman of the standing committee on public accounts undertake regular follow-up through the office of the comptroller general, and where necessary directly with officials of the department or agency concerned, to ensure that the committee's recommendations are being acted upon in both an adequate and timely manner."

To that end, Mr. Speaker, regular correspondence has been maintained by myself, as chairman, with the comptroller general and between him and departmental officials. The comptroller general met with the staff from the committee in August and progress was reviewed. At a meeting of the standing committee on public accounts on October 23rd, the comptroller general provided a report on the committee's recommendations. I am pleased to announce that the departments have responded well and for the most part all recommendations have already been implemented.

There is one exception that warrants noting at this time. The Department of Education was asked in May of 1985 and again in May of this year to prepare regulations, policies and procedures in the area of student loans. We were told at our last meeting that drafts of these have been sent for the review of the comptroller general but it will be some time yet before they will be finalized. The Department of Education was also directed to enter into formal agreements with school boards immediately. We are told this has not been done.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to point out that for the most part, the committee has been pleased to note that government departments have responded favourably to our recommendations. I would like to thank the comptroller general for his assistance to the committee. Working together through him and the Minister of Finance, I am confident that we can bring to government, the processes necessary to make government accountable to the people that we represent. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. McCallum. Reports of standing and special committees. That appears to conclude this item for today. Item 11, tabling of documents. Mr. Sibbeston.

ITEM 11: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I have two documents to table today. The first is Tabled Document 22-86(2), Ministerial Action Force on Economic Development, Terms of Reference. The second is Tabled Document 23-86(2), Capital Allocations Criteria.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Leader. Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following document: Tabled Document 24-86(2), Draft Legislation for an Act to Amend the Education Act. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Tabling of documents. Tabling of documents. That appears to conclude this item for today. Item 12, notices of motion. Mr. Richard.

ITEM 12: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 7-86(2): Torrance Report, 1984

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Speaker, I wish to give notice that on Wednesday, the 29th of October, I will move the following motion regarding the alcohol and drug co-ordinating council: I move that this Legislative Assembly recommend that the Executive Council consider implementation of the alternatives for administration of alcohol and drug programs outlined in the 1984 Torrance Report and present a proposed plan of action at the next session of this Legislative Assembly. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Richard. Notices of motion. That appears to conclude this item.

Item 13, notices of motion for first reading of bills.

Item 14, motions. Item 15, first reading of bills. Item 15, first reading of bills. Bill 2-86(2). Mr. Butters.

ITEM 15: FIRST READING OF BILLS

First Reading Of Bill 2-86(2): Elections Act

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nahendeh, that Bill 2-86(2), An Act Respecting Elections, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: I have a motion on the floor. Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Bill 2-86(2) has had first reading. First reading of bills. That appears to conclude this item. Item 16, second reading of bills. Bill 7-86(2), Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 3, 1986-87. Mr. Butters.

ITEM 16: SECOND READING OF BILLS

Second Reading Of Bill 7-86(2): Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 3, 1986-87

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Aivilik, that Bill 7-86(2), An Act Respecting Supplementary Appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the Fiscal Year Ending the 31st Day of March, 1987, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to make supplementary appropriations and to reduce certain previous appropriations for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1987.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Bill 7-86(2) has had second reading. Bill 9-86(2), Write-off of Assets and Debts Act, 1986-87. Mr. Butters.

Second Reading Of Bill 9-86(2): Write-Off Of Assets And Debts Act, 1986-87

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kivallivik, that Bill 9-86(2), An Act Respecting the Write-off of Assets and Debts for the Fiscal Year Ending the 31st Day of March, 1987, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to write off certain assets owned by and debts owed to the Government of the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Butters. To the principle of the bill. Ready for the question. Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any?

---Carried

Bill 9-86(2) has had second reading. Second reading of bills. Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might have unanimous consent to go with the second reading of Bill 2-86(2) that I gave first reading of today?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. SPEAKER: Unanimous consent is being requested for Bill 2-86(2). Are there any nays? Proceed, Mr. Butters.

Second Reading Of Bill 2-86(2): Elections Act

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nahendeh, that Bill 2-86(2), An Act Respecting Elections, be read for the second time. The purpose of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is to provide for the holding of elections to elect Members to the Legislative Assembly and to establish the framework and the procedures for these elections.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. To the principle of the bill. Ready for the question. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 2-86(2) has had second reading. Mr. Clerk, we will move Bill 7-86(2), Bill 9-86(2) and Bill 2-86(2) into committee of the whole for today. Item 17, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Bill 7-86(2), Bill 9-86(2) and Bill 2-86(2), with Mr. Erkloo in the chair.

ITEM 17: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS AND OTHER MATTERS.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO CONSIDER BILL 7-86(2), SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION ACT, NO. 3, 1986-87

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

---SHORT RECESS

Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 3, 1986-87. Mr. Butters, do you want to make opening remarks?

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Chairman, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 3, for the 1986-87 fiscal year requests Legislative Assembly approval for \$15,706,800 of additional appropriation authority to defray the expenses of government for 1986-87.

Of this amount, over \$10 million is offset by directly related revenue and combined with the two previous supplementary appropriations for 1986-87. The total supplementary appropriation authority required for this fiscal year is almost \$31 million. However, increases in revenues either directly related to these supplementary appropriations or in other areas have resulted in an improvement in our year-end position from what was forecast in the main estimates. We now estimate the 1986-87 year-end deficit to be in the area of \$10 million, an improvement over our original projection of some \$15.8 million.

