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YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 1987

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Don Stewart): Orders of the day for Wednesday, March 11th. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. McLaughlin.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement 30-87(1): Workers' Compensation Review Committee

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a statement concerning the Workers' Compensation Act review committee. Mr. Speaker, later today I shall table a document entitled "Workers' Compensation in the NWT, Reports of the Review Committee". Members will recall that I appointed this committee in April last year to review the Workers' Compensation Act and the system by which workers and their dependants are compensated for injuries and death arising out of employment accidents in the Northwest Territories.

The committee made a first report in August, 1986 and their recommendations were put into effect in a bill which I introduced at the October session. Their final report, which I shall be tabling today, includes 133 recommendations, Mr. Speaker, including those which were dealt with by this House in October.

Many of the recommendations can be put into effect without changes to the legislation and, in fact, some of them have already been acted upon by the Workers' Compensation Board. But there are quite a few recommendations in the report which, if they are accepted, will require amendments to the Workers' Compensation Act.

The recommendations in the report cover almost every aspect of workers' compensation. These include recommendations on: a) the board itself, its composition and its responsibilities; b) benefits for workers who are permanently disabled as a result of accidents; c) pensions for dependants of workers who are killed; d) workers' compensation funds and possible ways to invest such funds; and e) about the overall costs of the scheme which is, of course, entirely paid for by employers.

Mr. Speaker, workers' compensation affects everyone who works in the Northwest Territories. It affects self-employed people and it affects every employer. It is hard to think of anyone over the age of 16 who is not affected by the Workers' Compensation Act.

The review committee received a total of 37 submissions from a wide variety of sources, including employers and organized labour; associations; unions; government departments; municipalities; and individuals. The committee covered a lot of ground in a very short time. I would like to express my appreciation to Letha MacLachlan who chaired the committee -- I believe she is in the gallery today -- and to George Foley and Lyle Hawkins, the other two members who represented the interests of workers and employers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Item 3, Members' statements.

Item 4, returns to oral questions. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. MacQuarrie.

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question Q124-87(1): Meeting With NWT Senior Citizens Society Regarding Special Needs

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Health. I am aware, Mr. Minister, that the NWT Senior Citizens Society has been concerned over the past year or more to try to determine whether our government is able to give some assistance with special health needs of the elderly, whether it is eyeglasses, dentures, hearing aids and so on. I know that the Minister was asked by the seniors to meet with them to discuss this. Could I ask whether the Minister has met, and if so, what the results of that meeting are?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question Q124-87(1): Meeting With NWT Senior Citizens Society Regarding Special Needs

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I met with the NWT Senior Citizens Society the other evening and updated them on what the department has done to date, which is, Mr. Speaker, using the information available from the survey of aged and handicapped of the NWT which was done by Social Services and Health -- using that information and providing it to Blue Cross, who operates health insurance programs and administrates health insurance programs for other jurisdictions. We have had them look into the cost of this and my department now has figures from Blue Cross indicating to us what it would cost to provide services in the area of dentures, eyeglasses, extending pharmacare to include spouses of seniors, etc. I hope to be able to take some of this information to the Executive Council on this and hope to take some action during the upcoming fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Item 6, written questions. Are there any written questions? Item 7, returns to written questions. Mr. Clerk.

ITEM 7: RETURNS TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Speaker, the following returns have been filed: Return to written Question W23-87(1), asked by Mr. T'Seleie of the Minister of Renewable Resources; return to written Question W24-87(1), asked by Mr. Gargan to the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs.

Return To Question W23-87(1): Fish Movement Studies

Hon. Red Pedersen's return to Question W23-87(1), asked by Mr. T'Seleie on March 4, 1987, regarding fish movement studies:

In response to the Member's question regarding studies on the movement of fish between the Mackenzie River and Great Bear Lake through the Bear River. Studies had been conducted on the Bear River between 1972 and 1974, by capture/recapture techniques. Results show that there is a definite migration of grayling through the Bear River to the outflow of Great Bear Lake and also some evidence of arctic cisco moving through this area in late fall. Results can be found in the study conducted by K.T.J. Chang-Kue and R.A. Cameron titled "Survey of Fish Resources of Great Bear River, NWT", published by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, publication number 1510, May 1980. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans is presently forwarding this publication to my department.

More recent studies are included with Interprovincial Pipeline (NW) Ltd. reports conducted in 1982 regarding aquatic resources along the IPL pipeline route. These studies, however, deal with the potential of fish resources, but are not conclusive to definite fish movement.

Return To Question W24-87(1): Capital Recoveries On Community Complexes

Hon. Gordon Wray's return to Question W24-87(1), asked by Mr. Gargan on March 4th, 1987, regarding capital recoveries on recreation facilities:

In response to the Member's question regarding the levels of community contributions for recreation facilities, I have provided to the standing committee on finance a detailed listing of these contributions on recreation facilities in the last three years. If the Member wishes a copy, this can be provided.

In deciding to accelerate a number of recreation facilities for construction next year, the Executive Council recognized these projects would have to enjoy certain concessions if they were to be successfully completed and achieve the desired local employment. Normally, major recreation projects are scheduled over a three year period, with pre-design and planning in year one, working drawings in year two and construction in year three. Communities, therefore, have at least three years to identify the necessary funds for their portion of costs. This is true for the arena/community hall complex in Fort Providence, as it is for other non-accelerated projects. In the case of the approved accelerated projects, planning, design and construction must all occur next year. To complete accelerated projects within the year, we will not require communities to contribute to the cost of the basic facility.

I emphasize that these are basic facilities with a standard design and very little in the way of improvements and fixtures. The intent is that communities will contribute as they can in providing tenant improvements. In some cases, communities have already identified funding for such improvements. In Fort Resolution, as the Member is likely aware, the community intends to construct a shed adjacent to their new arena to house an ice resurfacer at an approximate cost of \$75,000. The communities of Coppermine, Sachs Harbour and Pond Inlet, for example, have indicated they will assist the cost of site preparations but I do not have final details, as discussions are really only beginning now. The Member can be assured that I am strongly encouraging all communities to contribute to their new facilities by way of improvements to the basic facility.

I should also point out that I did indicate to the Members of the standing committee on finance and to this House during my opening comments to the department's budget, that my intention is to seek changes to our facilities policies. The priorities and planning committee has reviewed and approved in principle a capital assistance policy for the department which establishes a standard approach to all capital buildings and works programs of the department. I intend to propose to my colleagues on the Executive Council that for all basic recreation facilities -- halls, gyms, arenas and, perhaps, curling rinks -- the government build basic standardized facilities and fund the major costs. Communities will be responsible for all tenant improvements to these facilities. This direction is consistent with the approach I have taken with accelerated projects next year.

Concerning the possibility of compensating those communities, such as Fort Providence, that have contributed their share for recreation facilities, I am afraid my department does not have the funds to make this type of commitment. These projects have been supported for inclusion in the department's budget on the basis of the community's willingness to contribute to their costs, and I would expect this community commitment to continue; otherwise we will not have the funding to complete these facilities as planned.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Are there any further returns to written questions?

Item 8, replies to Opening Address.

Item 9, petitions.

Item 10, reports of standing and special committees. Item 11, tabling of documents. Mr. McLaughlin.

ITEM 11: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following document: Tabled Document 44-87(1), Workers' Compensation in the NWT, Reports of the Review Committee.

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

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also wish to table the following document: Tabled Document 45-87(1), Alcohol and Drug Co-ordinating Council Annual Reports, April 1, 1984 to March 31, 1986.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Tabling of documents. Item 12, notices of motion. Mr. Ballantyne.

ITEM 12: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 18-87(1): Retention Of Flow-Through Shares In The Income Tax Act

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, March 13th, I will move the following motion: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for High Arctic, that this Legislative Assembly request that the federal Minister of Finance retain provisions for flow-through financing in the Income Tax Act and not remove them as part of the tax reform.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Notices of motion. Mr. Gargan.

Notice Of Motion 19-87(1): Egg Quota For The NWT

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to give notice that on Friday, March 13th, I will move the following motion: Now therefore, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Rae-Lac la Martre, that this Assembly recommend to the Executive Council that it draft legislation for the control of egg exporting permits; and further that the Executive Council consider providing the Hay River Reserve Band with the first option for an egg quota.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Notices of motion. Notices of motion. Item 13, notices of motion for first reading of bills. Mr. Sibbeston.

ITEM 13: NOTICES OF MOTION FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 30-87(1): Plebiscite Act

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, March 13th, 1987, I shall move that Bill 30-87(1), An Act to Amend the Plebiscite Act, be read for the first time.

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

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 8-87(1): Elections Act

HON. TOM BUTTERS: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, March 13th, 1987, I shall move that Bill 8-87(1), An Act to Amend the Elections Act, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Notices of motion for first reading of bills. Item 14, motions: Motion 12-87(1), Northern Heritage Society funding. Mr. MacQuarrie.

ITEM 14: MOTIONS

Motion 12-87(1): Northern Heritage Society Funding

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS the Northern Heritage Society has developed the northern heritage research project, which annually provides significant opportunities for young northerners, aged 17 to 22, to advance their academic understanding of archaeology, biology and environmental geography, and provides them with practical experience in the development of a scientific attitude and the learning of scientific methods;

AND WHEREAS the Northern Heritage Society has developed the arctic science assistant program, which is a two-way employment referral system designed to bring researchers working in the North together with northerners who are qualified and interested in working in the field of science;

AND WHEREAS the Northern Heritage Society is facing financial difficulties, severe enough that its continued existence is in question;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for High Arctic, that this Assembly recommend to the Executive Council that it consider providing emergency funding to the Northern Heritage Society during this calendar year and, in addition, that it consider providing core funding for future years;

AND FURTHER, that this Assembly recommend to the Ministers responsible for Renewable Resources, Culture and Communications, and Education that they examine ways to provide ongoing departmental assistance to the Northern Heritage Society.

MR. SPEAKER: Your motion is in order. To the motion.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to advance this motion because I believe that the Northern Heritage Society handles programs that, in my estimation, are very worth while. When I gave notice of the motion, I heard immediately the honourable Government Leader call across the floor that I was advocating a bigger deficit; and I wish to make it clear, Mr. Speaker, that I am not advocating a bigger deficit. When I challenged the deficit financing that the government has become involved in, I made it clear that I would, from time to time, suggest initiatives that would cost money and I would not apologize for doing that because, as I said, it is the government's job to set priorities, make decisions among alternatives and work within the budget set by this House.

If this motion passes, Mr. Speaker, it is a signal to the government that the House thinks that this program is worthy of support and, of course, the motion is not a directive to the government, as we have been reminded by the government on numerous occasions that, in fact, we do not have the power to direct the government. So if it passes, the government certainly has the right to compare it to other worthy programs before making its decision. But in doing that, I hope that they will be well aware of this program and why it is a worthy program.

The objectives of the society, Mr. Speaker, are noted on one of the pamphlets that they have produced here. They are to: preserve and promote northern cultural and natural heritage through research, education and training; develop awareness of, and pride in, the heritage of the NWT; promote communication between people involved in northern research, education, training and development; promote communication and co-operation between the scientific disciplines and to foster an integrative approach to northern science; promote a spirit of co-operation between scientists and northern residents for the mutual benefit and education of both; and promote the principles of consultation and consensus in the development of the Northwest Territories.

Northern Heritage Research Project

The society, Mr. Speaker, with those objectives, carries out two major programs. One of them is called the northern heritage research project. Each year under this project a summer field school program is held on Devon Island, where a number of young northerners -- and they certainly have many, many applications, and the number depends on the amount of financing that they have available -- where many young northerners, mostly aboriginal northerners and mostly from communities across the NWT, learn more about their own history and heritage and learn more about science in the North. It is a summer field school where they camp and do practical work in a variety of areas. Generally this is done at an archaeological dig where the young students would study arctic ecology, environmental geography, and archaeology itself. They would listen to lectures, do readings, participate in discussions and in lab work. And in doing all this, of course, they learn about their own heritage and they will be able to assist scientists in the future to be more sensitive to northern concerns in conducting their studies.

I think, too, what is perhaps most important to me is that undoubtedly this program develops in young people an appreciation of the importance of the scientific method in learning about the world that we live in and the land and the people in that world.

Mr. Speaker, I have been fortunate to know at least two young people who have been through this program, not from my own community, but I can say unquestionably that they were obviously extremely enthusiastic about the program and felt that it was very beneficial to them. It was obvious to me as well, in speaking to them, that it was not just an outward expression of enthusiasm, but it was clear that they had gained important knowledge and that there were important attitudinal changes in them.

Arctic Science Assistant Program

The second program that the Northern Heritage Society sponsors is called the arctic science assistant program and it is a two-way employment referral system, designed to bring researchers working in the North together with northerners who are qualified and interested in working in the field of science. I know on many occasions in the past, we have heard northerners exclaim with disgust about the attitude of researchers from the South, who in many cases, in my estimation, are doing important research, but they come north and do their studies without sensitivity to northern people and go away and we seldom hear about what they have done. This kind of program could help to change that.

So it is clear, Mr. Speaker, that these programs give practical substance to a number of objectives that this government, the Government of the NWT, and this Assembly obviously share. Some of these, and I think all Members would agree with them, are:

- 1) Fostering knowledge about and preservation of the North and particularly about the heritage of aboriginal peoples. That is something that the Northern Heritage Society is interested in and this Assembly and the government as well.
- 2) Ensuring that scientific research is conducted in accord with northern values.
- 3) Providing training in important skill areas, training that can lead to further professional studies or to employment. Useful skills are learned.
- 4) Fostering employment of northerners in meaningful jobs, both providing summer employment to students, but also in the longer term providing employment to people either who become skilled at assisting northern researchers or who in fact go on themselves to become scientists and earn a living in that way.

So for all of these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I find the activities of the Northern Heritage Society very worthy of consideration of support and I hope that other Members will, as well.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. MacQuarrie. Mr. Pudluk, as seconder.

Beneficial To Learn About Heritage And Culture

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I am very happy to be the seconder of the motion. The Northern Heritage Society has been working in my constituency for many years now. The young people are very happy to be working with the archaeologists and they learn about their heritage and their culture and they learn about the old traditional tools that they used to use. When they first see these old tools, they are very happy to see the fact that they are learning about their old traditional ways. However, at the present time there has been lack of funding and this program is very important for the younger people. It is going to be very beneficial in the future for our younger generation. It is evident that this should not be dropped in the near future; it should continue. Also, the Northern Heritage Society works with the young people and it will be beneficial to the younger generation because they will be learning about the past. The mover of the motion has said most of what I was going to say. I want all the Members to support this motion because it deals with our younger generation. Perhaps the younger generation can teach us something else, too, about our past. I am very happy to be the seconder of this motion. Also, I would like to see this motion carried. Thank you.

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

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to make a comment about the motion. I will be supporting the motion for the reasons that we are all aware of. Since I became an MLA three years ago, I have been trying to fight for a heritage building in my community, but that building has been allocated to somebody else. As the people of the North know, when they start looking for old artifacts they usually send them out to places other than our communities. A few days ago when we went over to look at the museum here, we saw a mask which was found near Pond Inlet. My wife stated to me that she wanted to find something like that but she was told that if you kept an old artifact you will be breaking the law. In the High Arctic they are starting to talk about the culture and the fact that they are losing their old traditional ways and they would like to see these in their communities instead of in other places. That is why they wanted to get a museum/heritage centre in Pond Inlet.

As Ludy Pudluk stated, the younger people should continue to learn more about their traditional values. And sometimes it gets confusing to the younger people because they do not know which tradition to go to, whether it be the white man's world or the Inuit tradition of values. So they do not really have a culture. Sometimes the younger people tend to lose their Inuit values. I think it is part of the discussions that we always talk about; we do not want to lose our culture and our traditions. And this may be one of the roads for younger people to learn about their tradition and the Inuit values. They will be proud to be what they are and they will start learning about their past. I can give a lot of reasons why I am supporting this motion but I am sure there are some other people who would like to talk to this motion. I just want you to know that I will be supporting this whole-heartedly and I would like the other Members to support this motion, too. Thank you.

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

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say that I will be supporting this motion, primarily because a lot of the history that belongs to the aboriginal people up here has not really been researched or studied. Also, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that I am encouraging the young people to find out as much about their past as possible because one never knows how much longer we might exist up here with the military build-up. Thank you.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

Motion 12-87(1), Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Question being called. Do you wish to close debate, Mr. MacQuarrie? Question being called. All those in favour? Opposed if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Item 14, motions. Item 15, first reading of bills: Bill 17-87(1), Mechanics' Lien Act. Mr. Minister.

ITEM 15: FIRST READING OF BILLS

First Reading Of Bill 17-87(1): Mechanics' Lien Act

HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Kivallivik, that Bill 17-87(1), An Act to Amend the Mechanics' Lien Act, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: I have a motion on the floor. To the motion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

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

---Carried

Bill 17-87(1) has had first reading. First reading of bills.

Item 16, second reading of bills. Item 17, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Bill 1-87(1), Appropriation Act, 1987-88; Bill 7-87(1), Education Act; Bill 6-87(1), Criminal Injuries Compensation Act; Bill 2-87(1), Advisory Council on the Status of Women Act, with Mr. Wah-Shee 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 1-87(1), APPROPRIATION ACT, 1987-88

Department Of Economic Development And Tourism

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): The committee will come to order. Mr. Minister, do you wish to invite any witnesses before the committee?

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, yes, I would like to.

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my right is Mr. Alan Vaughan, acting deputy minister. On my left is Mr. Bill Graham, chief of finance. Thank you.

Motion To Delete \$100,000 From Department Of Economic Development And Tourism Budget Contributions

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mahsi cho. I do believe we have a motion on the floor. For the record, I will read the motion: I move, Mr. Chairman, that this particular \$100,000 be deleted from contributions under the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. It was moved by Mr. McCallum. To the motion. Mr. McCallum.

MR. MCCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was just finishing up comments that I wanted to make when we reported progress yesterday. I think, again, the point has been made by others and I wanted to make it one more time. If this is a grant for a new business, I believe that there are ways and means by which this new business can get funding from the government other than by an outright grant -- a one-time grant. There are ways and means of doing this within programs of the Department of Economic Development. It is not enough and it should not be enough that a Minister through his own largesse can dole out particular amounts. We have already given the Minister and this particular part of capital a three million dollar slush fund. He has no policies laid out for it. There is no program involved with it. And here it is, in terms of taking, for the second day, taking a lousy \$100,000 from an \$800 million budget and the government are going snakey over it. Terrible thing to do, to suggest that we should have them cut out \$100,000 of the Minister's largesse from a total budget of \$800 million. Or to take \$200,000 that we are going to spend in one way and now want to spend in another way. To take that out of such a large budget -- just terrible on our part to even suggest that they should cut it. I think enough has been said about this one as well, Mr. Chairman. I call for the vote.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): To the motion. Mr. T'Seleie.

MR. T'SELEIE: Mr. Chairman, I just want to indicate that I am supporting the deletion of these funds. I do not think it has been satisfactorily answered as to why this particular item has not been dealt with through the application of grants, etc. Yesterday the Minister said the reason they did not want to deal with it that way is that they wanted to be up front with it. My feeling is that it is unusual procedure to just list a project in a capital plan and it is highly unusual that -- if the department is taking a chance on doing that then they are taking a chance on having it deleted. That is what I have to say.

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

Funding Is Not Part Of Existing Loans Program

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Unlike Ms Cournoyea, when the Minister tells us that the money apparently has a purpose different from what it did when it first was put into the budget, that does not make me more comfortable in supporting the Minister. It disturbs me.

MR. McCALLUM: Right on.

MR. MacQUARRIE: I have to ask what is going on if that is the case. When it was first put into the budget, it had the purpose apparently of being used to repair an existing facility with perhaps the thought of then selling that to a private enterprise. Now, apparently it is available to someone who wants to establish a private enterprise. It is not part of any existing grant or loans program and I find that highly irregular, Mr. Chairman, that it should be outside of these programs -- \$100,000 hanging in the air, waiting to be plucked by somebody, we know not whom. If it is not under the established programs, then I have to ask, how is it going to be determined, and by whom? How is it going to be determined which business gets that \$100,000? Which proponent? It seems to me if there is no established program under which the money is available, it will come back to being a decision of the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. I personally do not like to see government business conducted in that way, Mr. Chairman. So, I certainly will support Mr. McCallum's motion to delete the item.

I notice in a package of information we just received today, Mr. Chairman, among many booklets, one of them is called, "How to Establish a Business in the Northwest Territories". Well, on a quick reading of it, I find it is incomplete. They have to add one more line, Mr. Chairman, and that is, "If you want to establish a business in the Northwest Territories, make sure you get to meet the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism."

MR. McCALLUM: Right on.

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

Development Of Renewable Resource Industry

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Convincing or not, I will at least try to explain some of the things that are happening. All the Members of the Assembly about three or four years ago came into this House and stated that economic development was one of their first priorities and one of their platforms during the last election; that we must stimulate the renewable resource industry and other sectors should be developed, not just support to the non-renewable resource industry. So we are doing that, but now that we are doing that, they say we should not be doing those things.

Mr. Chairman, I will say -- and however small my integrity is, I am not going to let it be eroded if there is any within me, because this is not slush money. There are a number of people who rely on the small-scale fishing industry, which is a very important part of the base of that community. It does not mean anything to Members from Yellowknife -- to care about developing a fishing industry in the Eastern Arctic. But I am in favour of developing all areas of the renewable resource industry, whether it be agriculture, whether it be a dairy farm in Yellowknife. I just issued a cheque the other day to keep the dairy farm alive. Was that wrong? Should I hide that fact?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Curley, to the motion, please, whether you are for or against the deletion of \$100,000. That is the motion. Mr. Curley.

Initiative Under Commercial Renewable Resource Use Policy

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: There is no question about that. There has been a misrepresentation on facts and I am trying to explain the facts here. Are we interested in facts or not? There are a number of policies within the department and they are up to date. One is an umbrella policy which was jointly developed by the Department of Renewable Resources and our department and it is called, "Commercial Renewable Resource Use Policy". That is a comprehensive policy. From that policy flow a number of schedules. One has to do with the logging industry, lumber support policy and fishing support policy. The other has to do with fish price support policy, mainly for Great Slave Lake. So out of the appendix to that major policy -- yes, I will table that series of policies. You can have them by tomorrow and you will see that the department and the government has a broad enough base to initiate a number of initiatives on a broad scale.

Unfortunately, the confusion is that I did make a wrong statement yesterday to you, Mr. Chairman, while you were sitting on the other side, that originally the idea was to renovate the plant but through discussions last summer it became known that it was not viable to just renovate the existing plant. The discussions have now been focussed on building a new plant and it is not at all different from any other major renewable resource infrastructure that we support, where GNWT contributes in that amount. During the last six years this government, for instance, has given to Slave River Saw mill in excess of \$500,000 and this year we will be contributing \$120,000 to the plant. Again, the commercial renewable resource use policy is a justifiable basis for that.

Mr. Chairman, that item is important to keep the fishing industry alive in Rankin Inlet and, as well, to demonstrate that the fishing industry is important to the Eastern Arctic. Therefore, I certainly hope the Members will consider the consequences that we would have if the item is voted down. Thank you.

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

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to say that I do support the Minister in the area of economic development and tourism. However, I do have some difficulty with some of the expenditures that occur in particular areas. This is one of the difficulties I have with some of the budget items that we are addressing at this time.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Gargan, I think you should confine your remarks to the motion on the floor. The motion basically states the deletion of \$100,000 from the contributions, specifically to the fish plant contribution in Rankin Inlet. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I would like to say then that I have some difficulty in supporting the motion, mainly because from some of the conversations I understand that this business is going to be privatized. If it is going to be privatized, who is it going to? And why is the Minister making that type of contribution when in fact they are going to be privatizing it? I have difficulty -- once you improve the plant and it is being privatized, I do not know who it is going to benefit. Will it be one individual or the community? I cannot say, and I have difficulty. If I cannot get a clear picture then I have doubts that I could support such an initiative. At this time I would support deleting this item.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: I just want to make it clear that I am in favour of developing the fishing industry in the NWT and in Rankin Inlet, but I favour developing it along rational and accountable lines and I have the fear that this is not so. If there are resource use policies available, there is obviously funding under them and the question has to be asked: Why is this not part of that, if that is the case?

Motion To Delete \$100,000 From Department Of Economic Development And Tourism Budget Contributions, Defeated

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

---Defeated

Contributions, Keewatin, Total Capital, Agreed

We are on capital page 13.13. Contributions. Total Keewatin. Mr. Erkloo.

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to go back to headquarters, renewable resource projects, \$3,000,000. Is it possible?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Erkloo, I would like to complete the contributions. However, yesterday we did not approve the total headquarters for the amount of \$3,000,000. So I will be going back to that amount after we have completed total contributions. Total Keewatin, \$115,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Contributions, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Total contributions, \$115,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

Business Development, Buildings And Works, Headquarters, Total Capital

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Now I am going back to business development, buildings and works, headquarters, \$3,000,000. Mr. Erkloo.

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Looking at these projects, this is mainly toward renewable resources. Perhaps you can clarify exactly what the \$3,000,000 is going to be used for and which communities it will be distributed to. Thank you.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is for renewable resources and for wildlife; it is directed to that. It is for the whole NWT; food production, agriculture and fur products in the NWT, and also for fisheries and oceans products. There are some areas that are going to have to be surveyed on renewable resource products. They have to do surveys before they can go ahead with different projects. Part of this is for fisheries products. There are no fish plants in some areas where they process fish. The boats they use for fishing cost a lot of money and this area has to be looked into also. We are talking about renewable resources in the Kitikmeot; agriculture, there should be some greenhouses implemented. These are the areas covered in certain projects. Looking at the Mackenzie area, we have to help the farmers in that region in developing farms. This amount of money is going to be directed to various renewable resource projects. I am not going to clarify exactly how the contribution is going to be made in the matter of each different region.

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

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) I would like to thank the Minister for his reply. Perhaps you could clarify a little further on how this contribution is going to be distributed. For example, in the Baffin Region, exactly how much would you contribute to Baffin? Or Keewatin?