I am also pleased to inform you that there are only two special warrants contained in this supplementary appropriation.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. RICHARD: One day it will be zero.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Every day and every way we are getting better and better.

---Laughter

One is to effect the transfer of the Baffin health services from the federal government and one is related to shoreline erosion at Tuktoyaktuk. Also contained in this appropriation request is the funding request for the operation of the young offenders program over the last portion of the fiscal year. Members will recall that they approved first-half funding for this program in supplementary appropriation No. 1. Mr. Chairman, the appropriation authority requested in supplementary appropriation, No. 3, is required for the efficient delivery of government programs over the balance of the fiscal year, and I submit this request for Members' consideration. I believe my colleague, the chairman of the standing committee on finance, will have some comments on this particular bill.

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

Comments From Standing Committee On Finance

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a few introductory comments with regard to supplementary appropriation, No. 3, for the fiscal year 1986-87.

The standing committee on finance reviewed Bill 7-86(2), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 3, 1986-87. Witnesses from each department requiring changes to their 1986-87 appropriations were called to appear before the committee. As chairman of the committee I will comment as we consider each item in the schedule to this bill to bring the concerns of committee Members to the attention of the House.

With this legislation the government seeks an increase to the 1986-87 budget in the amount of \$7,430,800 in operations and maintenance and \$8,276,000 in capital. A total increase of \$15,706,800. The committee noted that joined with supplementary No. 1 of \$3,482,500 and supplementary No. 2 of \$11,612,100 the government has presented total supplementary estimates in 1986-87 in the amount of \$30,801,400.

Downturn In Economy Will Reduce Surplus

Once again, we are being assured by government that there will be a sufficiently large surplus to offset this increase and our projected deficit. However, the committee recognizes that the current downturn in our economy and sizeable increases in government spending will undoubtedly result in this surplus being smaller than in previous years and that this surplus may not be able to be counted upon in future years.

In closing my introductory comments, I would like to thank the Members of the standing committee on finance who attended the extra sessions called last Thursday and Friday afternoons and the many witnesses that arranged their schedules to suit the demands of the committee. I shall speak more about this in the final report of our committee.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. General comments? Mr. Butters.

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Just to advise the committee, Mr. Chairman, that when we get to the detail of the supplementary estimate requirement, the individual Ministers responsible for the departments will address the questions put to them by committee Members.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Any general comments? Is the committee ready to go into detail?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

Executive, Executive Council Secretariat, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. General comments. Is the committee ready to go into detail? We are on page one, Executive, O and M, Executive Council Secretariat, \$35,000. Agreed? Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to this particular allocation, the committee had several concerns: 1) Several similar attempts have been made in the past both by government and other organizations. It is hoped that this will not be just another waste of money. It is hoped that this system will take advantage of all the other work done, taking the best from each, and providing useful information to government and other employees in the North. 2) It was noted that the Equal Employment Directorate intends to develop a data base system for the affirmative action program. This committee would like to be assured that work is not being duplicated and that both systems will work together to provide a complete information package.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Executive, O and M. Total department, \$35,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

NWT Housing Corporation, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): NWT Housing Corporation, O and M, \$420,000. Agreed? Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: The committee agrees with the transfer. Just a quick note that this is a one-time transfer and it would apply only to the 1986-87 year. It was not a base budget increase of any type.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$420,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Culture And Communications, Library Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Culture and Communications, O and M, library services, \$95,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Equal Employment Directorate, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Equal employment directorate, O and M, \$64,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Personnel, Staff Relations, Total Capital

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Personnel, capital, staff relations, \$364,000. Agreed? Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Just to indicate that the committee wanted to know what the formula was relative to this program and how many houses this amount of funding was going to buy. The committee was told that this extra funding would allow the completion of five deals being made now and five that were being contemplated. One concern that was unanswered was whether anyone could purchase one of these houses or if they were for sale only to employees.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

Employees First Priority To Purchase Surplus Housing

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Individuals who are eligible to participate in the plan are employees -- employees get first priority to purchase surplus housing. If no employees take advantage of the opportunity, the houses can then be advertised to the public and can be disposed of through a tender process. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could ask the Minister on the relationship between this request for additional funds for the employee house purchase/buy-back program and the revolving fund that we were asked to approve. My recollection -- it was in June of 1985 when the Legislature met in Rankin Inlet -- my recollection was that the government was proposing setting up some kind of revolving fund in which would be placed the funds that government received from the sale of government homes, and those funds would also be used for purchase of buy-backs. Can the Minister indicate how these funds are related to that revolving fund that we were asked to establish just over a year ago? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

Why Revolving Fund Not Instituted

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The revolving fund that was suggested at the Rankin session was looked into by the Department of Finance. It was found that, because the incoming money from sales, the incoming and outgoing funds would not be able to balance each other off. The criterion our government has for revolving funds, which is to be a balancing fund, just could not be met under the employee housing purchase program. Mr. Chairman, that was the reason that the revolving fund was not instituted.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Richard.