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

Projected Distribution Of Funding

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (Translation) There has been some paperwork done on the Baffin Region; \$600,000 will be allotted to the region. In Pond Inlet there is going to be a farm. If we are going to be doing the same thing for other settlements we will be using these funds. Also for Sanikiluaq, there will be money for a project there. Fishing during the wintertime is going to be an ongoing business and they are going to have to have some funding available. There is a project for scallops in Pangnirtung going on and they do not have adequate facilities or equipment. There is a plan for fishing in Igloodik. They have to go by plane to get into that fishing place and they are trying to get boats for transportation purposes. There is a fishing plant in your area that has to be completed. There will have to be some meat processing equipment in the Cambridge Bay area. Also for Expo '86 there were musk-ox that had to be shipped out from certain areas. There will have to be meat processing plants in those areas, to deal with certain wildlife. I am not clarifying as to exactly how much each region is going to take, but for the Baffin about \$600,000 and for Keewatin about \$500,000. There are still some areas we have to work at in those regions.

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

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think this would be in a different area. Ludy Pudluk mentioned this, that if people want to form their own business they are just told that there is no funding available for assistance. The moneys in these areas are mainly toward existing renewable resource projects and it is under headquarters, renewable resource projects. I would

like to ask for non-existing projects, for anyone who would like to form a business that is not existing at this time, if they wanted to set up their own business within next month, is there any funding available for business development? Is there any funding available for those purposes? Thank you.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to sympathize with those people in our regions. There are not too many people who would know how to get into these. Economic development officers have some training at this time but some of those are unilingual people. When there is a lack of communication sometimes we say there is no funding available. We know that we have to communicate better to inform the people from our department to not say that there is no funding available. Sometimes even if we do not have the funding, but there are always banks that they can get loans from, and lending institutions. They do not know where to go. If this funding goes through, for these renewable resource projects, wildlife and agriculture, more funding will be available for these purposes to improve these areas. If people wanted to improve these services or these projects, I would encourage them to talk with the economic development officer or the chamber of commerce about how they would go about forming their own business.

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

Availability Of Capital Funding For New Businesses

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) On the amount of three million dollars, the question that I asked was if there is any money, funding, available to those businesses that are not in existence right now. In the capital estimates, is there any money available for those businesses that are not existing right now? Looking at the amount, three million dollars, the Minister has the authority to help those different individuals and he can change them and distribute the funding accordingly. My question again is, if for instance, I would like to start my own business or if my uncle wanted to start a business, would he be able to get some funding from this three million dollars? I also heard that the three million dollars is distributed by the Minister to various communities; \$600,000 would be going to communities of Baffin Region but it does not state in here which communities. Have you already distributed the \$600,000? Thank you.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand your question now. Beginning April 1st, we will be distributing to business developments as there is going to be some funding available. When we are under operations and maintenance it will be more clear where we are distributing the money. The federal Special ARDA will be talked about and how this could be taken advantage of by people, under business loans and the Eskimo Loan Fund. But, this year, for contributions to existing businesses, such as construction businesses, when the economy went down the amount of funding was used up. There were more people requesting funding but we did not have any more funding available for those purposes. That is probably the reason why the Baffin Region people said that when they request funding to start a business they are refused, but it is going to start up again in April.

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

Amount Earmarked For Baffin Region

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Last question, Mr. Chairman. You stated that, for instance, in Igloodik they would get a longliner for fishing expeditions and in Pangnirtung for the purpose of getting scallops and halibut. You said that there is a little over \$600,000 for Baffin Region. Do I understand correctly that \$600,000 amount is distributed, will really be distributed to the Baffin Region? For instance Kitikmeot and Keewatin would not be getting the \$600,000 that is spoken for, for the Baffin Region. Is that amount, \$600,000 or thereabouts, going to the Baffin Region? Thank you.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. From what we have heard, if they are going to start economic fishing, if we are to be able to sell the fish that we catch, we have to start producing them as food items. If they do not get assistance from the NWT government they will not be able to go on their own. We will not be able to get any money from the federal

government if we do not give those moneys out to the businesses in the communities. The \$600,000 amount is directed to the Baffin Region. There are certain amounts of money designated for the different regions. I think you said that there was \$300 million. It is only three million dollars for renewable resource projects. It is going to be distributed to different communities and different regions; different amounts for different regions. For the Baffin Region it will be mainly distributed to those projects for fish plants.

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

Request For Explanation Of Purpose And Disposition Of Funding

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On this particular item, it is my understanding that this three million dollars was for renewable resource projects that would be new. Now I hear from the Minister that he has already doled out or determined what particular regions are going to get. He has indicated that Baffin is going to get \$600,000 and Keewatin \$500,000. That leaves \$1.9 million. Can the Minister indicate to me where that \$1.9 million is going, among the other three or four regions? Also I would like to know, in terms of this, if it is really for new initiatives in the renewable resource sector. Is the money going to be there for people to apply for if they come up with something new or different? Or is it assistance to ongoing projects that are under way now and have been under way for some time? Are there policies developed for this program? Or is it, again, as the previous speaker said, that it is up to the Minister simply to pass it around, that he has control of this? What is this three million for? Is it for new initiatives in the renewable resource sector or is it for assistance for ongoing projects? Of the \$1.9 million that he has not indicated he has put out, what are the other regions getting?

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: There is a policy for it and I will mention to the Member, for the second time now, that I will table those documents tomorrow. This fund will be used for new projects; for instance, country food requirements, and mainly for capital assistance toward that industry. There will be support for the agricultural industry. It will be used for developing various support programs for all types of possibilities that exist south of the lake. I am sure the Members know more about the possibilities than I do. It will be used for renewable resource industry, for the fur industry and obviously I did mention some of the possibilities in the Eastern Arctic.

I can list some of the projects that are quite possible. In terms of agricultural development, we are continually lobbied to support the poultry industry development, a dairy farm, community gardens south of the lake, cattle operations, portable slaughter houses, as well as the other varieties of small cattle industries that exist. Representations were made during the food conference which asked for varied support to that industry. So in terms of the remainder of the budget, it will be used right across the Territories, including Kitikmeot and Mackenzie, south of the lake, and Inuvik area. Thank you.

Business Development, Buildings And Works, Headquarters, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Business development, buildings and works, total headquarters, \$3,000,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Business Development, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Page 13.13, total business development, \$3,350,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): There are information items on page 13.14, dealing with Expo '86. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to deal with the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, but I want to raise a point of privilege.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Your point of privilege, Mr. Gargan.

Point Of Privilege

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I was passed a note by the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism indicating that if I did not support him in his community for that \$100,000 -- obviously he is saying that he would not support my constituency for the private sector. That disturbed me quite a bit and I just wanted to make it public, because obviously twice there was a Special ARDA application given by my own area which was turned down by the Special ARDA board. And his department representative also sits on it. So I just thought I would make that public. If further applications are given, if it is based on the threat of this note, then I will know where the refusal is coming from. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. Gargan, your point of privilege is in order and noted in the records. The rest of the items on page 13.15 and 13.16 are information items.

Total Capital, Agreed

We will go back to page 13.05, total capital expenditure, \$5,422,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Does the committee agree that this capital expenditure for the Department of Economic Development and Tourism is concluded?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Directorate, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. We are now on the main estimates for the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, page 16.08. We are into budget detail, directorate, total O and M, \$1,133,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Policy And Planning, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): We are on page 16.09, policy and planning, total operations and maintenance, \$833,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Tourism And Parks, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Page 16.10, tourism and parks, total operations and maintenance, \$6,369,000. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Last summer at Long Lake beach here and the park that is adjoined to it, as a result of some confusion, which certainly was not the responsibility only of this government but of the municipal government as well, adequate funding was not budgeted for proper supervision of the park and the beach. Problems arose there last year and I know in midsummer, Yellowknife MLAs very much appreciated the co-operation of the department and specifically, Mr. Graham, who is one of the witnesses, in trying to address that problem midstream. Although there was no final solution, I think for the remainder of the summer it was addressed adequately. Could I just ask from the department's point of view, whether plans are proceeding and work is being done by the city of Yellowknife to ensure, in the coming season, that various responsibilities are clear? And could I ask what the government's participation will be in that program?

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, there was a bit of dispute last year as to the responsibilities of this department and the city's responsibilities to administer and supply lifeguards at the beach. We were not convinced that our responsibility involved supporting a lifeguard program for the local city's park. Right now there are discussions with the city and my department and I think very shortly they will announce a more acceptable type of arrangement. I am not fully informed of exactly what it will involve, but I know that the city is responsible for safety of the municipality. Therefore, I think through the discussions all the concerns that were raised last year have been addressed. So I would think these will be resolved to the satisfaction of both groups. Thank you.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, could I just ask, in those discussions what role does this government see as being appropriately its responsibility, in the operation of the park? To what extent does the GNWT feel that it has responsibilities?

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

Departmental Responsibility For Park At Long Lake

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Well, Mr. Chairman, our responsibility is always obviously, to develop and maintain the parks in the Northwest Territories that we are responsible for through our Territorial Parks Act. As a result of that, we entered into a contract with the city to maintain the park. As far as the recreational aspects of the park, that was really between the Department of Local Government and the city. I think this is where the dispute really was. They believed that we should have come up with the support for the recreational part and lifeguard program aspect of that responsibility. But we do carry out our responsibility and therefore we have been able to provide funds for the city to continue the maintenance of the local park. Thank you.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Generally the maintenance going one way and the recreation going the other I understand. One of the areas that seemed to be gray was the area of security in the camp and along the beach area. Could I ask how that is being looked at?

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Tourism and parks apparently has a responsibility for security of the day use and local park. So that will be contained in the agreement with the city. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Tourism and parks, total operations and maintenance, \$6,369,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): We are on business development, page 16.11. I had the impression that we did agree to tourism and parks. I did call and it is just that I think the Chair has to take the prerogative that once I call the divisions and the amount and it is agreed and I do not see anybody's hand up, then I will proceed to the other portion.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Point of order.

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

Point Of Order

MR. MacQUARRIE: Yes, I had wished to speak again on this item but not before someone else did and, Mr. Chairman, I distinctly saw Mr. Gargan's hand in the air, and that is why I assumed you would not be moving along. I was surprised when you said it was agreed. It has not yet been agreed, I believe, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. MacQuarrie, the Chair does not read the minds of the Members of this committee...

MR. MacQUARRIE: ...but the arm...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): ...and I wish to indicate that once we have called an amount and it is agreed to, then I will proceed to the next page. However, in this case we will go back to tourism and parks for a total O and M of \$6,369,000. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would think that it is appropriate at this time to question the Minister on zone associations. I would like to find out from the Minister, other than the fact that zone associations come up with possibilities in the areas of tourism and parks, what other influence do they have on the department with regard to any type of economic or tourism activities that could occur in the region? Does the Minister recognize other bodies that could be addressing this whole area of tourism? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Travel Industry Association And Zone Associations

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The department, through tourism and parks, is responsible for development of the tourist industry throughout the Northwest Territories, as well as to consult with the tourism industry through the zone associations. The zone associations consist of mainly the travel and hospitality industry, the hotel industry, hotels and outfitters and so on.

So the zone associations of the Travel Industry Association are a very important aspect of our consultative requirements with the industry. But we are not limited to that. As a department and as a government we can sell with broader groups, including the regional council groups, private businessmen and the airline industry, as other means of contact through the division. But the Travel Industry Association has been very important in the development of the travel industry in the NWT. It is helpful from our point of view to have a regional strategy to upgrade and develop ideas, so that within a year the government can at least carry out and implement strategy that has been agreed upon. Obviously there are smaller communities or regions that are not actively involved through the associations, but I know that the members of the TIA and zone associations are working hard to try and improve. I continue to insist that they much improve their relationship with the smaller communities. We raise the issue at every opportunity with the Travel Industry Association. Thank you.

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

MR. GARGAN: The Minister did indicate that the zone associations do play a very important part in the area of tourism. They are also funded by this department. I would like to ask the Minister whether there is any other funding that goes to other groups, for example, regional councils, from his department, in the area of economic development or tourism?

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

Limited Contact With Regional Councils

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, we do not fund, on a continuing basis, any other group besides the Travel Industry Association. The Travel Industry Association and zone associations represent a broad group. Through TIA we have a core funding arrangement with them, and support through other marketing programs that we have. We do not have direct contributions to the regional councils. Regional councils if they qualify, normally, are supported on a one-time basis, for instance, to study regional economic requirements of their regions. If they are carrying out a regional plan

for economic planning, then in some cases we do provide financial support to enable them to carry out their economic development plans. But other than that, we do have a limited contact with the regional councils. Thank you.

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

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister, again, concerning zone associations. Who is involved in those? I know they do have a regional conference or something like that and they get together and have this extravagant supper and dance and everything else and they deal with tourism. But I have never taken this group seriously, primarily because if it is benefiting my region or area, I have not noticed it. I believe that established businesses have benefited a lot, but anywhere that these established businesses might be threatened, new initiatives in this particular area are really not supported, I believe, by this group, because it is again like a little social group that really addresses only their own interests, rather than trying to distribute equal participation or equal opportunities toward other groups, which otherwise would not have that opportunity.

I really have reservations on this particular group of people. Every year I get an invitation to their ball and suppers to address areas of tourism. I have never taken it seriously, going to the zone association meetings, because I just do not think that they are out there to address the general population, but rather to ensure that their businesses are protected and they are not being threatened by other organizations trying to get into similar types of businesses to those they are in. I say sincerely that I have nothing against this particular group but I just do not think that they are properly addressing the tourist potential in their areas; and if they are, then it is for their own benefit. In other words, if there is a potential there, these associations have the first option in the area of tourism. They are the ones who know where the opportunities lie, so they jump to these opportunities.

Concerns Re Big River Travel Association And Bison Herd Potential

I know for a fact that that same group of people, the Big River Travel Association, are also interested in the potential of tourism in the area of bison in the Fort Providence area. Now whether they have influence on the Special ARDA group or not, I am afraid that they do. Because I am sure that not only has the Fort Providence group submitted proposals for the bison herd, but I am sure something else in that area must be implemented too, that a group of these people are working toward that also. So I thought, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to put on record my concern and if the Minister could answer, I certainly would like the president of the Big River Travel Association to answer some of the concerns that I am addressing. If he is sincere then perhaps I will get a letter. I do not know who the president is, but I think the concerns that I have should be known, because I do not think they are serious about the potential that might be out there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Tourism and parks, Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MACQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Does the Minister have with him, information on the number of visits in the last calendar year or tourist season, in the various zones across the NWT? What are the figures? If not the last year, you know the year before. The most recent figures. If so, could I hear them?

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, apparently the figures are not broken down into the regions. I know that the TIA, during their last meeting, were quite enthusiastic about the fact that the number of visitors that have been booked this year are indicating tremendous increase over any other year. That was as recent as about three weeks ago when they had their board meetings here. So I would think these figures would be available for the first time on a regional basis this year and we will attempt to make sure that it does take place, that it happens. We only have been using the figures during last year in excess of 40,000 visitors to the Northwest Territories, as a whole, within a year. Unfortunately, we do not have that regional breakdown now. Thank you.

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

Travel Strategy Plans

MR. MacQUARRIE: A couple of times I have heard the Minister mention regional tourism plans, I guess they would be. Do all of the zones have these regional tourism plans fully developed?

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, no, all the zone associations have not completed their travel development strategy plans. I indicated the other day that Inuvik is in the process of completing their strategies. Apparently Yellowknife is probably on top of the list of those about to release their travel plans. South of the lake area is just beginning to shape their strategies. So by spring or summer we should have all the regions completed.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: As I understand it, across the North in each administrative region, there is a regional tourism officer. But in each administrative region, they do not correspond exactly with the tourism zones. Or do they in four cases, but not in others? In other words, are there any regions other than the Fort Smith Region that have more than one tourism zone in the region?

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. All the regions except Fort Smith Region have only one zone association. Fort Smith is broken down into two: Big River Travel Association, south of the lake, and Northern Frontier Visitors Association. Thank you.

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

MR. MacQUARRIE: Mr. Chairman, I am going to want to make a motion in a minute. That is the way I understood it, the Fort Smith Region, the administrative region, is quite a large one and it is comprised of two tourism zones, the Big River zone and the Northern Frontier zone. Mr. Chairman, it is also a region that is probably the most highly populated of any of the regions, but also the region that -- although regrettably we do not have the figures -- probably draws the greatest number of visits each year. We are talking about communities south of the lake, and also those north of the lake in the Northern Frontier zone. I think Snowdrift, Yellowknife, Detah, Rae-Lac la Martre and so on are all in that Northern Frontier zone. As I understand it, this is one of the areas that has not fully developed a travel development strategy and partly, I know, our government regional tourism officers have a responsibility of helping the zones to do that. It appears that in this area, the Fort Smith administrative region, with the greater number of visitors, the greater number of businesses, the greater population, the greater amount of work to be done and plus having the two tourism zones, that they are not as far ahead as some of the other regions in developing the necessary strategies.

Of course, with the success of Expo -- and I guess I have not mentioned that this session yet, but I was one who very early on was leery about the amount of money that it might cost this government. And I see from the figures that it is a bit more than what was being estimated, but even I will acknowledge that it is tolerable because it was obviously a very great success. So I am not going to raise any questions about that expenditure at all. But because it was a success we could be having a great flood of tourists and particularly into the area that is most accessible and yet I am told that in a sense we are not really ready to meet that; partly because of the lack of a development strategy.

Motion To Recommend That Tourism Officer To Serve The Area North Of Great Slave Lake Be Hired, Carried

So at any rate, I would like to make a motion. I hope that Members will find it possible to support this because of the different circumstances in this area from others. Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommend to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism that a separate tourism officer be hired to provide services to tourism operations and to the tourism industry situated north of Great Slave Lake within the Fort Smith Region.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Could we have a copy of that motion, please? Mr. MacQuarrie, your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will not speak at length to it then. It was for some of the reasons I outlined earlier. I note for Members that this is a recommendation to the Minister. There is a clear need and the motion is simply urging the government to consider taking that step. I hope that Members will find it possible to support me in making that recommendation.

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

---Carried

Tourism and parks. Mr. McCallum.

Comprehensive Marketing Strategy

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a couple of questions on some of the tasks of this activity, relating primarily to the marketing plans and the implementation of that comprehensive marketing strategy. My understanding is that there is about \$1.5 million, give or take change, for the strategy itself. There are particular plans to increase marketing research money. The strategy is going to be implemented. It makes up the largest part of that increase in the other O and M that is noted in the budget. I would like to look a little bit more at the strategy itself and hear some more about it from the Minister as to what is going to be implemented. If you are still going to do more marketing research and you have other initiatives that are being put on for product development for tourism facilities, in other areas in this activity -- I wonder if the Minister can give us some idea of what really is going on, as to what the department is trying to do about the enhanced comprehensive marketing strategy of the department? What is it that he is marketing? What is he researching? How does he envision spending that \$1.5 million? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

Broader Presentation Of NWT To The World

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The department has been doing a thorough analysis of the evaluation of the role of the department, TravelArctic and the private sector which is, I think, growing rapidly. Obviously, today, we have a very strong private sector responsible for a share of their own marketing of some of their operators' programs and responsibilities. But as far as the government is concerned, I think the government has a continuing responsibility to have a global, broader presentation of the Northwest Territories to the world and to North America.

So, we have pretty much sort of separated the two areas, with our understanding and agreement with the Travel Industry Association. We have very much sorted out the two areas and we will do the global aspect, which means that even our initiatives this year as a result of Expo '86 convinced us that we will have to advertise outside of the Territories, much more than we have ever before through magazines like Outside and Natural History and advertise in areas through the Sunset Magazine which are travel related magazines, and through the Travel and Leisure magazines. So that is one area, presenting a message to the outdoors and adventure consumer. Another area is a sport fishing campaign, Northwest Territories being of such tremendous interest even with the North American markets, so that advertising will be carried out again through the magazines, through Sport and Field, Fly Fisherman, Natural History and in Fisherman. These are the related areas. Other areas are TV films and TV contest promotion; that is one area my department is considering.

Another area is to develop marketing aids. We hope to develop further through brochures and through the Explorers' Guide, Rivers North and posters, explorers' maps, postable displays. Again, other areas where we have not done much is through media relations programs. I think recently we have seen and we have sponsored a number of travel writers to come and tour through the Northwest Territories and many of them have joined outfitters and actually experienced on-site outdoors experience and thereby write stories about the experience that they have had in the Northwest Territories. As well, we have brought in photographers to join the adventures that the northern outfitters have been carrying out. So, in total, obviously we expect then, a tremendous, steady increase in the size of the NWT tourism industry. So significant increases have obviously been allocated in this area of our appropriation. Thank you.

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

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Within here there is an increase of approximately \$200,000 or more for product development initiatives. What products are we looking at? Are we looking at, not so much just the promotion of tourism, but are there actual products that you are trying to promote the sale of? I would expect you are trying to sell something. As well, within this area, in the area of contributions, you have an increase in contribution funding of \$160,000 for tourism facilities. What kind of tourism facilities are you helping here in O and M in the contributions and why is it necessary to increase it? I can understand that you have money for distribution to the tourist associations, that you hold in headquarters and you divvy it out among the five or six of them, whatever they get. But what is this increase in the contributions to tourist facilities? And what about the product development? What products have you developed to sell?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

Development Of Package Tour Opportunities

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I will address the two areas. For instance, the product development. My information indicates that there is \$100,000 increase to this area. We have the product development area alone. We have had experiences now that the kind of tours the consumers want are quite limited at this moment because we just do not have the package tour kind of opportunities that the consumer in southern United States would like to see. Obviously there are a variety of visitors that can come up here; some of the macho people who are interested in outdoor and big game sport hunts. So there, you know, they do not really care about luxury of travel or whatever, they are out to see the wildlife and they can rough it. But when we are talking about some of the little old women from the southern United States, they are interested in a very selective kind of a tour. And then there are others who are interested in the nature tour packages, photographic and nature maybe. And then there are fishermen that are interested in, for instance, exactly how many days they wish to travel. So, given these kinds of experiences and what the travel industry and the government have heard from these people, we are now putting in money to develop particular package tour kinds of opportunities for consumers who wish to travel. So, that is why there is a significant increase in that.

The additional \$158,000 is for tourism facilities and training. We have seen that many of the facilities, in terms of restaurants and hotels, in some cases are not up to standard. One good example was the Pangnirtung situation. As a result, there is a new opportunity for the private sector to come in and we now are seeing a proposal coming into the government very shortly from the private sector initiative. But, for those other areas that cannot see a brand new facility, obviously, we must continue to support upgrading of the facilities so that they meet the health and electrical standards. And training is obviously one. We are now beginning to train local managers and workers so that they are able to respond positively to the visitors. So, as a result of these two examples, there is a significant improvement. Thank you.

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

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Everytime I hear the words "Pang" and "hotel", I get a pain. Surely, you are not going to get back into this hotel business in Pangnirtung? I thought we got rid of it -- we went through that before. Could I get an indication from the Minister of a tourist facility that you assist by a contribution? Give me an example.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

Tourism Facilities Support

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One example is at Resolute Bay where we have experienced a very good service, maybe at the top of the line, in terms of bringing in international visitors, from Asia, for tourism opportunities. The facility was not quite up to standard in terms of electrical and health requirements. So our tourism facilities support policy was able to help by giving some financial assistance to bring these deficiencies up to standard. I am informed that the present hotel in Fort Rae is now being given assistance to bring it up to standard again. So there is a program here to bring some of the older hotels that do not have any competition or alternative -- and we feel it is important -- to a liveable condition, so that the visitors can at least appreciate a place to sleep and rest and eat.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In talking on these two particular areas -- the Minister talked of training that would go on in one area as well, I guess it was with the product development moneys -- I note that as well within this there is a hospitality awareness program that you have. You put on particular courses somewhere, you have a small increase of about \$50,000 in this year's budget. Is that the kind of training program that you are referring to under the product development area? It is my understanding that the hospitality awareness program is the kind of program you may do through the Arctic College system, in restaurant work and so on. What other training programs are you involved with within this product development area?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

Training Programs For Hotel And Restaurant Personne]

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: I recently met the person who was involved in a short training program which we funded, borrowing this individual from Arctic College. They do provide that expertise. Through arrangement, we second the individual for a few weeks at a time to train mainly the native managers in the hotel and restaurant business to enable them to learn the basics of running a restaurant and catering, as well as to give them the basic techniques required in management of a hotel. The individual was recently up in the Fort Franklin area and the course was very popular. I know that she has been asked to travel again. She does enjoy it very much and I am sure the Member knows who the person is. She has been able to bring a tremendous enthusiasm to native operators. We are not worried about hotels like the Yellowknife Inn and the Explorer Hotel for all these matters. But in the isolated places, it is quite important that the hospitality industry has basic techniques so that the visitors can appreciate the kind of service that they expect. We have been able to tap that expertise and I know it is popular and the person is looking forward to moving toward the Eastern Arctic to carry on basic training for restaurant staff and small hotel staff in isolated communities.

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

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe if I could just follow up on the last comments that were made by the Minister where the suggestion was made that the tourist could appreciate the service being provided by the people in the communities. I would hope that any work, or for that matter, any of the training that is being given to people in the communities also allows them to recognize the importance of the type of service that they provide to the tourist as well. I think there is a misunderstanding at times about the tourists and really the type and manner in which communities accept them into their community. In that sense I hope that the initiatives that are being taken by the Minister and his department ensure that the communities also appreciate the efforts of tourists coming to their communities and they take the advantage to provide good service to those individuals so that they return or encourage other tourists to come to those communities because of the type of service provided.

I think that is as crucial as the tourists appreciating the service. I think there is a clear misunderstanding by many in the communities not trying to provide that type of service. I know that it is incumbent upon people in the communities to try to understand that kind of service they are now providing.

One other point, Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask of the Minister. In developing parks, in particular in the Delta and Beaufort area, has the department continued their discussions with regard to the Campbell Lake Hills park and also is there an intention on the part of the department to consider other sites for park development purposes?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

Community Involvement In Hospitality Awareness

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Yes, the Member's comments are quite important, the fact that this hospitality awareness has two sides -- the community is very vital. I think the department is moving quite slowly in some areas because the tourist industry, if it is going to succeed, has to have important support from the community. This is why our strategy is based on community-based tourism. Without the involvement of the people to the fullest extent, not just for a hotel, but for restaurant operators, the industry will not really succeed. So that is why, in many places, we first of all require involvement, as much as possible, from a variety of members of the community, as well as the municipal council.