Balance Sheet On Employee Housing Sought

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, given that response, I guess one of the concerns that I would have is the desirability of having an overall picture of what we are doing from year to year in terms of employee housing. When the proposal came to Members of the Assembly that there be a revolving fund established, I think that would have given us a picture, from time to time, of whether we are breaking even with a number of transactions over the course of a year or two years or three years. But now if the proceeds of sale are going into the consolidated revenue fund on the one hand, but the funds that government uses are coming out of this budget to purchase homes, we do not really have a picture of what the balance sheet would be. I am wondering if the Minister would consider, at some point, giving the Assembly a summary of transactions that government is involved in on this program over a period of time, be it whatever is reasonable -- a year, two years, three years; that would give us a picture of what has happened and whether we have expended large amounts of money in purchasing homes and have lost money on the other side of it. Just so we would have some idea of the magnitude of what the difference is. Thank you.

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

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, I would be very pleased to supply to the committee on an annual basis, if that would be sufficient -- but certainly on an annual basis, a balance sheet of the program, both sales to employees and purchases back. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. At this time I would like to recognize Chief Felix Lockhart from Snowdrift.

---Applause

Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if the Minister could just elaborate more on the business of how an individual can purchase these houses. Can he indicate to me how long a unit has to be held on the open market, as it were, before the offer is made to an employee who is not the occupant of that unit? Is there a time frame?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have here a rather lengthy page and a bit. The document is a disposal of staff accommodation units. I would be pleased to read it into the record if that is your wish, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Does the committee want to -- Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Mr. Chairman, I do not know what the Minister has there. All I want to know is, is there a time limit when a house is to be held on the open market before an employee other than the occupant employee can purchase the house? I understand that the policy is that whoever is living in the house has the opportunity to purchase that house, as a top priority. If the occupant does not want to buy the house, is there a period of time before it is opened up to anybody to purchase the home, whether that person is an employee of the government or whether he is a private citizen?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, I do not have that information available.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. McCallum.

Discount Price On House For Government Employee

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister another question, then. Does an employee who buys the house, as it were, on the open market, get the house at a discount price? It is my understanding that the employee buys the house and gets one per cent for every year up to a maximum of 10 per cent. Does that apply if the house is on the open market?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Personnel, Staff Relations, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$364,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Government Services

Supply Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Government Services, operations and maintenance, supply services, \$40,000. Agreed? Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The committee asked the Minister to provide a report at the winter session on the success of this effort to apply for tax rebates. The committee will want to know how much is invoiced and how much collected, and I must indicate that the Minister has agreed to prepare and provide this information at that time.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Government Services, operations and maintenance, supply services, \$40,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Petroleum Products, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Government Services, capital, petroleum products, \$742,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Systems And Computer Services, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Systems and computer services, \$850,000. Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to indicate that the committee was concerned that the offsetting reductions to departmental O and M were not being requested. It was explained that amounts needed within departments will be "committed" and will lapse when not spent. And that these funds will not be spent because now Government Services will do all the purchasing.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I think my deputy minister did explain the other day at the standing committee on finance that this figure represents the fact that, you know, with the formula arranged with the department the department has had to free up that equivalent amount of O and M expenditure before they could expend any further expenditures from Government Services budget. So, I think this is currently reflective of the current year requirements, which were underfunded earlier in the year. I just want to make that comment because John Quirke is not here now. He was able to elaborate exactly what had happened before.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Government Services, capital, systems and computer services, \$850,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Government Services, capital, total department, \$108,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Public Works And Highways

Accommodation Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Public Works and Highways, operations and maintenance, accommodation services, \$2,167,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Utilities, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Public Works and Highways, operations and maintenance, utilities, \$2,757,000 surplus. Agreed? Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to indicate that the committee asked how these surpluses were being identified so early in the year especially in utilities when this year's main expenditures had not even begun. It was explained that, based on last year's history and the

success of energy conservation measures, the base for utilities was being reduced. Just to note, as well, that the base for leases is reduced because some leasing that had been planned for this particular year will not be entered into.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Public Works and Highways, operations and maintenance, utilities, \$2,757,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Public Works and Highways, operations and maintenance, total department, \$4,924,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Renewable Resources

Directorate, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Renewable Resources, operations and maintenance, directorate, \$100,000. Agreed? Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Members of the committee were concerned about the precedent being set in providing contributions to a project that was seen, or could be seen, to be a federal responsibility.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Directorate. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, the comment or observation that was pointed out by the chairman of the standing committee on finance I think should not be glossed over. This \$100,000 that is being requested is, in my view, to support a project on the international scene that would normally be the responsibility of the federal government or Government of Canada in international exhibits such as the one referred to on Canadian aboriginal lifestyles and, because it has been raised, Mr. Chairman, I would ask that the Minister responsible, for the record, indicate that the federal government is contributing to this international exhibit and the funding that we are being asked to approve is supplementing the federal funding. I personally still believe it is a bad precedent, but I think the record should show that we are not the only Canadians funding this international exhibit. Thank you.

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

HON. RED PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The honourable Member is right. This is an international exhibition and, I suppose, it could be said it is a federal responsibility. However, I believe, and my department believes very strongly, and I feel that the Legislature has directed us in that direction, that we should not sit back and allow the federal government to...

AN HON. MEMBER: Not do anything.

HON. RED PEDERSEN: ...as the side of the table says, "Not to do anything", as happened in the seal issue when that was upon us. We do not feel that we can afford to sit back and say this is a federal responsibility and then have the federal government basically end up doing a disservice to the people that we are supposed to serve.

Indigenous Survival International has asked to put up half the cost -- half, \$500,000. They have requested a contribution from our government of \$100,000. In addition to that, they have commitments of contribution from the Department of Indian Affairs, Department of the Environment, Secretary of State and from the Fur Institute of Canada. So we are proposing through this supp to contribute to it but we certainly are not the only contributors.

Directorate, Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Directorate, \$100,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): At this time the Chair would like to recognize Chief Cece McCauley from Inuvik.

---Applause

Field Services, Total 0 And M, Agreed

Field services, total 0 and M, \$100,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Pollution Control, Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Pollution control, \$54,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total 0 And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$146,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Municipal And Community Affairs

Community Planning And Development, Special Warrants, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Municipal and Community Affairs, capital. Community planning and development, special warrants, \$1,500,000. Agreed? Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to indicate that the committee asked why this project was not anticipated in time for the main estimates or by our June session, and what constituted the urgency that resulted in a special warrant?

The committee was told that several plans for this project were examined. One included use of material donated by a major corporation. The final decision was that this option was not the best plan and the current method as noted in the schedule was accepted. These decisions were not made until after the June session mainly because the study of options was not completed. As stated, the urgency was the need to start during the summer season or wait until next year.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Community planning and development, special warrants, \$1,500,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Community Planning And Development, Capital

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): \$43,000 surplus. Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I might make a couple of comments with regard to the other items?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Go ahead.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you. With regard to funding in Frobisher Bay. Members asked how long it would take for the expected revenues from lot owners to be received. We were told that this could take several years until all of the lots were sold.

\$30,000 To Plan Four-Bay Garage

With regard to the garage in Fort Simpson. Members questioned the need for \$30,000 just to plan a garage. It was suggested that suitable or adaptable plans should exist. It was further asked why this need was just being recognized now and not included in the main estimates.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, on the latter item referred to by Mr. Nerysoo, the request for \$30,000 to design a four-bay garage in Fort Simpson for the village there. I wonder if the Minister of Municipal Affairs could indicate, why is it that something like this did not appear in the capital plan in the normal sense? Why would it not have been identified in the normal schedule of design money one year and building money the next year? That sort of thing, why is it coming now in the middle of a supplementary estimate? Thank you.

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

HON. GORDON WRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As indicated, the money is pre-planning design money, and if the Members opposite will note that there is also pre-planning and design money for a gym in Hay River Reserve and a gym in Arctic Red River and a gym in Hall Beach. That is because we need the planning money this year in order to proceed with construction next summer. If we do not plan the building now, we will not be able to construct it next summer.

Why was it not in the main estimates? It is because, frankly, we usually do not provide this type of facility to a tax-based municipality and we did not have the request until midway through the year from the village, that indeed they wanted a garage. And upon inspection by officials it was determined that they indeed do need a garage and very urgently. They have a Quonset hut that they use to park all of their vehicles and it was originally intended, when it was built 20 years ago, as a warehouse. The building, because of its heating system, the deterioration of the insulation, and its being located in a flood zone area, is very poorly situated for service to equipment. So we applied our normal standards and criteria to the village of Fort Simpson as if it were a hamlet, and they are entitled to a four-bay garage. Therefore, in order for us to proceed with construction next summer we had to get the planning money this year, similar to the other facilities I mentioned. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Gargan.

Architects Paid Percentage Of Capital Cost Of Building

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to express my concern here. In a lot of the schools and complexes and community halls and that, in a lot of cases there are a lot of extras that are really not necessary. There are time switches for switches that you could just put on if you need to enter a building or shut off if you are leaving a building. But you have a lot of these fancy gadgets and a lot of people do not really understand what the purpose is of these appliances. I also understand that in a lot of cases, where private architects do their predesign of a building, they are being paid a percentage of what the capital costs of the building would be. So, rather than maybe simplify the building, they will put a lot of fancy things in there to meet up to the cost that the building is supposed to be estimated at.

In other words, if it is 10 per cent of the total cost of the building, then that is what the architect would design the building for -- to try to meet up to the estimate that is allotted for the construction of the building. Certainly, the architect would not try to go under or else he would be losing money. If a project costs, say a million dollars, then the design that he is going to do is going to meet up to that amount. And so he wants to make \$100,000 and will make a design that meets that expectation and you will get a lot of the extras that perhaps are not necessary. In a lot of cases, too, a contractor usually has people like architects and engineers and plumbers and electricians within their own organizations and they could probably do it at a fraction of the cost that it would cost this government to use a private architect to do work. I thought, maybe, that it is an area that this government should consider where perhaps, where appropriate, if a contractor were to get a contract, that part of it would be the design plan, what a building would look like, and that would maybe save the government a substantial amount on the construction as well as the design of the building.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. GORDON WRAY: Actually, Mr. Chairman, probably the reverse would happen. If you give a contractor a contract, then say, "You design the building and then build it," I shudder to think what kind of prices we would see coming in because it would be in the contractor's interest, obviously, to come in with as high a price as possible. By and large most of these facilities are designed by private architects. I think there are something like 30-odd private architectural companies in the North supported mostly by our department. We can, certainly, and we are, moving to standardize a lot of our facilities, particularly in the electrical and mechanical areas to try to cut down the costs. But I do not really think that we can do much more in terms of lowering our costs on buildings. There are some savings that we can achieve and we are working on them. But by and large, our prices are not too bad compared to other jurisdictions.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister, what is the formula being used in order to award to a particular architectural firm, the planning and designing of a particular building? Is there a formula that is in place now on how these firms are paid for a particular building?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

Proposal Calls Used In Awarding Architectural Contracts

HON. GORDON WRAY: Yes, Mr. Chairman, there is. I could not go into all the details here because they are a very complex issue, but usually we go to a proposal call. Proposals would be solicited from several companies, and then engineering staff within the Department of Public Works sit down and evaluate each proposal for which price is a factor but also the timeliness, the project team, the type of building, the type of methodology. So there is a very precise manner in which we do it. I can undertake to provide the Member with the information. Thank you.