In terms of this other point, the development of the park, I know that has been an ongoing issue. It is a continuing interest of the zone association and my department apparently is having a serious discussion with the town council at the moment. I know that there were other regional groups that were quite concerned. I would like to get a little more up-to-date information on where it is and maybe provide that to the Member by correspondence, to let him know exactly what is happening. I know it is one that the zone association has given a status report to its members on. But as an MLA, I know you will be interested in it. So I would like to take the question partly as notice and give a reply to the Member.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Tourism and parks. Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Further to the idea of the workshops that could be conducted in the various regions and in communities. Has the Minister and his department considered holding workshops with those individuals who already have businesses that cater to the tourist industry? If so, has the Minister any idea as to when those types of workshops are to be held?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I think that is good advice. I think that should definitely happen in communities where there is enough interest to get the group together. Apparently my department is continuing carrying on a hospitality awareness program. It could be very important where those groups that are catering to the tourist industry in the community could get together. We would definitely be prepared to provide further opportunities and information.

This morning I was chatting with some members of the tourism industry, private sector representatives. With regard to the outfitters and guides, for instance, I personally would like to see a broader involvement of these guides and outfitters. So I think it would be important at one point to bring all the outfitters and guides together, because they are not necessarily catering directly to the hotels but to those visitors who are interested in outdoor life and big game sport hunting, for instance. So there are such things which we are considering and I think in reply to your comment to try and bring about more awareness to these people who are serving the local tourist industry, we would certainly be prepared to develop a program that would be satisfactory.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): We will have a 15 minute coffee break.

---SHORT RECESS

The committee will now come to order. Tourism and parks. Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I could ask, have the Minister and his departmental officials considered maybe establishing a working group with the Department of Renewable Resources to identify all those areas that would be considered or could be considered? Biological sites or good archaeological sites that might be utilized in the development of the tourist industry?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

Co-operation Between Department Of Economic Development And Tourism And Department Of Renewable Resources

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, yes. I think the Members know there is close co-operation between the two departments because they are responsible for some areas of the parks -- for instance, biological parks and other game preserve parks -- whereas we are responsible for territorial parks and other recreational parks which are directed under our jurisdiction through the Territorial Parks Act. I think now that there is much more comprehensive consideration being given through the land use planning process, which the Department of Renewable Resources is responsible for, I am advised that between the two departments these kinds of issues you raised are normally considered and delegated to other officers in the departments, so that there is a joint planning stage. Obviously, I think, we could be doing a lot more, as you suggest, to develop these appropriate historic sites in the North. I think we should be doing that. What I would like to say is, we will definitely take that advice and see whether or not we could have a more comprehensive strategy toward these kinds of ideas.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you. I appreciate the response by the Minister. I would maybe suggest to the Minister that he also consider developing in conjunction with the Explorers' Guide a section that might at least identify those areas that are considered to be important biological sites in the Territories. I think that it is extremely crucial to note those areas for the sake of those individuals that you refer to as not necessarily the big game hunters or those that are considered hunters, but just generally those that are interested in areas of biological importance or for the purposes of just seeing some of the beautiful country that we have in the North without necessarily having to hunt only the animals of the North. So, just a suggestion, as opposed to a question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Tourism and parks. Total O and M. Mr. Pudluk.

Ellesmere Island National Park

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. While we are on tourism and parks, I would like to ask a question regarding Ellesmere Island National Park. When it was in its first stages in the Baffin Region -- it has been reduced last year. It was reduced by \$76,000. When are you going to start dealing with the High Arctic parks, like Ellesmere Island park? The funding has been reduced drastically. Thank you.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We dealt with the budget for the Baffin Region, which is \$20,000, and we will be using \$80,000 for the future also. Ellesmere Island park is within the jurisdiction of the federal government and it is stated in the agreement that before the five year term is over, we have to do a lot of things and make an agreement with them. However, there was no money allocated to Ellesmere Island. However, after they allocate some money to us, we will start dealing with the Ellesmere Island National Park. We still have not made an agreement for the allocation of funding for the use of Ellesmere Island. After we have an agreement, we will start dealing with the Ellesmere Island project. Also the Hon. Thomas McMillan had stated that Ellesmere Island was recognized as a park. We will still be dealing with this in the future and we will still try to find some ways of finding some funding for the park.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Tourism and parks, total O and M. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In this particular activity there is funding for assistance given to the tourism industry, to the various tourism associations. I think there are six different tourism associations. I could be wrong. My understanding is that there is \$270,000 being held at the headquarter level for distribution to the regions where the agreements are made with these tourism associations. Can the Minister indicate to me, what is the distribution of that money; that is, how much goes to each of the tourism associations?

Also, I note that there is an increase given to other O and M funding to the Keewatin, \$20,000, reallocated from commercial enterprise task. The funding in the Baffin Region, \$20,000, apparently has been given to the Pangnirtung Visitor Centre, O and M. I would like to know how much money in O and M is the department providing for the Pangnirtung Visitor Centre? If those statements of mine are wrong, I would hope that they could be corrected.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: The \$270,000, which I believe is related to the priorities initiatives related to marketing and promotion, is broken down to the six associations in the following manner: Baffin would receive \$40,000; Kitikmeot, \$40,000; Fort Smith, \$40,000; Northern Frontier, \$40,000; TIA, which is an umbrella organization, \$40,000; Inuvik, \$40,000; and Keewatin, \$40,000. But as far as the other item the Member is concerned about, I do not have the details with respect to the \$20,000 item. But apparently that is within the base of the department, for O and M responsibilities of our department for Pangnirtung Visitor Centre.

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

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. All six of the regions get the \$40,000 and you give \$40,000 also to the TIA?

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: \$30,000.

MR. McCALLUM: \$30,000. Okay. In relation to the material that we were given, it has been indicated that there had been an additional O and M of \$20,000 given to the Pangnirtung Visitor Centre. Is that the only amount of O and M money that your department provides? Or do you know of other departments who provide O and M funding as well?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Curley.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, our portion of the O and M cost is only \$20,000. It is not being given out to the Pangnirtung Visitor Centre. You know, this is a government building, so our portion is at the moment listed to provide O and M costs in the amount of \$20,000. The other is something that I am not fully informed of at the moment. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This \$20,000, your share, is that a reallocation from some other activity or task? Is it simply a one-time donation to the Pangnirtung Visitor Centre? Is it coming out of part of the assistance to the tourism industry, the tourist association? Where does the money come from?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, that is an increase to the O and M base of the department. Thank you.

Tourism And Parks, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Tourism and parks, total O and M, \$6,369,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Business Development, Total O And M

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Business development, total O and M, \$11,238,000. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Last year this money was given to the Housing Corporation for work. Now the money comes back in to the department and it is the community works program. What community works programs does the department have that would utilize this \$420,000?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, we do not have any applications from communities at the moment. I am sure in time we will be looking to fund programs as we have in the past. But last year was an exception, where the HAP program was in a very difficult situation because the federal government did not come up with the additional labour money. We agreed to reallocate the total funds of STEP money and hand them over to the Housing Corporation. This year we will again be administering that, but we have no plans to do the same thing as we did to the Housing Corporation last year. We look forward to applications coming in from communities, those with a high unemployment rate, to put forward community projects that would involve mainly summer students and those people that are not in the wage economy.

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

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister for some information with regard to the economic development agreement, Special ARDA and the business incentive grants, I believe it is called. In the last two years, how many grants or contributions have been given in those three areas? And how much of it is actually done for feasibility studies?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I simply cannot provide that answer but I certainly would be prepared to give the information to the Member once we have collected all these various plans, or whatever. That is a tall order to try to respond to in a few minutes.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have gathered from comments that have been made on a number of occasions, say, following the establishment of the national park on Ellesmere Island and the comments about low-level flights in that area, I gather the Minister is not exactly thrilled with the establishment of some federal parks in the Northwest Territories. I am aware that the federal government is thinking about establishing a national park in the area of the East Arm of Great Slave Lake. It occurs to me that there may be some benefit to all residents of the Territories if that were a territorial park, rather than a federal park. I just wonder whether the Minister or his departmental officials have an interest in that possibility, or whether there is any alternative proposal, or perhaps it is not even possible once the federal government, which is in control of lands, has embarked on something like this. I would be interested in hearing the Minister's comments about that federal proposal, anyway.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

Federal Parks Prevent Harvesting Of Renewable Resources For Economic Gain

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to my own views, I have responded mainly because of the present experience with the federal parks in Nahanni and Auyuittuq National Park, where they have continually eliminated the rights of the native peoples to pursue wildlife and practise that part of their traditional livelihood. Today we mainly depend on the wage economy and there are opportunities for native people to be engaged in the fishing and sport hunting and harvesting of renewable resources. As a result, presently the federal government has not been able to allow native people to pursue harvesting of renewable resources for economic gain.

As a result of that, I have continued to try to send a message to the federal government that they should limit their restrictions on land use aspects of the parks for the industry in the North, which is mining and harvesting of wildlife as well as development of facilities for the tourism industry. I believe that it is important in the Northwest Territories because our economic opportunities are limited up here. We will never be able to compete with the manufacturing base in southern Ontario, which many of the federal politicians represent. Therefore, to withdraw thousands and thousands of square miles for the purpose of satisfying southern Canadians, I do not think serves the majority of the needs of the northern people.

So with respect, my message is to broaden the land use requirements of the national parks and maybe even consider a smaller set of land so that some parts can be preserved forever and some can be accessed for development of mining and exploration of resources and so on. As a result of that, I think there are alternatives being considered for the East Arm. One is the territorial parks within our own jurisdiction, the other is through, for instance, land claims negotiations, but the third option is through the federal parks act. There are discussions being carried out with the community of Snowdrift, so in time I would think they would have a clear recommendation to all parties as to how that should be carried out.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. McCallum.

Distribution Of STEP Money

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to go back to the business of the STEP money, \$420,000. Is that \$420,000 available to various regions? Is it broken down on a regional basis and then is it looked at on need, or can one region get more of it than another region? For example, if there are groups in a particular region who would want to access some of these moneys, and it may be for housing work in a region, is it possible to have some of that money dedicated to it? What is the breakdown of the \$420,000 among the regions? Is it broken down evenly -- \$80,000 each or something? And can one particular group or one region ask for more money? For example, as a labour component of some housing?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The item that the Member referred to is not necessarily broken down into even numbers but I will give him the expenditures that were allocated to the regions in 1985-86. The Keewatin Region received \$86,000 for nine applications; Kitikmeot Region received \$42,000 for seven applications; Inuvik Region, \$20,000 for one; Baffin Region, \$48,000 for seven applications; Fort Smith Region, \$312,000 for nine applications.

I think this year the breakdown is as follows: Fort Smith Region, \$145,000; Inuvik Region, \$20,000; Baffin Region, \$60,000; Keewatin, \$133,000; and Kitikmeot, \$62,000. If the Member were to ask me why it is broken down into those, I really could not give him the answer on that because the history of my involvement with STEP is really limited. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. McCallum.

Policy For Use Of STEP Funds.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Has there been any change in the policy for the use of these funds, that the project, as I recall, and it may be changed, that the project would not exceed four months? Is that still in effect? Or would it be possible, if a project took more than four months, that funds could be actioned for various projects?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman. The Member is correct that the project term shall not exceed four months and no project shall extend beyond the current fiscal year without prior approval of the Minister. There were some adjustments made to the policy these last two years, about a year ago, that the proponent should be a limited company. That was following the same line as the business incentive policy, that at least 51 per cent of the company shareholders are northern residents or, in a proprietorship, the proprietor is a northern resident. Some criteria that are applicable to the incentive policy is that they should have an office and so on, maintain a resident management, a bona fide place of business in the Northwest Territories. But, these were mainly to try to correct, these were some of the improvements that we did because the STEP money is now going to allow some companies who are having cash flow problems to offset some of the wages paid by a company. We encourage them to at least make use of the summer students, as well. So, these were some improvements but other than that, there has been no major change in the type of projects that this STEP money has been allocated toward. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Getting back to the breakdown and not into why it is that way, but, in point of fact there are fewer applications, and you have more money in any one particular region and in an area such as Inuvik, which has been allocated only \$20,000, if there were somebody there that wanted it, would they simply make that application to their own regional people, or would it have to be made to headquarters to try to get a portion of the unused amounts from other regions?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The policy is pretty much administered by regions and regional offices are responsible for development of the application as well as to consult with the groups, because there are some other criteria, that it should have the support of the local groups and organizations. So, the regions are responsible, and our role in headquarters is mainly to see that it gets through the budgeting process and then it is distributed to the regions. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just one final thing on it. Since the Minister will have the final word in terms of whether the project should be extended beyond the four months -- or his designate, but the responsibility would be his -- is the Minister open to any kind of suggestion that if somebody did come up with a project that went on over four months and that would require more than is there, he is open to any kind of application? That kind of application -- would it have to be made directly to you or would it be made through the region, the regional superintendent?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, if the case happens as the Member suggests, obviously we would be asked for approval and once approval has been given it would then still be handled by the regional superintendent and his staff, providing the final approval has been given to them. But the application would still be the responsibility, the direct responsibility of the field staff. Thank you.