Community Planning And Development, Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Municipal and Community Affairs, capital, community planning and development, \$43,000 surplus. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Sport and recreation, \$295,000. Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to indicate that the committee did express concern with what it saw as a considerable sum of money being spent on planning and design. However, the Minister explained that it was not possible to have standard designs for use throughout the Northwest Territories. The need in each community differed, especially relative to site development and foundation needed, which made standardization difficult.

Sport And Recreation, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Municipal and Community Affairs, capital, sport and recreation, \$295,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Municipal and Community Affairs, capital, total department, special warrants, \$1,500,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Municipal and Community Affairs, not previously authorized, \$252,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Health

Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Health, operations and maintenance, Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, \$4,656,300 under special warrants. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Health, capital, Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, \$5,219,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Social Services

Administration Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Social Services, operations and maintenance, administration services, \$131,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Family And Children's Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Social Services, operations and maintenance, family and children's services, \$2,689,500. Agreed? Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to indicate that the committee expressed concern about the escalating and seemingly uncontrollable costs associated with the young offenders program.

The Minister explained that the courts control how many youths are incarcerated and that his department cannot foresee or estimate accurately but must be able to react to situations. At present, many more youths than anticipated are being incarcerated under this program. It is expected that these extra costs can be recovered from Ottawa under fail-safe provisions.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Social Services, operations and maintenance, family and children's services, \$2,689,500. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Financial Assistance Services, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Financial assistance services, \$2,890,000. Agreed? Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: The major concern of the committee was that the government chose to announce an increase in scales, therefore increasing the amounts being spent, and then proceeded to appear before the committee and the House to ask for supplementary funding to pay for this initiative after the fact.

All Members of the committee agree that such a request is of considerable value and applauds the decision to recognize the need to increase rates. We do feel, however, that this need could have been recognized and brought to the attention of the House earlier -- perhaps in June -- and the funds voted for in advance, and then the announcement made.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Financial assistance services, \$2,890,000. Agreed? Mr. Minister.

Timing Of Increase In Social Assistance Scales Defended

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: I appreciate the standing committee's and the Member's concern that in fact the Department of Social Services recommended, and the Financial Management Board and Executive Council approved rate increases effective October 1st and now after October 1st I am asking approval for that one million-odd dollars that will be required to change the rate scales from six to 10 and to increase social service assistance in the area of the food allowance so that it is closer to and more accurately reflects the costs in the different communities.

However, the department has been working on this for a considerable length of time. We identified, in the fall of 1985, that social assistance expenditures by inflation alone were increasing faster than we had expected. I advised the Executive Council of this matter in January, 1986, and was told to find the funds from within.

At that time they also asked me to do a more detailed analysis of food costs because there were quite a few complaints from MLAs, including MLAs who were on the Executive, about differences between communities which were relatively close together geographically but had different costs, that they should not be lumped together because in actual fact the prices were different in the different communities. So my department undertook to do a detailed analysis of all the costs of food in all the communities. That material was available for us in May.

We completed the review of social assistance expenditures and had the projected shortfall for 1986-87 in our hands as well. In July the Executive Council approved a rate scale increase. During December and September the department prepared a submission for the Financial Management Board to revise the base funding to reflect the previous year's overexpenditure.

Though I understand the concern of the Members that the government went ahead in this area without waiting for the Assembly to meet, we felt that the matter was of some urgency. It was a concern in many communities. In the communities where resupply comes in by seairlift, those new groceries with the new prices were then going on the shelves and we felt that we had to respond.

Mr. Chairman, I am sure that my colleagues and most of the Members in this Assembly, I am sure, will concur with the fact that we are supposed to be an Executive Council that is elected by you to make responses on behalf of the residents of the NWT when a situation like this arises. We take advice from the Members of the Legislative Assembly, not just while they are sitting as a body, but

also when they make overtures to us between sessions, giving us their concerns. We feel it is a responsibility for us to react in situations like this with the confidence that you will support us when we make what we think is an important, well-documented and required measure to help people in the NWT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, I do not wish to debate this particular issue, but I think that the Member points out the very valid reason as to why the approach could have been made earlier. If it was so important that an increase take place as early as the fall of 1985, October, then why does the Member suggest now that there could not have been a waiting period of another month? Because clearly he has indicated, and I will raise the records tomorrow, that he was knowledgeable of the fact that an increase was required in 1985.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, I want to make it clear the department realized that there was going to be an overexpenditure in this area due to an increased volume of people requiring food allowance assistance, which was causing an overrun which turned out to be \$1,755,000 during the last fiscal year. That is the large proportion of what is being asked for. We are asking for \$2,890,000. About one million of that is to cover the increase from October 1st until March 31st. The balance of that, \$1,890,000 is to reflect an increase in the base.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I realized in the fall of 1985 that there was going to be an overexpenditure under the old rates. I was told to find the money from within, in January, when we had more adequate proof of actual expenditures. The item that the Member is referring to, that we should have come to you with, was what we did as a purposeful effort to increase the social assistance. And, as I explained to the Member, it was not until late May that the department had completed its social assistance expenditure analysis and had all the figures that we required in order to make a proper response to the food requirements due to the prices in different communities. We did not have that information available, as a department, for the Executive to review until the summer. When I took it to the Executive they asked me to get it in place as fast as possible, and we aimed for October 1st. The reason we wanted to get it in place as fast as possible is because we knew the delivery of new supplies with a new price on them were arriving into the communities by seafight, and we wanted this to be in place by October 1st. So there are two separate items here: One is the adjustment of \$1,890,000 to the base to reflect last year's cost and the other one million dollars -- I admit, we did not go to the standing committee on finance with this before we put it in place, or to the Legislative Assembly, because there was some urgency to have the item in place as early as possible. I would have liked to have had it in place by September, but we could not...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: (Inaudible comments)

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: ...but the thing is, the information was not available soon enough to do something in June, so we did it as soon as we could in the fall. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. NERYSOO: Just for information sake, the standing committee would have probably supported the honourable Member, if he had approached us earlier.

MR. McCALLUM: I think the whole Assembly would have agreed.

Financial Assistance Services, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Financial assistance services, \$2,890,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Total department, \$5,710,500. Agreed? Mr. Gargan.

No, Mr. Gargan. We are on page 15. Total department, \$5,710,500. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Family And Children's Services, Total Capital

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Social Services, family and children's services, Capital, \$308,000. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a problem -- I think it is under capital and maybe I should have gone to the other one. I have a concern over the whole business under child welfare and I thought maybe it would be appropriate to address it at this time. It is with regard to native people that are being referred under the Child Welfare Act to certain homes to be cared for. I just wanted to ask the Minister whether they have a referral committee that does this referral of these people that are young children in the social service custody. Do you have such a committee right now, and who is on that committee if such a committee is in place? This is one area I really do have concerns with. It is a really touchy issue, I understand, but I would like to get some answers.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

Child Welfare Procedures Under Young Offenders Act

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Children in the Northwest Territories come under the care of the Department of Social Services primarily through two sources. One is under the Young Offenders Act, where youth between the ages of 13 and 17 are sentenced in courts to various programs which exist. Primarily they are sentenced to either open or closed custody and the department then determines which open custody or which closed custody facility is most appropriate to the child. In a lot of cases some psychiatric work is required, often ordered by the courts before sentence is determined, and that is often used by the judges in their final determination of what should happen to the youth. So in that case it is largely a matter for the courts, to decide what facility or treatment is required, but often the judge makes his decision upon recommendations of the employees of the department.

Child Welfare Procedures Through Department Of Social Services

In the other case, which I think is of primary concern to the Member, are much younger children -- from birth until their teenage years, usually 15 and under -- but usually a lot younger age. Twelve year olds, for example, who are taken or come to the department as wards of the superintendent of child welfare. This is normally done on the initiative of the department where they see, through the social worker in the community or acting on complaints by the RCMP or some other resident of a community, that there is some danger that a child is being neglected or possibly abused and should be removed from their home circumstance. When this happens, unless the child requires a lot of therapy or some sort of special help, if the child just has to be removed from his or her environment, the department tries to foster the child out. In that attempt of fostering, they try to do it within the community and within the child's own cultural background setting.

Adoption Procedures

The department is also involved in one other area, which is the requirement for adoption. Virtually all of the adoptions in the Northwest Territories are done through the custom adoption process in which case the department merely documents for the court the necessary statistics so the court can authorize the adoption. The custom adoption is done almost entirely between family members and possibly the band council or some other body in the community which helps to achieve the proper placement of the child. In the case of formal adoptions, the department tries to find adoptions within the child's own culture. In our legislation, in fact, there is even a clause

requiring the department to go back to the grandparents and inquire as to whether the grandparents might provide a suitable home or have a recommendation that could be made for the placement of the child. So that is the procedure that is used. The Member should be aware that there is only actually a handful of formal adoptions a year outside of the custom adoption process. Virtually no children are adopted outside of the Northwest Territories, though there is the possibility that parents may move later and children may go south with them. But the department does not have a formal association with any native organizations or others in order to proceed with -- I just took some written advice from the Member for Nunakput and I will be a little shorter here. She gave me a note which said, "Get instant answers to your health and safety questions."

---Laughter

The short answer is that we do not have formal committees. This has been brought up recently by the NWT Native Women's Association, who are requesting that something be done in this area. The written question today by the Member for Tu Nedhe concerns that to some extent. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: I just wanted to express that concern primarily because I know that in Ontario, for example, 80 per cent of the children that were under custody by the Department of Social Services ended up being adopted in the United States. It is a very touchy issue, Mr. Chairman. I know that native people are the ones that are mostly affected by the Child Welfare Act. The Minister should take this seriously. It is no laughing matter. Thank you.

Family And Children's Services, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister. Total department, \$308,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Economic Development And Tourism

Directorate, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Economic Development and Tourism, O and M, directorate, \$175,000. Agreed? Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to indicate the committee wanted to know when this food fair was going to be and where. We understand that the Minister will make announcements at the appropriate time. With regard to the \$25,000 for a cost/benefit analysis to participate at Expo '88, the committee was told that the job would be contracted to a southern firm or individual.