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

Funds Freed By Privatization Of Nahanni Store

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I might be out of order here, but it is just dealing with this particular section and also with regard to the whole issue of privatization. The concern I have, and I just wanted to ask the Minister, is whether the -- I understand yesterday when the Minister was referring to the store manager's house, he did indicate that it was going to be privatized and that the \$200,000 no longer might be used for that store manager's house. I just wanted to ask the Minister if, in fact, he has made a commitment for that \$200,000 that is now freed up since the privatization has occurred. I do not know if I am in order but I just thought maybe I will ask that, because there is \$200,000 that is freed up.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Erkloo): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The information that I provided yesterday was that the local store at Nahanni will be privatized and as a result the government will not be building a store manager's residence. But as we debated yesterday, the figure remains in the capital item in the department and will be reallocated, as the Government Leader and I stated, for another project in that area. Thank you.

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

Administration Costs For Companies That Are Established

MR. WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister if his department has any particular program that deals with businesses that, in the case where a corporation is established -- and I know that his department provides funding for planning economic projects. But the problem that I see is particularly when native people are trying to set up businesses, there always is a problem with the start-up funds, particularly dealing with the administration costs of the company.

It has been an ongoing problem because we go to your department and we are told that we can apply for planning money to put our economic planning together and that sort of thing, but there seems to be a lack of support from your department, and I stand to be corrected, in regard to the administration costs, at least for companies that are established. What I would like to know is whether that kind of assistance is available for at least the first two years in the life of the business. I am specifically talking about the administration costs, where the business has to hire a general manager and a secretary so that the business can put those applications together and put together the economic plans and once that is done, then they can go into the whole area of going after capital funds. But, there seems to be a problem with the way your department is set up and I would like to see whether there has been any program in existence previously, or do we have anything within your department to address that particular problem that is facing a lot of native businesses?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the Member's comment. The various programs that we offer do exactly what the Member indicated, research and plan for economic projects. But I think I should also say that our funding programs also do assist start-up costs of the business, which is mainly to get it to the first stages where they would improve their cash flow, and so on, and get on the wagon from then on.

But in terms of the administration support to businesses, obviously, we do not have that kind of program, except for the economic organizations that require small funds to enable them to carry on the management of regional organizations, such as territorial commerce and regional commerce throughout the North. But with the development corporations and other major corporations, we do not have a core of money the way we have with the industry association. I think that would be quite a complex one because there are so many varieties of businesses and we have not, at this moment, considered developing a small core program to businesses but rely mainly on trying to keep the businesses alive, provided that they do involve a number of jobs that would suffer. So our program is really contribution funds to keep a number of businesses alive, and so on, but not necessarily to have core funds to support administration of the organizations or groups. Thank you.

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

MR. WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, well, from my point of view, that is really the crux of the problem. You have all kinds of good programs within your department, but in order for small businessmen to establish themselves to take advantage of all of these programs, they first of all have to establish themselves for at least a year or two and then they can go ahead on their own. Because in order for businesses to survive and to contribute to their own administration costs and to remain afloat and take advantage of various programs, they cannot even get to first base. That is really the problem.

Only Established Businesses Can Take Advantage Of Programs

So the way I look at it is it is only the established businesses that can really take advantage of the various programs that you have. Even in the area of planning that is available from the outset, you cannot really continue to do planning; at some point in time you have to stop your planning development and then you have to get into the whole area of the economic projects that come out of the planning process. So the problem that I see is that there should be some sort of program within your department to support small businesses in that area.

I am not saying that it should be an ongoing kind of support. I think there has to be a time limit so that if the business cannot get off the ground in a couple of years, then I think that they have to be terminated and something else has to be looked into. But in terms of the administration's support, is there a possibility that your department could develop some sort of a policy in that area so that more people in the North can take advantage of the various programs that your department does provide?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the Member knows that not only do we help in some of the economic studies and planning, and there are planning requirements for any type of industry in the NWT, but we also do provide to the subject in a place like Yellowknife, support programs, grant and contribution programs, to help the start-up of any business. We do give financial support to any viable business that is coming up, particularly when it is a large project. We normally provide anywhere up to at least five to 10 per cent in grants and contributions. The rest, when dealing with the financial package, involves bank financing or loan funds from our department. It may involve Special ARDA and so on. In many cases the Special ARDA is a very significant part of the grant money granted, particularly, to the native companies.

So we do both, but there is a limit to what we can do with the existing policy. It is something that we obviously should think about and I think we can take the advice and see whether or not we could find a way to bring back to the Assembly, within a year, something in that area.

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

Venture Capital Program

MR. WAH-SHEE: I wonder if the Minister could explain a little bit in regard to how this venture capital program operates.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: The venture capital program; this is the last year of the two year project. We had a delay in the first year so we have been able to lapse the funds in the final year. A review was required and its total evaluation was required during the end of the period. What the present policy involves is that it allows any investor from the South to have access to 30 per cent of his investment returned through this venture capital program. If he puts in \$100,000, he is eligible for a \$30,000 grant, provided that he meets the criteria, meaning that he joins ventures with a northern company in the areas that have a high unemployment rate. There is a schedule in the policy, with communities that have an unemployment rate of at least 17 per cent and over. But there was a cap put on the policy that no company, no venture capitalist, can receive any more than \$150,000 per project. That is the way the policy operates.

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

Review Of Effectiveness Of Programs

MR. WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. These various programs that your department has established, some of them have been established for quite some time now and you have also undertaken new initiatives since you have become the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. Has your department ever undertaken a review and analysis of how effective your various programs have been operating with the amount of money that has been allocated to different programs? How successful have they been? And what kind of improvement may be required? Has that kind of review ever been done within your department since you have become Minister?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I think there has been a tremendous evaluation work being done by the department during the last two years. I know that we have cleaned up some of the inequities, for instance, that the STEP policy had. It was, in many respects, too general and it mainly contributed toward charitable organizations. We have expanded it so that it could be used toward subsidizing the salaries of companies who are experiencing cash flow problems. So that is one area that was corrected. Economic development agreement is one example where there was exhaustive evaluation. This is a cost-shared program, federal and territorial. I think that, given the federal Treasury Board approval of the new EDA, there should be improvements to the way in which this program was administered. For the Special ARDA program, the evaluation has been completed now as well, and the report concluded pretty much that Special ARDA has been pretty good to its audience, mainly that it has served the native people's economic interest very well and that it will continue to be carried out.

Again for the venture capital program, an evaluation was done. There are recommendations before me and I will be taking them to my Executive colleagues shortly. The decision will be made whether or not the venture capital program should continue beyond this year. If it does, it will lift some of the restrictions that it had before, mainly that some regional centres such as Fort Smith, Yellowknife, Hay River, Inuvik, and Cambridge Bay, communities with lower unemployment rate, were not allowed to take advantage of the program. So these are being considered right now. If it does receive support later this year from my Executive colleagues, then it would broaden the criteria that were originally applied. I think there will also be some improvements to it toward certain ventures in some places. The first proposal was too broad and in some respects was serving investors who have access to other funding. So we are trying to tighten it up, as well as at the same time, improve it so that the remote communities can continue to receive infusion of financial support. Thank you.

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

Make-Up Of Grant And Loan Review Committees

MR. WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to the various grants and loans that are available from your department, I know there exist various committees that review the applications that come in from individuals and groups who want to apply for start-up funding, planning funds, venture capital and so on. I would like to know whether your department is going in the direction of decreasing the number of bureaucrats that sit on these various committees and perhaps having an increase of individuals who participate in the business community. Is that the direction that your department is going?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As far as I am concerned, yes. I definitely like the idea that the Member suggests. I think we will see the day that the business loan board, even though the regulations and legislation state that the deputy minister shall chair, at one point in time in the future I would think that we will move toward complete independence of some of these programs, in terms of administration and recommendations to the government. I think that is possible. I think it is something that we will definitely look at. Presently, for instance with Special ARDA, there are just too many bureaucrats from both federal and territorial officials on the committee. Therefore, it is something that I will definitely be raising with my colleagues, to see whether or not we can make some improvement, even though it might be done in stages. It is something that I am personally interested in. Where at all possible we are putting in representatives from the private sector, more than we have ever in the past and I think we would like to continue toward that. Thank you.

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

O And M Funding For Baffin

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we were talking about business development under capital, I wanted to ask a question, because there is not enough money allocated for the Baffin Region. Also, the Minister stated to me that in the main estimates it would be clearly identified. Looking at this page with \$11,238,000, I think they are all going to be distributed again, such as Kitikmeot, Keewatin and the Baffin Region. Can the Minister clarify to me how much the Baffin Region will be getting in 1987-88? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Mr. Chairman, I just want to say to the Member that grants and contributions that are stated here are \$3,347,000. These moneys are to go to the businesses in the NWT and they are not calculated as to how much the different regions will be getting. We go through the loan board for the people that request funding, if we have to give them grants or contributions. The loan board runs the Business Loans and Guarantees Fund and they are under an information item. I cannot really answer your question right now as to how much the Baffin Region is going to be getting. We just go by businesses requesting funding; that is how we distribute this funding. If we were to look back I know that the Baffin Region, seeing that it is a big region, has been getting quite a bit from this source of money. Thank you.

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

MR. ERKLOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to ask you a question on what you just stated about the amount of money. Is that run by headquarters or are they given out to the regions for the regions to distribute to them to the communities? That is my first question. My second question is, for the people that want to start up a business non-existent right now, for instance, if a person wants to get into a business, and he writes from the Baffin Region, is this funding going to be available for those businesses that are not in existence right now and that would like to start up a business?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Start-Up Funding Given Where Local Employment Is Created

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: (Translation) Yes, that is the way it is and we also have policies to deal with those funds as to where they are going and what kind of businesses are going to be started. We have to go by the policy on how we distribute the grants and contributions. As long as they follow the policy that is stated, they are given funding. We all know the business such as the co-op or whatever kind of business it might be, or a person that is trying to get a hotel, can get their own source of funding and on top of that we give them a grant or contribution, as long as they are going to create employment for the people of the communities. We are not saying that we are going to be helping all the businesses that are going to start but as long as it is helping the people of the community to get employment. That is just an example that I am giving you right now. If there is going to be a business that starts up, the government just cannot keep on giving them grants or contributions for the operation of their business. It is just sort of an incentive.

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

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we were talking about the capital, I still had some problems about people that try to get their own business. The problem that they encounter with the policy that your department has, if you are trying to get into business in some of the communities, especially in the Baffin Region, as I stated earlier I think it was yesterday, there are not enough economic development officers in the region. When they go to the communities, if they need to stay in one community for one week, they do not stay in the community for that amount of time because they have so much work to do. For that reason, there has been a problem in the communities. Even though some of the public want to find out more about the services that the government offer, sometimes they do not have any questions of that economic development officer because they do not know what kind of services could be started through economic development. Earlier in the House we were talking about small business development. You have employees in the Baffin Region, 4.3 person years, and they have 13 communities to deal with in the Baffin Region. Out of 4.3 PYs, how many of those are economic development officers? That is my first question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Employment Of Inuit Economic Development Officers

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you. (Translation) Mr. Chairman, I am not sure what page you are dealing with, but I agree with your comments. I would like to say that because economic development officers are able to go into the communities for just a short time, we would like to see some Inuit people become economic development officers. I think they should be that kind of employee in the communities. We are working toward this but it is going to take quite a while. I have told my staff that we have to look into getting more employees in the region because Baffin Region is a large region and economic development officers are not very many. We tried to get more employees but we could not. They do not have enough economic development officers. It is about 1000 miles from Iqaluit to Grise Fiord, quite far, and that person deals with Pond Inlet, Resolute Bay and Clyde River. For four communities there is one officer to deal with those communities and there is also an officer for the other communities. I know this is a lot of work for that person especially when the person does not live there. We will not increase our funding but we are thinking about decentralizing in the future, getting more economic development officers employed in the communities. Instead of trying to get more money, maybe we can put people in the communities to work.

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

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am happy that the Minister can give me that kind of answer. I know that this is very difficult. I would like to support the Minister because there are not enough economic development officers in the Baffin Region to deal with those communities. When people want to get some business started, the region they have to travel around in is too large. I would like to make a motion to assist the Minister and I will read it in English. (Translation ends)

Motion To Recommend Additional Two-Year Position In Economic Development For Baffin

I move that this House recommend to the Executive Council that Economic Development create one additional person year in the Baffin Region to assist small businesses in the region and that this position be for two years, starting fiscal year 1987-88.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Pudluk, can I have a copy of your motion? Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. The motion moved by Mr. Pudluk: I move that this House recommend to the Executive Council that Economic Development create one additional person year in the Baffin Region to assist small businesses and that this position be for two years, starting fiscal year 1987-88. Your motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) I just want to make a further comment on the motion. The Baffin Region is one of the largest regions and also I think the private business sector is a small section in our region. Small businesses tend to drop out and just go bankrupt. Probably why it happens is because there is nowhere to go to get information. It is a large region and I am trying to get additional PYs into the region because the present employees are not adequate.

Sometimes we have problems with transportation because we have to travel by plane. I think that is the major reason we have problems in the North. I would like to get additional PYs so that it will be easier for the economic development officers. The Inuit people will have more places to go for information and they will not have to go a great distance to get a person to help them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. To the motion. Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. These services are needed in a lot of areas, not just in one region. I do not know if it is proper to ask at this time because we have the motion on the floor, but I will ask anyway. Will Snowdrift be serviced out of Yellowknife? If not, then I would like to request an amendment to the motion. The reason is that we desperately need officers in our area. We are not getting anything off the ground because we have no help. So before I can support this motion I will have to find out a few things. I would like to find out how many officers they have in the Baffin area.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Thank you, Mrs. Lawrence. I would like to remind the Members that when they speak to the motion that they speak for or against the motion. Mr. McCallum.

Internal Reallocation Of PYs On Basis Of Need

MR. McCALLUM: I have some difficulty supporting both an amendment and the motion to add more people to the government. But within this whole department, as with other departments, the administration of a department reallocates, they keep switching people around. If these two people are to be in the area of small business development, if that is the task they are supposed to do, the department already has 34.5 PYs there; they are asking for three more this year. They have taken funding for these increased PYs from other tasks and they have had internal reallocations done. It seems to me that the motion would be properly addressed to the department to start taking a look at what they are doing with what they have now and reallocating people to where the need is. I have no idea how many people in Baffin Region are involved with this particular task or in this particular activity of business development. Nor do I know how many people they have in any of the other regions. But the total accountability of this area in business development suggests that there are about 57 or 58 people, or they are looking for that number of people in it and it may even be more than that in total. It seems to me, though, that there should be some way that the government can make better use of the people that they have now.

Perhaps through the vacancy rate that they have, where they have not been able to get people and they still have the PYs, from there they can develop positions. It would be more proper, in my estimation, to have the department transfer one of the PYs that has been vacant for a period of time in the department and transfer it over there, to do some reallocating within. But I have a difficult time recommending to the government to hire more people when they already have, in my estimation, too many. I sympathize and I have empathy in terms of what the mover of the motion, as well as the mover of the amendment are saying. But it is my particular belief that the department has enough staff now to do that, if staff were properly allocated.

We know in this particular section they have had eight positions vacant for an entire year. The position of chief of business development, the non-renewable sector, has been vacant for one year. Now they want not only to have a person go back into that position, they want to hire another person in there, and another one under special projects. I am suggesting to you that this motion would maybe get greater support if, in fact, the movers of the motion and amendment recommended to the department that they start taking advantage of the person years allocation that they have now and the funding that is there, rather than simply say increase it. Now if that is what that motion is going to mean, without having new PYs to the total complement, then I will support it. But if it is to say that you want the government to hire two more people, I am not going to support it because I have been trying to get them to cut back and properly utilize their person year allocations as they are now. I gave you one example.

Vacant Position Could Be Reclassified

Members of this committee and those who are on the standing committee on finance know it. There is one position in this particular activity that has been vacant for a year and there is no reason why that position or part of that cannot be reclassified to maybe take into consideration the request made. But I want the mover of the motion and the mover of the amendment to know that if they are talking about the government adding two more PYs to what they have now, I will vote against it. If you are talking about reallocating the existing personnel no matter where they come from, then I will support it. But it should be clarified. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): For the Member's benefit I will reread the motion: I move that this House recommend to the Executive Council that Economic Development create one additional person year in the Baffin Region to assist small business in the region and that this position be for two years, starting the fiscal year 1987-88. There is no amendment to this motion. Mrs. Lawrence.

MRS. LAWRENCE: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the mover would amend. I tend to agree with what Mr. McCallum said. They could take advantage of reallocation of those PYs that are already existing instead of adding on to it. I would like to make that amendment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mrs. Lawrence, can I get a copy of your amendment?

Motion To Amend Motion To Recommend Additional Two-Year Position In Economic Development For Baffin, Carried

MRS. LAWRENCE: Mr. Chairman, I move that this House recommend to the Executive Council that Economic Development reallocate one additional person year to the Baffin Region to assist small businesses in the region and that this position be for two years, starting fiscal year 1987-88.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mrs. Lawrence, could we have a copy of your amendment? There is an amendment to the motion. We have changed the word "create" to "reallocate". The motion reads as follows: I move that this House recommends to the Executive Council that Economic Development reallocate one additional person year to the Baffin Region to assist small businesses in the region and that this position be for two years starting fiscal year 1987-88. To the amendment. Question. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The amendment is carried.

---Carried

To the motion, as amended.

Motion To Recommend Additional Two-Year Position In Economic Development For Baffin, Carried As Amended

All those in favour? Opposed, if any? This motion is carried as amended.

---Carried

We are on page 16.11, Department of Economic Development and Tourism, business development. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not sure whether this is the area that I can raise this issue with but it is to deal with the NWT Business Council, the group of people that the Minister has chosen or selected from around the Territories to advise him on business matters. I just want to know, the Minister and the council, or some of them, went and visited other northern countries back some time. The Minister reported on it at the time. I just wonder if the Minister can indicate to us now what has come about as a result of that trip or tour that the council and he took to some of the Scandinavian countries. I am not sure whether the cost of that trip was indicated to us; if it was, he need not bother with it. If he has not done so before, I would like to get some idea as to what it was, the cost to the government. What has resulted in terms of business development as a result of that particular board being in existence for a while and making contacts with other northern countries, especially those in Europe?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gargan): Mr. Minister.

Nordic Tour Of NWT Business Council

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can see that the Member has not read the report of the Business Council that I tabled as Tabled Document 2-86(2) during the last session of the Assembly. I did table it as requested by many Members. Very fascinating recommendations were made and the government will now be tabling responses to many of the recommendations by the Business Council, as well as the regional conferences that were held. Some of the items that were recommended are incorporated into our initiative toward the renewable resource sector. In terms of expenditures, some of them will be accommodated but there will be a more formal response to the recommendations because the group of business people, including my colleague, the Minister of Renewable Resources, did look at the variety of the business and the policy that they do have in that northern region. Obviously, they had very different but very interesting economic policies in those northern countries which were quite important to the business representatives. There will be a more formal reaction to their recommendations which I will be making public and before long.

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

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Minister will feel very good about it; I obviously have not read it and I have not looked at it but I would be concerned with the formal reactions to the recommendations that will be coming up. Let me ask a further question, Mr. Chairman. For this advisory council or, whatever you call it, are there further similar kinds of trips or tours, if you like, that the Minister sees will be necessary within the next while? Will they be involved with other particular areas where markets may be developed, where these business people may get advice to help the development of businesses in the Northwest Territories? Are there any further ones that are on the horizon?

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

Activities Of NWT Business Council

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Yes, the business council is active. About three months ago they met and invited the major financial representatives of Bay Street, the major banks and other privately owned trust company representatives, to Yellowknife to seek investment improvements from the financial institutions to the North. That was very important. They have made a number of recommendations, I know some of them and we will be making additional response before too long in the investment area.

Yes, they are planning another trip to Asia including the Business Council representatives as well as the chamber of commerce representatives from the North. The plans are being finalized to travel in May. That would be about a two week trip to Hong Kong and Japan again to see investment opportunities as well as to deal with the tourism industry and try to find new markets for tourism. At the same time, part of it is a learning experience, to see the financial wizards in Hong Kong and so on.

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

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just with regard to the question of grants and loans, in particular, the refinancing of small businesses. I realize that the department has been working on trying to co-ordinate some refinancing of small businesses in the Inuvik area but one of the problems I have noted is I guess, the slowness of the process in considering the refinancing. In some cases it causes a lot of personal anxiety on the part of many of those that are in business. I am wondering if the Minister has considered a faster process in trying to deal with this particular issue.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I missed part of the Member's comments. Maybe the Member could repeat it because I did miss the conclusion of his question.

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

Process For Refinancing Small Businesses

MR. NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, thank you. I was just wanting to know whether or not the Minister and his officials have considered some quicker process of considering the refinancing of small businesses that are in financial trouble at this particular time.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that is something that we are quite aware of. You know, there are some areas that are hurting a lot more than others. We are faced with the urgent and emergency nature of some of the refinancing requirements. When that happens, we normally send in additional help from our headquarters, a special projects officer to try to get certain financial reports and a financial package together. Normally the Government of the NWT is not the only source or the only one affected because the banks normally are carrying a number of loans and mortgages against a particular business. So, we have to include and consult with all financial institutions involved. Where possible we will respond quickly and I know that we do have access to additional technology that allows us to do certain things quickly. But, the most important thing that we do not want to compromise is the assessment of the situation of the particular company. And we would not necessarily make anything more difficult for the company or prolong the problem that the particular business is experiencing if they are going to eventually go down into receivership and so on. So, it is something that, I should say, we are quite aware of and we will try to respond quickly. Thank you.

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

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if the Minister could consider, in his departmental assessment when they are considering refinancing of particular small businesses, that we might try to ensure that these small businesses are aware of possible contracts that could come up that could help these individuals' businesses so that they could be prepared. In some cases there are businesses that have gone into one particular type of business and are capable of expansion -- not necessarily major expansion but recruiting or developing certain expertise in that

company that could then undertake contracts other than the usual contracts that those businesses have been in. I guess it is a matter of maybe a suggestion to the Minister and to his officials. Maybe if the Minister might respond as to what the department has done in this particular area.

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That was one area that we evaluated quite extensively during the impact studies that were carried out with respect to the Beaufort area. The Beaufort was a good example because we know that a number of businesses were eventually going to foreclose and we know that a certain percentage of them were going to restructure and refinance and seek new markets. That is something that our superintendent is quite aware of. And I would like to assure the Member that we will communicate your points to the regional superintendents because, in many respects, our superintendents have a specialized region and some of them are more interested in certain sectors of the economy. So, I would like to take the Member's advice seriously and pass it on to regional superintendents and again I will undertake to do what we can in that area. Thank you.

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

Funding For Economic Planners Under EDA

MR. NERYSOO: Just maybe a comment with regard to the motion that was passed earlier with regard to the reassignment of personnel. Having read, of course, your document regarding the EDA, I note that in some instances there have been applications for economic planners and individuals that have been involved in business management and I thought that it might be of note that Members, in particular Mr. Pudluk, might consider reviewing the economic development agreement and your regional officials could provide that support and advice to the northern region. They might be able to utilize the economic development agreement for the purposes of hiring and recruiting someone to deal with the development of possible economic projects and ideas that could arise in that particular area. So, I just wanted to raise that as a matter of note more than anything else.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Business development, total O and M, \$11,238,000. Mr. McCallum.

MR. McCALLUM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is the area, again, where I have mentioned the PYs and I dread to get into this argument. I was not sure I understood from the standing committee on finance how this whole thing came about. But, we have in here a person in the non-renewable resources task, a PY there that they want to keep going. The department wants to add another person year for a north warning system co-ordinator's position that the department filled last year with a person from non-renewable resources, as I recall. Then the funding for this north warning position is coming out of the special projects task, where last year they had three people -- they were not using it all because they had to have money there -- and now this year they want another person in special projects task and they want \$110,000 in funding. I have some difficulty sorting this out.

I know that when we get to Energy, Mines and Resources, Mr. Butters will be asking for an additional person there because of the enlarged work load in that particular directorate, which will likely become a department soon. I guess my concern in here is that if a position was vacant for a year, why do you require it? I have a difficult time understanding how the FMB could okay an increase, in at least two areas here, of the number of people that they are asking for, two or three of them. I do not know why it is necessary. In other parts of business development, in enterprises, they are going into privatization, in renewable resource development there is an increased contribution here of \$400,000 for the fish and forestry area and it seems to me, Mr. Chairman, this is an area that somehow, somewhere along the line the department should be able to tighten things up a little bit; instead of having people involved in the same area within two or three departments, surely the government as a whole could consolidate things.

I do not understand how you can keep a person year, with the funding and everything else in terms of it, vacant for a year and then expect us, as a committee, to enhance this whole area of business development by granting additional funding next year and additional PYs. It just does not seem that there is any kind of coherence to it all. I would ask the Minister a question of whether, in fact, he really believes that it is necessary to continue the non-renewable resource PY, whether it is necessary, in business development, to include the north warning area, and in the small business

development and the special projects, whether it is necessary that he holds this number of PYs, or whether he can get along with fewer numbers and take into consideration what has already been recommended, to internally review things with the idea of reallocation of PYs into other areas.

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

Responsibility Re North Warning System Within Position

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: I do not know where to start on this. I do not want to try and persuade the Member from his point of view. As far as the department is concerned there has been a renewable resource position, which has not been vacant. I will just state that. The Member has made up his mind that the position was vacant. The position was not vacant, the person occupying the position took on additional responsibilities throughout the year toward north warning system co-ordination; a minor project but quite important to the people of the Northwest Territories, and a tremendous amount of time was taken.