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

MR. RICHARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The one item here, regarding an analysis being done by our government regarding possible participation in the 1988 Expo in Australia. In the context of some of the earlier discussion this afternoon, Mr. Chairman, about the government making decisions and coming after the fact for financial approval, can the Minister of Tourism indicate whether this Assembly will see the analysis or the results of the analysis before we have our foot in the door on the way to Australia? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Definitely. I would think that we would not move at all, if there is any indication that our involvement in Brisbane would not be advisable. That is one reason why we are getting some advice as to whether it is worth while considering, but in order to do that, unfortunately, we need to spend some money and that item is just strictly for that. I would advise that the Executive Council would be reluctant to move ahead without any real adequate study as to whether it is worth while taking a chance on that kind of international involvement.

But we need some preliminary review. I would not even think, at this time, that we are at all in the serious possibility of even being involved in there. But in order to keep the momentum going, at the same time, I think we should take a good look at it; whether or not it makes sense, whether or not it would be helpful to the people of the North and so on. So that is what we are prepared to do. But we will not recommend any more expenditures until all parties, particularly the Executive Council and many of the business community that have been involved, have had a chance to make input into the whole exercise. Thank you.

Directorate, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Economic Development and Tourism, operations and maintenance, directorate, \$175,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Tourism And Parks, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Tourism and parks, \$300,000. Agreed? Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to indicate the committee Members expressed concern that these funds would be used to re-establish an organization and an inventory similar to the now-defunct marketing division and the economic development revolving fund. The explanation given was lengthy but reasonably complete. Perhaps the Minister can elaborate for all Members.

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

Information On Inventories Of Available Products

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, unfortunately the information is incorrect there. We did make that impression and I would like to clarify that and apologize for any confusion here. We are not going to be establishing any marketing group or agency in our department. The information states here, on this document, "establishment of tourism and crafts inventories".

In order to clarify that we should say that if you are a tourist, for example, coming into the North, really you do not have a whole lot of information on how to get to the products throughout the North, with respect to arts and crafts. You might be lucky to find some of them in Yellowknife, but once you step out of Yellowknife or entering into the Northwest Territories as you are travelling from the South, it is very confusing for tourists as to where they can finally get the best quality products from the North. So we thought it was important that we should update the inventories that exist in the Northwest Territories, the business groups and the arts and crafts groups in all of the Northwest Territories and provide that in tourism material, which probably could be distributed through the travel agencies and so on. That is one thing that we realized was lacking, that the handouts were relatively few in Vancouver during Expo. Due to the fact that there has been tremendous interest in acquiring northern arts and crafts, we think it is important that we update the information we presently have to try to maximize the momentum that we have gained. We will not be establishing a marketing group, but we will be looking for agents in the South who could probably do that part of the job for us, selling and introducing our products using the information that has been collected. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Tourism and parks, \$300,000. Mr. Richard.

Member Not In Agreement With Item

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, one of the two items here is identified in the supplementary document as a request for \$175,000 to contract agents to market northern products by establishing a distribution and information network linking consumers and producers. Mr. Chairman, the Minister has given some explanation of that particular item just now and during the review by the standing committee on finance late last week, the Minister and his officials gave a more detailed explanation. I for one, Mr. Chairman, am not satisfied on the explanation of the need for this amount of money, \$175,000, with the explanation that was given to us, as to what these people who are going to get the contracts are going to be responsible for. It may not be worth anything but I

wanted to go on record as not being in agreement with this particular item because of the money and the explanation given. I cannot see yet -- and I have been participating in the spending of \$700 million each of the last few years -- I cannot see this one with the explanation given but I am probably missing something. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister..

Toll Free Telephone System

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I certainly appreciate it is the Member's privilege to agree or disagree and I am not surprised. But I am convinced, Mr. Chairman, that we lack that capability of selling our product and the wholesalers and consumers in the South lack tremendous information about the products or knowledge about the North. That figure is not just for establishing agents that would handle products down south in terms of marketing, but also for the first time, we will be establishing a toll free telephone system incoming from the South, to be operated by the private sector, which would in our view be helpful to the people who wish to make contact with the North, to inquire about pretty well all aspects of the tourism requirements, including buying products and seeking information with respect to travel destinations. If the Member is not satisfied that Yellowknife is a good place to visit, then maybe he should elaborate. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Richard.

MR. RICHARD: Mr. Chairman, the Minister indicates that part of the \$175,000 is to operate a toll free service to, presumably, consumers in the South, on our tourism and crafts potential here...

MR. McCALLUM: And an operator.

MR. RICHARD: Then what part of the \$175,000 is attributable to setting up a toll free system for those making the inquiries? And what is the balance? I suppose I could do the arithmetic myself to see what the balance is for these agents. My point, Mr. Chairman, is that through these two mechanisms, this toll free system and the contracting of agents who are going to carry pamphlets and suitcases and briefcases down south, we are going to have to get one hell of a return or an increase in the volume of tourism and craft products to justify an expenditure of \$175,000. That is my point. It seems to me it is a large amount of money for these limited functions. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the Member wanting detailed information before we even had a chance to even see the trial or even attempt to have a pilot project in that nature. We have not had a toll free number in the Northwest Territories but the wide estimates that we have could run probably over \$100,000 to operate that system. Mainly due to the fact that the Northwest Territories has become a popular place for many Canadians and international tourists, I think it is an expenditure well worth considering. Those of us who participated at Expo '86 are well-convinced that that need is justified. I know the Member did not participate and did not wish to participate but if you talk to your constituents, particularly the travel industry representatives, that particular item is well-supported and they will be involved in evaluating. I will be very pleased to give him all the information that he needs in terms of detail. Then after...