At the same time, the mining industry, northerners' benefits -- not policy because Energy, Mines and Resources has the responsibility for developing and regulating the oil and gas and mining industry -- our responsibility in that division for oil and gas and mining is to try and ensure that the contractors do get a share of the northern development in terms of it, small business contracting, labour and so on. The north warning system is a major multimillion dollar project and from the indication of the Minister of National Defence, we see that there are going to be tremendous activities. There will be an increase in activities and lobbying will begin. We have made some headway as a result of persistence and joint efforts by industry, the chambers of commerce throughout the North, in getting some of the conditions that we want into the major contracts that will be awarded to the operations and maintenance section. For instance a company in Norman Wells has received three major contracts. In the Baffin area we are making some breakthroughs, and indications were interesting today.

Areas Of Responsibility Explained

In terms of the renewable resource position, I can try and make my point until I am blue in the face, the position was never vacated. It was an additional job given to -- Terry Foster is no strange animal, he has not neglected the oil and gas area but obviously he has been juggling the two areas. We know there will be for the next few years tremendous increases with respect to north warning co-ordination requirements of the government. As a result of that, we have instituted that additional PY to the special projects section, which involves north warning system, an officer involved with some of the businesses that are in jeopardy. He is able to travel to areas to help them out. One additional position is in the trade and investment area; a position of trade and investment industrial development officer. We believe that as a result of the North exposing itself to the world stage, there will be a tremendous attempt by the business community to seek investment in trade initiatives from the outside of the NWT. The demand put on by some of the initiatives that we did through Expo '86 is one of them. I do not know where to begin or where to stop on this one but I am just trying to clarify what happened in that regard because I do not want to give the impression to the Members that the position was vacant and nobody did anything toward the non-renewable resource sector.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Business development, total O and M, \$11,238,000. Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: When you call that, does that constitute a vote, Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Just for your information, Mr. MacQuarrie, after I call the figure I would ask to see if Members agree to it and if they indicate they do and if I do not see anybody putting up their hand then I will assume that the Members agree. However, I have seen your hand up, Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: It is a fairly sizeable budget. What I am saying is if that is considered to be a vote, we do not have a quorum, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Mr. MacQuarrie, we are just going section by section and agreeing to the total amounts of the various O and M but it is not a vote, it is agreeing to. However, Mr. MacQuarrie, you have the floor if you wish. Mr. McCallum.

Funding In Support Of Fisheries And Forest Industry Management

MR. McCALLUM: In the renewable resource part of this business development, there is an increase of \$400,000 in support of fisheries and forest industry development. Could I find out from the Minister where this money is going? Into what areas is this support funding going, this is contribution funding in support of fisheries and forest industry development? Could I get some idea where he intends to spend this?

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I tabled the related policies the other day on the forest industry assistance I believe, and the commercial fishery assistance policy. That policy has been in place for a while. On the other side, the forest industry, this is actually directed toward the logging industry as well as the small support for access roads to the forest industry. So, our program is co-ordinated through the small forest industry association, I think we now have formed, and that is granted toward them. But approximately \$550,000 is directly allocated toward the fishing industry in Great Slave and arctic char fish price support, which offsets 50 per cent of the freight from any buyers or any proponent, \$120,000 toward forest industry and \$400,000 for other renewable resource projects which we may want to see toward development of that industry. Thank you.

Business Development, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Thank you. Business development, total O and M, \$11,238,000. Agreed? But before I go past business development, does anyone have any more comments they wish to make? Do you concur that I go on to the next division? The Chair would like to accommodate.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Economic Development Agreement

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wah-Shee): Economic Development Agreement. Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I could ask the Minister, what stage are we in with regard to the negotiations on the new agreement?

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

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Presently all the proposals, the subsidiaries are now before the Minister of Indian Affairs and the Minister responsible for Small Business, the Hon. Bernard Valcourt. Our information is that there has been a bit of a delay in bringing it before the federal cabinet committee. So, the latest information we have is that it is scheduled to go before the cabinet committee of economic development which would consider it prior to getting it to Treasury Board. Then it would be presented to the Treasury Board. Our indications are such that we are hopeful that it will be dealt with some time this month. We had hoped that by yesterday it would have gone through the cabinet committee but apparently there was a delay, with the latest problems that the Prime Minister is having with his government. Thank you.

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

MR. NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, what are all the elements that are part of the new economic development agreement?

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

Elements Of New Economic Development Agreement

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, there are six subsidiary agreements in the new proposal. Number one is renewable resources and in our allocation this year, we had hoped to spend over \$1,245,000; there is an arts and crafts subsidiary agreement and we have allocated \$554,000 toward that this year; there is a new subsidiary agreement regarding minerals development and the allocation is \$899,000 for this first year; for economic planning and implementation, the planning subsidiary, there is a \$415,000 allocation; for another new subsidiary agreement with regard to the tourism

industry, there is \$2,075,000; the last one is the small business development agreement in the amount of \$1,706,000 for this year.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: With regard to the new element, the minerals development, is the amount of dollars that is being allocated in that particular area comparable to the Yukon, or is there somewhat of a difference?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I think during the next three years the total figure would be in the amount of about five million dollars. I seem to recall the Yukon subsidiary agreement because they have been in the game a lot longer than we have in this area. I think they presently have about seven million, but I could be corrected. I think our initial proposal is five million dollars for the next three years. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Mr. Chairman, I am wondering if I could have the Minister provide this House with summaries of the elements in each subsidiary agreement as opposed to the total agreements themselves, so that we have a fairly good idea as to what is contained in the agreements?

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

Proposals To Be Made Public Upon Signing Of Agreement

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, I will be prepared to provide the Members with the proposal we have before the federal government. Obviously, the tourism board has not approved those proposals. They have had support from the officials involved and the proposals might be subject to change as a result of the cabinet and Treasury Board needs to review them, but I will provide the Members with the proposal we have sent. Once the agreement is signed, that will be made public; but in the meantime I will make it provisional upon Treasury Board approval. I will be pleased to provide Members with a copy. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand that the agreements have not been approved by cabinet, but I am not seeking the detailed agreements themselves as opposed to just the elements and summary of elements of those agreements, so that we are aware of them. I would just like to say thank you to the Minister for being prepared to provide that information to us.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Any further comments? Mr. Wah-Shee.

MR. WAH-SHEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the subagreement dealing with minerals, I wonder, first of all, if I am correct in saying that for 1987-88 there is \$899,000 allocated for minerals, to disburse funds in support of minerals development, etc. Is this basically for planning money or is this for venture capital related to minerals generally?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, the information will be made clear through the information requested by Mr. Nerysoo. But our understanding is that this program will be mainly directed toward mapping of the mineral resources of the Northwest Territories as well as to provide technological equipment to the mining industry to help them in that area. So, once the total document is provided, I will be able to provide the Member with a more clear definition of what the program will be all about. Thank you.

Economic Development Agreement, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Any further comments on the economic development agreement? \$8,055,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Finance And Administration, Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 16.13, finance and administration, \$1,201,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Grants And Contributions

Total Grants

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): On page 16.14, those are only information items. Does anybody have any questions? If not, we can go to page 16.15, detail of grants. Total grants, \$50,000. Mr. Wah-Shee.

MR. WAH-SHEE: Mr. Chairman, I have a question on page 16.15 dealing with grants and contributions. I wonder if the Minister could indicate, what role do these travel zones and the Travel Industry Association play in regard to when you have applications coming in which are related to the tourism industry? In other words, if individuals or communities want to participate in the tourism industry and send in an application to your department, does your department, in turn, have to have the support of these travel zones and the Travel Industry Association before the application is considered? In other words, who recommends these applications to your department? Does it have to be done through these associations?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, they are not at all involved in deciding who should be granted permits for developing a tourism lodge or a tourism facility. Generally, the tourism industry zone associations support an increase in development of the tourism industry throughout the North. But what we normally require in any region, in practice, is to have community support and regional council support if at all possible; as much as possible, support from the local areas when the new proponent is coming forward. We have not given the tourism industry zone associations any responsibility to be involved in the evaluation of the proposals because I think our officers in the government, the communities and the regions are quite able to do that. That is the extent of it; they have no official role in terms of screening the applications or anything of that kind.

Total Grants, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total grants, \$50,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Contributions, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Contributions, \$11,325,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Grants And Contributions, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total grants and contributions, \$11,375,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): We will go back to page 16.18, Business Loans and Guarantees Fund. Any questions? On detail of work performed on behalf of third parties. Any questions? We are going back to page 16.07. Total O and M, \$28,829,000. Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: I wanted to ask a question on page 16.19.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Proceed, Mr. Nerysoo.

MR. NERYSOO: Just to ask, is the NOGAP funding still intact for the upcoming year? I guess it is, but how long is that particular program to continue?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TAGAK CURLEY: Mr. Chairman, the program will be implemented this year, that particular item of \$90,000, but apparently the agreement is that it has two more years and will continue on through 1988-89 fiscal year.

Total O And M, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Nerysoo. Any further questions on page 16.19? We will go back to page 16.07. Total O and M, \$28,829,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Does the committee agree that the Department of Economic Development and Tourism is concluded?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Now, if this committee would like to go on to the Education department. Mr. Sibbeston.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if Members would be supportive of a motion to extend the time of tonight's meeting with a view to concluding or certainly getting a good start on the Department of Education. Members know there are not too many more days left and we have quite a number of departments to deal with yet. In the interest of concluding matters in the next few days, either by Friday or Monday or Tuesday, we ought to spend some more time. I wonder if Members might be interested in simply continuing now, or having a break and returning at 7:30 p.m. tonight with a view to spending a couple of hours of work tonight.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): All you have to do is make a motion to see if you get support or not.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Chairman, I will move a motion that we recess now and reconvene at 7:30 for the purpose of considering the Department of Education's budget.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Point of order.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: My point of order is that I feel that that motion does not fit with the rules of the House, Mr. Chairman. If hours are to be extended it is at the discretion of the Speaker, although the committee does have the right, as I understand it, to move a motion to extend sitting hours, providing it is to deal with a matter that is being discussed at that particular time. Of course, for the past day or day and a half, Members have been discussing the business of the Department of Economic Development.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. MacQuarrie, you are right. Your motion is out of order, Mr. Sibbeston.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Point of order.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. McLaughlin, on a point of order.

HON. BRUCE McLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chairman, if a motion is made to extend the sitting hours and that passes, then we could make a motion to adjourn for an hour and a half. Is that correct?

MR. MacQUARRIE: Point of order.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. MacQuarrie, point of order.

MR. MacQUARRIE: The idea is to deal with a matter that is before the committee and that was Economic Development and Tourism and that matter was concluded. So you are saying, if we extend it would be to consider the whole of the estimates. That is what you are saying, if that is a logical argument -- that we must stay tonight and forever until we finish the whole of the estimates. The item is Economic Development and Tourism; it is finished, Mr. Chairman, and since you ruled that that motion is out of order, I would like to have the floor to make a motion, if I may.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. MacQuarrie.

MR. MacQUARRIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that the House report progress.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): All those in favour? Opposed, if any? It is a tied vote. I will report progress.

---Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! Mr. Pudluk.

ITEM 18: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILL 1-87(1), APPROPRIATION ACT, 1987-88

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 1-87(1), Appropriation Act, 1987-88, and wishes to report progress with two motions being adopted and the Department of Economic Development and Tourism being concluded.

Motion To Accept Report Of Committee Of The Whole, Carried

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

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Carried

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sibbeston.

HON. NICK SIBBESTON: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. The Speaker has been given the authority to extend the sitting of the Assembly. I am wondering whether the Speaker was going to extend the hours today, considering the fact that we have a lot of work yet to do to finish off the budget and other matters of the Assembly.

Speaker's Ruling

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Sibbeston. I discussed the matter with the House Leader and we had agreed on the principle that we would extend the sitting hours by advising the House in time every day that if they wanted to add an hour to their sitting time they could do so, or whatever Members actually wanted to do. However, the debate has taken place; the conclusion is correct that if the motion is made, I believe in the old rules it was an hour ahead of time, then you could do whatever you wanted. But under the new rules, evidently, you can deal only with the matter that is before you. So the problem is that if you are changing subjects, as you were caught on the change just at the hour, that made it rather difficult. If you had been into the new subject, then of course the motion would have been fine; you would have been able to continue with it.

I had hoped that the House would have been able to regulate itself so that it could fit the thing into the pattern that suited the Members, rather than for me to try and guess when there would be enough Members to make a quorum. I had preferred to allow the House to make that decision. However, if that is not going to work out -- and another point that I would like to discuss with

the House Leader is that there was some hope that this would be done on Saturday. It is obvious that there is no hope of the work being concluded by that time; so in my opinion, unless the House Leader indicates differently, there really is no need to extend hours because we are going to have to go into next week, regardless. Therefore, really, extending hours is not going to accomplish what I understood I was given the power to extend the hours to do. It is impossible to finish this House by Saturday. That is why I did not want to set anything down.

Now, if that is changed and I get different instructions from the House Leader, or that person taking his place, I will listen to any argument from the House Leader on the matter and we will decide on what we will do. You have now reported progress, so there is nothing further to be done today. If anybody wishes to discuss the matter with me, I will be in my office. But as of now, Mr. Clerk, would you please give me any announcements and orders of the day?

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

ITEM 19: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Thursday, March 12th, 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 1-87(1), 7-87(1), 6-87(1), 2-87(1)
18. Report of Committee of the Whole
19. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Thursday, March 12th at 1:00 p.m.

---ADJOURNMENT

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