MR. McCALLUM: Spend the \$175,000

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Obviously the information then would be available but if you are asking us to -- the best we can give you at the moment is estimates. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. I just want to remind the Members you can argue back and forth but the word "hell" is not to be used in this House.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

---Applause

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Appaqaq.

Southerners Lack Information On The North

MR. APPAQAQ: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a comment to make on this. If we are going to have information provided toll free from the NWT I totally agree with this. I have known for quite some time -- because I always have to travel the southern route through Toronto and Edmonton, some southerners have asked me where I am going and what I do. They have no idea what the Inuit are all about or where the NWT is or where Sanikiluaq is. These are the kinds of questions that they ask. Where is the Canadian North? These are the kinds of questions they ask because they lack information. They have heard about the crafts and they have never seen these either. If they were more informed we will get the NWT economy stabilized. I am not asking a question I am just making a comment on what I have experienced while I was travelling through the South.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Ms Cournoyea.

MS COURNOYEA: Mr. Chairman, I would presume that the Department of Economic Development have looked into a preliminary feasibility of a toll free line and its value. Certainly I would not dispute that perhaps something of this nature is urgently needed. However, on the side of caution and as it was reported that the tourist industry associations would be the ones who would be manning and looking after such a toll free line. Because certain areas of the Northwest Territories have developed the renewable resources sector and put in a great deal of effort, I would want to be assured that, with the money that is being expended in the different regions and the effort of whichever group is manning the line, it would be taken into consideration that they would know where the most has been spent in advertising. It may be that when the phone is answered that the people who are answering would be parochial in another area and maybe not take into consideration some of the critical training requirements to deal with some of the types of tours and guided tours that have come into the Arctic and how they should be handled.

So other than not saying that it is not a good idea or is a good idea, we have had some experience with the regional visitors association in the Inuvik area, whereby I do not believe they have developed to the point where work for the region has been done in the best interest and it is handled by a very few people. And in an attempt to try to get in there it takes a great deal of work to make sure that another agency works. So I realize that the regional tourism associations and the territorial tourism associations do exist and I would hope that the Minister in developing the toll free line would take into consideration some of the concerns that would be within a developing agency who have done a lot of work in developing, say, a guiding sports outfit, or certain areas that are better at delivering a fishing tour than others. I know that in the Northwest Territories there are a lot of people better at delivering fishing tours than our region but in some other areas we are further advanced. So I guess I just have a general concern and caution that if the tourist industry associations are indeed going to be the ones that will be handling the toll free line, that the Minister would put certain precautions in there so that people would get treated fairly. Thank you.

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

Guidelines To Be Established

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I appreciate very much the Member's comments. The Northwest Territories is a pretty diverse region. Pretty diverse in terms of population as well. We would want to make sure that the concerns the Member raised are well-reflected and understood because I think in my view I would want to make sure that we do have strict guidelines and terms and conditions that are attached to how the Northwest Territories should be presented. We certainly do not want to be biased with one area against the other...

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: All together.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: ...like it would be southern people or whatnot. But in this job I think it is going to be crucial that we try and get the best possible message given to the people and whoever is handling that service will be well-briefed on the nature of the Territories. I would even think that it would probably be advisable to alternate some of the regional representatives from week to week or month to month. I do not know but I would want to discuss these kinds of possibilities with my officials. But I would think that given the fact that there are tremendous differences in the Northwest Territories with the interest groups and business groups, I will be very careful that we do not get into a one-track system and miss a whole lot of other regions. I appreciate the Member's advice. Thank you.

Tourism And Parks, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Thank you. Tourism and parks, \$300,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Business Development, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Business development, \$345,000 surplus. Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The committee was told that the STEP funds were being transferred to the NWT Housing Corporation and that these are funds that are left in the program for this particular year. Some Members of the committee wanted to know if a financial report relative to the costs of Expo could be provided. It was suggested that this should better be put to the Minister in the House under a different order of business. However, it should be noted that the Minister was given notice and that he will be asked to address this matter at a more appropriate time.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. McCallum.

MR. MCCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have one question of the Minister regarding the short term employment program. This is part of this particular business development estimate or total appropriation. I wonder if the Minister could tell us what total amount of money was voted to the short term employment program plan.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): The hour being 6:00 o'clock I will rise and report progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Erkloo.

ITEM 18: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILL 7-86(2), Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 3, 1986-87

MR. ERKLOO: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bills 7-86(2), 9-86(2) and 2-86(2) and wishes to report that these bills require further consideration.

Motion To Accept Report Of Committee Of The Whole, Carried

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

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Carried

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

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

ITEM 20: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Tuesday, October 28th at 1:00 p.m.

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. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters: Bills 7-86(2), 9-86(2), 2-86(2)
18. Report of Committee of the Whole
19. Third Reading of Bills
20. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Tuesday, October 28th at 1:00 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT

Available from the
Publications Clerk, Department of Culture and Communications
Government of the Northwest Territories, Yellowknife, N.W.T.
\$1.00 per day; \$30.00 for 1st session, \$20.00 for 2nd and 3rd session; or \$50.00 per year
Published under the Authority of the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
of the Northwest Territories